



April 2009 Issue

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At the recent Rock & Worship Roadshow, Bart Millard, lead singer for Mercyme, reminded me of two important truths for youth ministry.

1) Church is where it's at!

Christian rock concerts, youth conferences, or even powerful retreats are NOT church. They are great mountaintop experiences that can ignite, re-charge, motivate and bless those who attend. But church, our parish, is where we live--day in and day out. And it is the people in our parish who help us with daily struggles, and celebrate daily triumphs. And these people who walk with us in the ordinariness of life, help us sustain our faith one day at a time. Programs serve to form relationships. So don't get trapped in programming for programming's sake. And relationships serve to build up the body of Christ, so be sure you develop Christ-centered relationships!

2) Your work is more important than you know!

I remember clearly my ever-practical mother asking me, while I was serving as a youth minister in Texas, when I was going to grow up and get a *real* job. I wonder how many adult leaders can relate to the trivialization of this ministry. Just because it is fun, doesn't mean that it isn't important. There simply is no greater mission than to help lead another to Christ. So, in the midst of ordering pizza, arranging carpools, and trying to figure out Twitter, please remember that this is NOT glorified social service for youth. It is so much more than that. It is an honor bestowed on all of us to share the Good News and help young people live out their baptismal calling.

Blessings!

UPCOMING

**April
18-19**
CLAY retreat

Senior Stay
Connected Sign-

Senior "Stay Connected" Sign-Up

Please help us send young adult Catholic activities and resources to the graduating seniors in your parish! Simply download this [flyer](#) and ask your seniors to complete the post-card portion and return it to our office

up

June

6-8 TEC in Hutchinson

13 - A Summer's Eve Dance in Schulte

July

11-13 TEC in St. Paul

19 TEC Summer Bash

24-26 YABE in Wichita

[click here for full calendar](#)

by **June 15, 2009**.
Forms will also be sent to parishes at the end of this month. Thank you!

ADULT TRAINING AND FORMATION

In the Diocese:

Jun 12-13 - Adult Youth Ministry Leaders' Retreat at the Magnificat Center. **See sidebar for more details.**

Jun 12-14 - "Purposely for God: Being our Best Devoted Selves" with Fr. John Graden, OSFS at the Spiritual Life Center. Earlybird discount rate of \$120 per person (double occupancy) if paid in full by Friday, May 29, 2009

Jul 12-20 - Individually Directed Retreat with various spiritual directors at the Spiritual Life Center. Choose between 5 or 8 days.

Jul 24-26 - KARE conference in Salina; featuring Dr. Robert McCarty, executive director of the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM.)

ONLINE RESOURCES

[Christian Foundation for Children and Aging](#) (CFCA) youth-oriented site

[Catholic Climate Covenant](#)
Download the St. Francis Pledge to Care for Creation and the Poor.

Diocesan [Catholic Committee on Scouting](#) website. Lots of great scouting information!

Outside of the Diocese:

Jul 28-31 - Institute for New Youth Ministers - Chicago, IL. Register by May 15 and save \$50.

With your computer:

[STEP](#) (Satellite Theological Education Program) at the University of Notre Dame has one online course coming up. Time commitment: 3-5 hours per week; Cost \$79 per course: **Youth Ministry 101** (June 8-July 10, 2009) online course to enhance your ministry and get you discussing and sharing with other youth ministers.

Coming this Fall:

The Religious Studies Program at the Spiritual Life Center will be offering 5 individual courses: Catechetics; Intro to the Old Testament; Intro to Church History; Christian Sprituality. Check out their [website](#) for more information.

DIRECT MINISTRY FOR YOUTH

- [CLAY](#) retreat - April 18-19, 2009
- [TEC](#) weekend - June 6-8, 2009, Hutchinson
- [A Summer's Eve Dance](#) - June 13, 2009, Schulte
- TEC weekend - July 11-13, 2009, St. Paul
- TEC Summer Bash - July 19, 2009, Wichita

DCYC
thank
you!

A huge and heart-felt thanks to all who attened and

TEEN RESOURCES

Summer is a great time to offer leadership development for your teen

assisted with the Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference. Although we were unable to cancel, everyone who was at the Airport Hilton on March 28-29 was gracious and understanding of our circumstances, and helped make our "blizzard conference" the best it could be in the given situation. God bless you all for your kindness!!

leaders. Here are some resources to check out through our lending library:

Lights for the World: Training Youth Leaders for Peer Ministry by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart Includes 6 retreat "blocks" to be used on an overnight retreat or separately, plus 10 post-retreat training activities to continue training throughout the year.

Make It Real: A Practical Resource for Teen-Friendly Evangelization by Frank Mercadante. Includes 4 foundational chapters to help teens learn how to reach out, and then 6 step-by-step Evangelistic Outreach Sessions.

The Student Leadership Training Manual for Youth Workers by Dennis "Tiger" McLuen and Chuck Wysong. Sections include: Principles for Developing Student Leaders (rationale & methodology); The Life of a Leader; Peer Ministry; Peer Evangelism; Ministry Teams; Servant Teams and Program-Planning Leadership Teams. Contains numerous reproducible handouts.

FOR ADULT YOUTH MINISTRY LEADERS

Available in our lending library!

Leadership for Catholic Youth Ministry: A Comprehensive Resource by Thomas East
Hot off the presses, based on the most current research and experience of parishes that are implementing *Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry*.

"Friendship is born at that moment when one person says to another, 'What! You too? I thought I was the only one.'"

- C.S. Lewis

Adult Youth Ministry Leaders' Retreat

Jun 12

6:30 dinner & evening social

Jun 13

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Retreat

w/Fr. H Setter
Magnificat Center
(at CSJ Motherhouse)

\$5/person;

optional overnight

accommodations

additional \$25

RSVP to YYAM

Camp Totus Tuus

Early registration (with discounts) for Camp Totus Tuus ends **May 15**. Register online at their [website](#).

LOST AND FOUND!!

LOST at the Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference:

- A silver necklace
- A silver shawl

LOST at the March TEC:

- A girl's black Puma jacket

Please contact the office to claim these items.

wishing you a joyous Easter season,

Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Youth & Young Adult Ministries / Catholic Diocese of Wichita

Jun 1, 2009

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