

113th Convention of the Episcopal Church in Utah

Report of the Youth Faith Formation

Members: The Rev. Vanessa Cato, Karen Gleeson, Rhonda Dossett, Marlin J. Haws, David Reed, The Rev. Tyler Doherty, Susan Dale, and Brianna Lanclos.

Mission: The Faith Formation Committee supports the faith formation of the children and youth in all congregations of the Diocese of Utah.

Goals for Youth Faith Formation:

- Provide training for congregational faith formation leaders, both lay and clergy
- Through diocesan workshops
- Sending interested people to trainings which they can share with the Diocese
- Bringing in knowledgeable people from the wider church for training and support
- Disseminate information about available resources through an online network
- Encourage a network of those in each congregation who are invested in faith formation
- Support the programs of New Beginnings and Happenings for junior high and senior high youth in the Diocese of Utah.
- Advocate for children and youth programs and presence at Diocesan events and in the budget
- Celebrate the gifts and presence of the young people in this Diocese
- Evaluate the needs and desires of the Diocese for the children of the Diocese

In 2017, Faith Formation supported:

Journey with Jesus – was held at All Saints in April, 2017

An interactive journey with Jesus through the Stations of the Cross. This was a wonderful event that consisted of youth and adults of all ages that participated.

Festival of Faith – was held at All Saints in June, 2017

This festival was a weeklong event that included activities such as hands on Bible stories, as well as Tie Dye crafts, science experiments, a black light room and other activities. Youth from the Sudanese community, as well as from St. Stephen's and All Saints joined in the activities, with youth age ranges from 4-17 years old.

New Beginnings Retreat – was held at St. Stephen's church in April, 2017

This retreat was a community building event that is offered to our junior high youth, and led by our high school youth. The weekend's activities included; skits, music, small group activities and discussions that focused on self, friends, parents, siblings, school, God's love and prayer.

Happening High School Retreat – was held at All Saints in November, 2017

It was a fun, spiritual filled weekend which consisted of small group discussions, reflection and meditation, fun activities and a party to celebrate at the end of the retreat! The peer leaders bond together through months of planning and team building prior to the retreat, and become a powerful support group for each other.

It is our continued hope and prayer that each person in the Diocese:

- Have a relationship with God.
- Know the Bible and of the important stories of salvation history.
- Know how to pray and grow spiritually in worship and outreach.
- Be able to articulate their faith.
- Have relationships in the church across generations.
- Would know what it means to be an Episcopalian
- Would have knowledge of the faith, practice, and spirit of the Episcopal Church as part of the Anglican Tradition

Submitted by,

Karen Gleeson

Youth Ministry Coordinator/Camp Tuttle Liaison