

PRESBYTERY OF WEST VIRGINIA YOUTH COUNCIL ORGANIZATION/OVERVIEW

ORGANIZING PRINCIPLES

The Youth Council shall conform to the 5 theological intentions for youth ministry in all programming:

1. To call young people to discipleship in Jesus Christ.
2. To respond to the needs and interests of young people.
3. To work together in partnership; young people and adults.
4. To be connected to the whole church, community and world.
5. To be inclusive of all young people.

ORGANIZATION

1. The Presbytery Youth Council (YC) shall be accountable to the Nurture Committee of the Presbytery of West Virginia.
2. One adult member of the YC shall be a member of the Nurture Committee and shall act as a liaison to facilitate communication between the two bodies. In addition, the adult Moderator shall be invited to Nurture Committee meetings.
3. The YC shall be composed of 14 youth and 8 adults from across the presbytery, representing as many churches and geographic areas as possible. These youth and adults shall be members, or active participants (pre-confirmation), or staff of churches within the presbytery, or members of Presbytery.
4. A congregation may ordinarily be represented by one youth and one adult. Occasionally, it may be that two youth or two adults *serve* from the same congregation, though usually no two youth or two adults shall be *nominated* from the same congregation in the same year.
5. The YC shall be elected by the Nurture Committee.
6. The term of office shall be 3 years for adults, with the opportunity to serve a second three year term, and up to 3 years for youth, who may serve until graduation from high school. YC shall ordinarily be balanced between 10th, 11th, and 12th grades as far as possible. The year will run from July to June.
7. There shall be a youth and an adult Co-Moderator of the YC. The youth shall be elected annually by the YC upon approval of the Nurture Committee. The adult shall be appointed annually by the Nurture Committee.
8. The YC shall elect a Secretary to take minutes of all meetings, and submit them to the Nurture Committee upon approval by the YC.
9. The Presbytery Associate for Educational Ministry will staff the YC.
10. Youth members of YC ordinarily shall not drive to events beyond 10 miles of their residence. Adult Youth Council members will ordinarily provide transportation to YC events. It is the parent or guardian's responsibility to get their youth to meet the adult YC member at a mutually agreed upon place. If transportation is an issue, parents should contact the adult moderator of the YC.