

*May our sons in their youth be like plants full grown,
our daughters like corner pillars, cut for the building of a palace.
Psalm 144:12*

Plants Full Grown

a newsletter for Central Plains Mennonite Conference youth leaders

December 2011

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Dear Friends,

You are receiving this newsletter because you are a youth leader in a church belonging to Central Plains Mennonite Conference. I am the formation minister for Central Plains—it is my job to help youth leaders with curriculum, practical advice, and communication about Mennonite Church programs for youth.

I have a web site set up just to help you. Go to www.centralplainsmc.org and Click on Youth Ministry. You'll find a lot of things there: lists of curriculum, ideas for service projects, planning tools, etc. Below, I'll highlight a few of the things you can find there.

Remember, I am here to help you, and I'd love to hear from you. You can reach me at 319-936-5905 and my email is shanaboshart@centralplainsmc.org.

Shana

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Youth Escape 2012

Mark your calendar for August 3-5, 2012, and plan to bring your group to Youth Escape 2012. The theme will have to do with learning to discern when to put down electronic devices and make ourselves present to God. This is a huge challenge, and not just for youth! Next month, we'll send you more details and start the Youth Escape web page.

Service Project Ideas

This is the year to take the group on a service project! Need some ideas on where to go? I've compiled [a list of good options](#), and you can find it on the [Youth Ministry](#) web page.

Resources for Conscientious Objection

As a historic peace church, Mennonites have a long tradition of [conscientious objection](#) to military service. Before World War II, leaders of peace churches secured legal exemption from military service for anyone who, by reason of religious training and belief is conscientiously opposed to participation in war in any form. This is the legal definition as recognized by the Selective Service. Mennonite youth should think through their own convictions and prepare a [“CO File,”](#) a collection of evidence that, in the event of a draft, would demonstrate that their beliefs are sincere and long-held. Find resources for study on this important topic on the Youth Ministry web pages.

WDC Library

Did you know that you have access to a huge assortment of Bible study curricula, videos, music and books about youth ministry? All Central Plains congregations have access to the [Western District Conference \(WDC\) Resource Library](#). You can do an [online search of their catalog](#), then call or email to check out resources. Just mail them back when you are done with them. It's simple, and you will be amazed at how many things are available for check out.

Plants Full Grown is published every other month for Central Plains youth leaders. Please include items from this newsletter in your church bulletins and newsletters. Editor: Shana Peachey Boshart. To subscribe or unsubscribe, email shanaboshart@centralplainsmc.org.



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The mission of Central Plains Mennonite Conference is to create settings for our congregations to grow in holistic witness to God's reconciling mission in the world by developing leadership, encouraging fellowship, and promoting lifelong discipleship.

