

## MNO Synod Youth Ministry Calendar\*\*

August 2024-June 2025

\*as of 9/7/2024\*

"Our vision is to **cultivate dynamic and inclusive community** where youth and leaders are **empowered**, congregations are **equipped**, everyone **works together**, and every individual **feels welcomed and valued**. We aim to inspire and support youth, young adults and their leaders through meaningful connections, transformative experiences, and an evolving faith, providing participants with the tools, community, and foundation for their future."

All 'youth' events are open to those in grades 7-12 unless otherwise noted. If 6<sup>th</sup> graders are included in your congregation's youth events, they are welcome at synod-led youth events.

August 23	<p><b>Thunder Bay Area youth event</b> 6:00-8:00 pm "Created to Be..." Hilldale Lutheran Church, Thunder Bay Food, fellowship and games, and worship</p>	Synod-led youth event for Lutheran/Anglican youth in the Thunder Bay Area. Youth going into grade 7-12 and their leaders are invited.
Sept. 4 WEDNESDAY	<p><b>Youth Leader Meeting</b> <b>6:00-8:30</b> Supper provided Location: <b>Synod office (935 Nesbitt Bay)</b></p>	Review vision, goals and expectations for 2024-2025; review calendar and distribute leadership tasks to assist with planning.
Sept. 14--optional SATURDAY	<p><b>Going the Distance for The Urban</b> Youth groups are invited to form teams and participate in this fundraiser for The Urban. Details and registration through The Urban.</p>	<p>Bike-a-thon at Abundant Life.</p> <p>Youth and leaders who stay for lunch could meet up for some conversation and connection.</p>
Oct. 11-14 WEEKEND	<p><b>Fall Retreat, Luther Village.</b> Bus leaves Wpg 6:00 pm on Friday Bus returns to Wpg 1:00 pm on Monday Cost: \$190 (accommodations and transportation) Registration required by Sept. 29</p>	<p>Theme: "<b>Rooted in Love: Building Strong Foundations</b>"</p> <p>Exploring the importance of establishing healthy, centered relationships with self, friends, family, and others</p>
November 2 SATURDAY	<p><b>Children/Youth Ministry Round Table</b> (in-person and online) 10:00-noon Lunch provided Epiphany Lutheran, 200 Dalhousie Drive, Winnipeg RSVP to Deacon Michelle by Oct. 28</p>	<p>For youth leaders, Christian Ed committees, pastors, etc.</p> <p>Theme: Faith Forming Practices for Cultivating a Faith Forming Environment</p>

Dec. 8 SUNDAY	<p><b>“ADVENT-ure”</b> 4:00-6:00 pm Cost: \$10/person RSVP by Dec. 5</p>	<p>Location: TBD Outdoor guided experience with time for reflection about the season/themes of Advent.</p>
Jan. 12, 2025 SUNDAY	<p><b>Youth Service</b> 4:00-6:00 Location: TBD</p>	<p>Theme: Epiphany Prayer Stations</p>
Feb. 8 SATURDAY	<p><b>WinterQuest</b> 10:00-4:30. Lunch and snacks included. \$10 Registration due by Feb. 1. Location: St. Luke’s Zion</p> <p>*this event is especially for students in Confirmation, but any youth and leader is welcome to attend.</p>	<p>Theme: “Discovering the holy in the ordinary” An exploration of the sacraments and their role in daily life</p>
March 22 SATURDAY	<p><b>Koinonia* Games!</b> 11:00-2:00 pm (lunch included) \$10/person suggested Location: TBD</p> <p>*Koinonia is a Greek word that means ‘community.’ This event is especially for students in grades 3-7 who are beginning to find their way in the faith community.</p>	<p>Activities, discussion, food and interactive worship for younger youth. Parents/other adults are welcome to participate.</p>
April 13-April 20	<p><b>Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Easter</b></p>	<p>Youth leaders encouraged to engage youth in worship life of congregation.</p>
April 24-27 WEEKEND	<p><b>Rhythms of Renewal—youth leaders’ retreat for Lutheran/Anglican Youth Leaders</b> Location: Canterbury Hills Camp, Ontario</p>	<p>Theme: Engaging Youth (and God) through Play Registration cost: \$325 (flight separate)</p>
May 4 SUNDAY	<p><b>Youth Service-learning event at Faith</b> 2:00-5:00 Location: Faith This event will include a blessing of graduates</p>	<p>In partnership with Faith’s Community Connections Team. Service activities. Food included.</p>

June 15 SUNDAY	<b>Youth/Young Adult service</b> 4:00-6:00 pm	Labyrinth at King's Park w/picnic and games. Young Adults welcome to attend.

This calendar seeks to introduce, model, and strengthen the Faith Forming practices that provide a foundation and promote lifelong growth in faith and discipleship:

1. Caring relationships
2. Celebrating liturgical seasons
3. Celebrating rituals and milestones
4. Reading the Bible
5. Learning the Christian tradition and applying it to life
6. Praying, devotions, and spiritual formation
7. Serving and justice
8. Worshipping God

\*\*This calendar does not include events that might be specific to CLAY or restricted to youth and leaders going to CLAY, which will be added as that information is available. It also does not include events that are specific to campus ministry or young adults. Young adult activities will be communicated separately.