

2012 Children & Youth Ministry Report

¹² So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you. Matthew 7:12a

As I am writing this report, we are in our third week of camp at Laurelville. We are walking through the final chapter of the Sermon on the Mount as we are *"Climbing the Mountain: A Lifetime Journey"*. For the last three years our children and youth are hearing the words of Jesus, teaching us how to live. It is an amazing blessing watching these young people grapple with the lessons Jesus teaches. Summer Camp is a place for kids to leave behind the busyness of home and electronics to be drenched in the word, journaling time, cabin devotions, and lots of fun activities. I have heard from many youth and young adults that camp was a very formative time on their faith journey. I am truly thankful that part of my conference youth ministry budget can give children and youth from AMC a small discount for camp. This year the numbers of campers is well over 200, making this our biggest camp in the past five years. God is so amazing, working through a devoted staff of young adults.

I believe that congregations investing in their children and youth should be one of your congregation's top priorities. Keeping youth at the core of the congregation and trying to include them in all aspects of congregational life, builds lifetime commitments and connections.

I am excited that the children and youth from AMC have the opportunity to build relationships from a very young age. This is a great way to strengthen our conference for years to come. Summer Camp is an important part of this, other programs for children and youth are Camporee, Leadership Retreat, Sr. High SnoKamp, Jr. High Retreat, and activities at our Celebration of Congregations and Conference. Helping in planning many of these activities is the AMC Youth Cabinet.

Working with the Youth Cabinet of Allegheny Conference is a highlight in my ministry. It is a place where I see youth setting an example and being encouraged to be the church of today. The following are currently serving on the youth cabinet:

2011-2012 Youth Cabinet

Grace Weaver, Chairperson (Scottsdale)	Trever Schrock (Grace Fellowship)
Brianna Flowers (Pinto)	Brian Charles (University)
Tyler Schrock (Grace Fellowship)	Kristen Kaltreider (Stahl)
Abigail Cable (Kaufman)	John Tennefoss (Grace Fellowship)
Tom and Naomi Tennefoss , Adult Reps (Grace Fellowship)	

Thanks to all of you who take the time and energy to hang out with the children and youth in your church. It is time well spent and I know it will bless your lives as much as it blesses their lives.

Joy Cotchen, Minister of Children and Youth