

August 26, 2022

A CAMPING & YPM NEWSLETTER

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ympm Connection

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Zoom Link for Full CCYPM Meeting September 13 @ 7pm

If you are a youth, young adult, or youth worker who is interested in doing ministry with young people, please join us for this meeting to get divided into subgroups for the work ahead.

Please use the following Zoom link:

Rev. Jacey Pickens-Jones is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Conference Committee Young People's Ministry (CCYPM)

Time: Sep 13, 2022 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87822815449?pwd=UWtFYTZKSzZadHBOL2VWenRmZkVpQT09>

Meeting ID: 878 2281 5449

Passcode: 407474

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,87822815449#,,,,*407474# US (San Jose)

+16694449171,,87822815449#,,,,*407474# US

Youth Leadership Team

We are looking for driven youth to help us plan and lead ministry with youth. If you are interested please reach out to Lulu at lsapigao@gmail.com.

Back-to-school Kickoff Ideas

by Jeremy Steele

With every changing season, the church has an opportunity to reach out to neighbors and introduce new people to the community of Christ. For teens, there may be no bigger seasonal transition than starting back to school. This is the perfect time for a fun outreach event. Students can get together and see how the church can be a place to connect with friends. [Click Here for 5](#) over the top ideas for your back to school kickoff



School Year Intro - Anticipation and Reality

by Corey Dao-Forrester

Happy school year! If you are like me, you have moments where you ask yourself where the summer went. Yet here we are - the start of another school year. Leading up to the start of any new journey, we feel overwhelmed with certain emotions. Excitement. Anxiety. Stress. Over stimulation. Our emotions swing from joy to dread. Peace to overwhelm. We are human. Thus, we are called to have these emotions flow freely through us. So, how do we handle all of the emotions we feel leading up to this moment of new beginning? We thank our Creator for the moments of joy and anxiety. We force our mind, body, and soul to be still. We sit quietly and speak with our Creator. We allow the still and quiet moments to guide our thoughts and process our emotions. We center ourselves in the love of Christ. We do not suppress our emotions and thoughts. Rather, we invite the Spirit to enlighten them and make them more real and clear.

These moments of God-given peace are essential before we begin our new journey together. They are the wellspring from which our spiritual strength and wisdom flow. Be still. Know that God is present. Then we rise together. We take that next daring step into the reality of the new journey. The emotions of excitement, joy, stress, and fear push us onward towards this new reality. When the reality of this new journey begins to set in, we must remember the peace of the quiet moments with our Creator. We must think back to the wisdom we were given. We must not get overwhelmed when the reality of school and life sets in again. We must be people filled with peace, love, and courage. The reality of this new journey can either cause us to turn inwards and backwards, or it can enliven our spirit and wave us towards a new level of Holy existence. Beloved children of our Creator, the start of our new journey is fast approaching. Reality, old and new rhythms, and the hustle and bustle will soon engulf us. So, we must prepare, be present, and follow the lightened path with Jesus. We are beloved. We are capable. We will continue to create a more Holy reality for all on this new journey.

Transitions can be Hard

As we move from Summer to back-to-school time and as we are making more transitions within our conference too, it seemed like a good time to take a moment to reflect on transitions.

Throughout Scripture, God leads God's people through various changes and transitions from slavery to liberation, from exile to home, from the cross to the empty tomb, and so much more. The one thing that never changes is that God is always present.

Psalm 27:1-4 says,

"The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold[a] of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

When evildoers assail me
to devour my flesh—

my adversaries and foes—
they shall stumble and fall.

Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;

though war rise up against me,
yet I will be confident.

One thing I asked of the LORD;
this I seek:

to live in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,

to behold the beauty of the LORD,
and to inquire in his temple."

God is always on our side, and always with us. Thank goodness!