

As Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario's Conference Young Adult and Youth Committee, we believe the following to be true, in conjunction with The United Church of Canada, and want to advocate the following vision at our retreats

We believe in God who creates all people in God's image to be equal in God's eyes. We believe we are called by Jesus Christ to love and serve others and to seek justice and community in our world. We believe in the Holy Spirit's enlivening presence making all things new and grounding us in our traditions and the new possibilities that grow from them.

We believe all people, and in particular all young adults and youth, are whole people. No matter their abilities, skills, education, age and cultural background, young adults and youth will be welcome as whole and trustworthy people at our events. We will strive to create safe and accessible events for all. At these events we will strive to advocate our inclusive vision of the world which we believe is God's will and dream. We invite all those who join us at events and meetings to live into who God's would have them be, here and now.

We believe that throughout life, and in particular adolescence, we are in the midst of a spiritual, physical, mental and emotional journey. We discover every day more about God as well as ourselves and our world. We will seek together to not limit God to only one or two images or ideas but to bring together many ideas and images of God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. We will seek to expand our understandings of humanity without excluding according to (or defining folks solely by stereotypes of) gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, cultural or other personal or societal distinctions. We will instead explore all differences and strive to accept all people as we grow into who we are and who God would have us be.

We will strive together to create, participate in and lead gatherings for young adults and youth where safe space, inclusive worship and accessible learning experiences can occur. We know we will all change and grow in our beliefs yet we will hold true to our United Church's traditions of inclusion and justice.

We hope to have access to all the best resources, from our Church and from outside our Church, to help us create these events. We hope that all the guests invited and resources used by retreat leaders will support our vision for inclusion and safe events. We want guests to participate with integrity while supporting what we will be striving for at every event.