



A service of the  
Northwest District  
of the  
Lutheran Church -  
Missouri Synod

# Youth Supports

**A resource to encourage and empower youth leaders for the expansion of the Lord's kingdom.**

July 2001 - Volume 2, Issue 7

- **Praise the Lord!**
- **Kaleidoscope!**
- **List of people and resources available to you!**

...sing  
praises to  
the LORD!

...age  
stereo-  
types  
don't  
work.

## **Praise the Lord!**

LET EVERYTHING THAT HAS BREATH PRAISE THE LORD!  
From Psalm 150

*Praise the LORD! Praise God in his heavenly dwelling; praise him in his mighty heaven! Praise him for his mighty works; praise his unequalled greatness! Praise him with a blast of the trumpet; praise him with the lyre and harp! Praise him with the tambourine and dancing; praise him with stringed instruments and flutes! Praise him with a clash of cymbals; praise him with loud clanging cymbals. Let everything that lives sing praises to the LORD! Praise the LORD! (Psalm 150 NLT).*

The concept of worship today seems to be 'issue' within our church body. There are some that say worship must be conducted from the pages of our historical books, and there are some that wish to do away with tradition all together and conduct worship in what has come to be known in a more contemporary vein. I was asked to write an article about conducting worship with young people, and it seems to me that the 'traditional-contemporary' argument is not relevant. Actually, it is never appropriate, as I read David's Psalm of praise: Psalm 150. The motivation for worship is praise!

I've seen worship services conducted for youth that were very successful using music of 'the day'...rock-n-roll we called it when I was growing up. I've also seen and heard from youth a desire to return to our heritage, our roots. The one thing that I've learned over the years as a DCE turned Minister of Worship is that age stereotypes don't work. You can't assume that the younger folks will like this better, and the older folks will like that better.

Worship needs to be genuine and sincere. It flows from a realization of what God has really done for us in Christ Jesus, and what He continues to do in and through us today. David in this psalm seems to be putting forth a couple of directions for worship: a) focus on God always; notice how every sentence says 'Praise him'; and b) praise God and never stop doing it. However and wherever you find yourself, praise the Lord!

Talk to  
your  
youth.

...focus...  
on giving  
God  
thanks  
and  
praise...

So, if offering worship for youth means guitars and drums, great! If offering worship for youth means organ and liturgies, great! Talk to your youth. Find out what they find most meaningful in their lives and do it! Just do it, to use a phrase of the day. Offer a worship for young people that in which they can focus their energies and attentions on giving God thanks and praise for all that He has done in their lives. Let everything that lives sing praises to the LORD! Praise the LORD!

-Phil Meyer, a DCE by training, serves at Crown of Life in Rigby, Idaho and the Minister of Worship at Hope in Idaho Falls. He has recorded 5 worship cd's and currently directs three praise teams.

Find past issues of Youth Supports at:  
<http://www.nowlcms.org/Youth/ysupportslist.html>

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## Kaleidoscope

**Kaleidoscope is a great week long youth event for up to 4 youth per congregation. You can read and see photos about it at**

<http://www.nowlcms.org/Youth/YTalk/April00/yt0004a.html>

This year's K-Scope is scheduled for July 9 - 14 at the Christ Lutheran Retreat Center at Belfair, WA. Contact Jeff Kranich at [HopeSeattle@aol.com](mailto:HopeSeattle@aol.com) or (206) 937-9330 for more information!

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**The Department of Youth Ministry of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod** has several Internet resources available to you.

One of the items is a monthly E-Bulletin to "provide current information on youth events, resources, updates, plus various & sundry items of interest to youth workers (and youth) of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod." To subscribe to the Youth Ministry E-Bulletin send this message: SUBSCRIBE E-BULLETIN to [MAILSERV@crf.cuis.edu](mailto:MAILSERV@crf.cuis.edu).

To unsubscribe send the message: UNSUBSCRIBE to [MAILSERV@crf.cuis.edu](mailto:MAILSERV@crf.cuis.edu).

To find out about Bible studies, song books, and other resources available from the Department of Youth Ministry, check out the DYM Web site: <http://cs.lcms.org/youth>.

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### Youth Ministry Consultants in Your Area

Youth Ministry consultants help you to either fine tune your youth ministry, refresh it or get you started on a complete overhaul. Contact Dick Weniger at the district office at 503/288-8383 or email him at [dickw@nowlcms.org](mailto:dickw@nowlcms.org) for more information on how a Youth Ministry Consultant can help you and your congregation!

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