

Celebrating 60 Years of Youth Ministry in Niagara

What an amazing opportunity we have to celebrate 60 years of diocesan youth ministry in Niagara. We are rich in history and Spirit.

As our vision statement claims "We are called to be God centred and demonstrate our faith, a place of worship, an environment in which to build skills, develop one's self and grow in your relationship with God, and...a community that inspires and empowers all who are involved and all who are touched".

The chronology of how all our programs and ministry began looks something like this...

- 1946 **Niagara Leaders Conference (NLC)**. In 1980 this event was renamed **Niagara Youth Conference (NYC)**
- 1978 **Servers' Festival**
- 1980 **Youth Leadership Training Program**
- 1995 **Youth Members @ Diocesan Synod**
- 1989 **Youth Synod**
- 1991 **SpiritQuest**
- 1992 **Residence & Orientation** for Diocesan Synod Youth Members
- 1993 **Youth Ministry Sunday**
- 1998 **Junior Youth Connections**
- 1998 **Children & Youth Ministry Network**
- 2003 **Spiritual Spa**
- 2005 **Youth Leaders Training Weekend**
- 2006 **Regional Youth Ministry Initiatives**

Since 1985 the area of Youth Ministry has been **professionally staffed** to support these programs as well as to resource parish and regional initiatives in ministry to youth and young adults. This position is currently staffed by **Joyce Wilton** and **Christyn Perkons** (job share).

The **Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee** has been actively involved in the design, implementation and support of Niagara's youth ministry since the late 1970's.

The keys to the success of this vital ministry in Niagara are the volunteers and the wonderful participants that are involved in all that we do.

For further information about our programs and ministry, please visit our website at www.zipsqueal.com or www.niagara.anglican.ca and click on programs and then youth ministry. The diocesan resource team staff can also be contacted by phone at 905-527-1316.



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