

Report of the District Youth President

A highlight from this past year was the district winter retreat at Penn York Camp Jan 27-29. I am very grateful to this district for investing in the lives of our teens. These types of events give time and space for us to seek God, to focus our lives on Him and on His word, and to be a part of His work in our world.

Here are some ways we want to help:

Offer regular training and support in youth ministry and Safechurch practices.

Youth Ministry 101 -During Refresh camp 2023- Come to this workshop to get help planning your youth ministry for the upcoming year! Whether you are a first-time youth leader or a YM veteran, you can expect a personalized look at some of the basics of youth ministry and get input about your specific situation. Following this seminar, **we'll plan two more sessions (Fall and spring)** full of team building, refreshment, good ideas, and training.

"Stewards of Children" child sexual abuse prevention training course – We are making this training available as a seminar at Refresh 2023, at no cost for all children and youth ministry workers in our district. This course satisfies the national office guidelines for “best practices” in youth and children’s ministry. If your team can’t be at Refresh, we can arrange a time to come to your facility and do the training for your children and youth ministry staff. Give Pastor Jon a call for more details.

Continue to help make district-wide events more financially viable for students: We are building intentional budgets with an eye toward supporting district events and making them more affordable for your students!

The **Follow Youth convention** is on for **Dec 28-30**, put it on your calendar now! The district will be paying for buses to help reduce the total cost to your students.

District Winter Retreat is scheduled for Jan 26-28, 2024. We would love to have your group involved this year.



Please know that I would be happy to talk with you about your youth ministry. Feel free to give me a call! For the upcoming year, please pray that God will make our churches places where young people are drawn into transforming relationships with Jesus. Pray that our youth will experience Jesus in personal and powerful ways as we worship and serve together! Also pray that God will enable each of us as adults to live our lives with Christ in such a way that young people in our spheres of influence cannot help but be drawn to Him. Finally, pray for our study of God’s Word, that this solid foundation will result in students who are effective, lifelong, servants of Jesus Christ.

May God richly bless you in this upcoming year!

Pastor Jon Cole

