

## 2013 Children & Youth Ministry Report

*8The LORD is gracious and compassionate,  
slow to anger and rich in love.*

*9The LORD is good to all;  
he has compassion on all he has made. Psalm 145:8-9*

As I write my report, summer camp is in its last week and our national convention in Phoenix is over. I am thankful for opportunities like camp and convention that can stretch and grow our children and youth. Our theme for summer camp this year was "Peace Rocks" with our theme verses from Psalm 145. I am thankful that we worship a God that is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. And we follow Jesus who teaches us the way of peace in all aspects of our being and our relationships. Building relationships with children and youth in our congregations is of utmost importance. But they need to be genuine and caring relationships. Church needs to be a place where we can talk honestly about our fears and doubts, and also celebrate our joys. I feel sometimes that youth feel like they will never get it right and if we can be honest that we don't have all the answers and don't always get it right, then God can do wonderful things with us as we seek to follow him together.

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, and other youth programs are Follower's 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 can help to mentor leadership in the youth and encourage them to be the church of today. The following are currently serving on the youth cabinet:

### **2012-2013 Youth Cabinet**

**Trever Schrock, Chairperson** (Scottdale)

**Dallas Hetrick** (Springs)

**Brianna Flowers, Treasurer** (Pinto)

**Teagan Powers** (Pinto)

**Karl Maust** (Springs)

**Aaron Dunmore** (Martinsburg)

**Corey and Harrison Doyle, 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 theirs.***

**Joy Cotchen, Minister of Children and Youth**