

Northwest Region Youth Service Team Report

September 2025

Youth Service Team Purpose & Vision

The Northwest Unity Youth Service Team is a collaborative resource that supports, encourages, and inspires spiritual growth in the Northwest Region's Youth and Family Ministry programs. We are here to serve each Unity community and its unique needs.

Vision: We share resources: Annual Youth Team Conference, and ongoing Connection, Mentoring, Training, and Experiential Education.

Team Composition

Nick Muncie-Jarvis, LUT, CSE (YOU Consultant), Chris Castaldi (Uniteen Consultant & Trainer), Rev. Philip Zemke (Board Liaison), Heidi Nathe (YOU Sponsor), Ginger Landree (Uniteen Leader) Barbara Selvaggi (YFM Director), and Marilee Payne (YFM Teacher).

Meetings

The Youth Service Team meets via video conference about monthly throughout the year to plan the Northwest Region Youth Team Conference (aka "Gold Bar" or now "Sand Bar"). Team members arrive a day early to prepare and set up the Youth Team Conference.

Youth Team Conference 2025 "Wake Up to Wholeness" (Jan. 24-26 – Seabeck, WA)

33 people from 8 ministries gathered for the 45th Annual NW Region Youth Team Conference. We had presentations on the following topics: Learning and Teaching Styles, Mandala's including a God Walk, Teaching through Creative Expression, the Power of Story, Bitmoji Classroom Resources, and the Power of Music. This conference was both inspiring and informational! Participants shared and discussed the joys and challenges of working in youth ministry and how we can better meet the needs of the youth we serve. Presenter Mark Stanton Welch enhanced and enriched this journey. It was a weekend full of love, joy, communion, support, and collaboration. Everyone is looking forward to next year's conference.

Youth Team Conference 2026 "The Art of Holding the Circle" (Jan. 23-25 – Seabeck, WA)

The Youth Team Conference is an educational gathering and a time to rejuvenate, connect, inspire, and exchange mentoring wisdom. At this year's conference we will explore small group facilitation "Holding the Circle", the origins of the 12 Powers, purposeful art and music. Each year we strive to make time for participants to connect, collaborate, grow, reflect, and renew. The Youth Service Team is excited to share in this event with youth workers from all our Region's ministries. Please invest in your Youth Ministry program by sending your teachers to Youth Team Conference where they will be immersed in a community of wisdom and support.