

Is Youth Escape on your calendar for August 3-5? It's going to be a great weekend of spiritual growth and fun!

*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  
February 2012

## Contents:

Youth Escape

No more CO Packets

*Relate* newsletter

Remember these resources

Hello Central Plains Youth Sponsors!

How are things going for you? I just sent you an email earlier today asking you to answer a few questions about being a youth sponsor. Please take just a few minutes and write me quick answers to the four questions there. This will help me and the Christian Formation Committee have a better idea of how to be helpful to all our youth sponsors. Thanks!

I am really happy with how our plans are coming together for Youth Escape 2012. Long-time youth ministers Marlene Frankenfield and Merv Stoltzfus are planning some really interesting and interactive worship services for us. They want to teach our kids new ways of praying and being with God, and they have many more great ideas than we can use in just one weekend. You and your kids will love them!



Merv Stoltzfus



Marlene Frankenfield

Blessings to you!

## *Shana*

Shana Peachey Boshart

Conference Minister for Christian Formation

Central Plains Mennonite Conference

[shanaboshart@centralplainsmc.org](mailto:shanaboshart@centralplainsmc.org) 319-936-5905

## Youth Escape 2012

The Youth Escape 2012 web page is now up and ready to serve you! Find the tentative schedule for the weekend, speaker bios, Frequently Asked Questions and info about the camp we're going to. This page will continually be updated. The next new thing will be our Youth Escape 2012 logo—watch for that within the next few weeks. Here is a description you can share with your group:

Our theme is **Plugged In and Charging!** and it's about learning to be with God.

We are constantly plugged in to something. We are texting, on Facebook, playing video games.... But when do we intentionally plug into God, the Source of life? Come to Youth Escape 2012 and explore creative ways to plug into God's presence and recharge our souls.

In breakout sessions and in worship times, you'll have a chance to experience quiet time with God, and to learn specific ways to pray. We'll do all kinds of prayer practices throughout the weekend, using art, journaling, nature, singing, eating, stories, doubts...a variety ways of nurturing our spirits in God's presence.

ALSO, encourage your youth to find the Youth Escape 2012 Facebook page and click the Like button. We'll keep updating that page in the weeks and months to come.

## No more CO Packets

For many years, we have been sending what we call "CO Packets" to Central Plains youth just after their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday. This no longer seems like the best way to educate youth about the topic of conscientious objection to military service, so we have a new method.

Attached to this email you will find a letter addressed to you, which goes into more detail. Please call me or email me if you have questions.

## Relate newsletter

Subscribe to the Relate newsletter to get helpful ideas and to keep up with Christian service programs from MMN. The current issue features a pretty cool **video** made by the Radical Journey participants in China. This would be fun to share with your youth group to encourage them to do a year of service.

Many students who want to serve worry that taking a year off before college may hurt their admissions chances later, or even worse – they may get "left behind" by their friends. This issue of *Relate* tackles those fears. There are **three stories** of people talking about their year of service and a **Bible study** about discovering and using your gifts.

## Remember...

...There are lots of resources for you at my web site, [www.centralplainsmc.org/Youth Ministry](http://www.centralplainsmc.org/Youth_Ministry).

...I've made a list of summer service project options for you—[Check it out!](#)

...You can use the [Western District Conference \(WDC\) Resource Library](#). Check out their new [online catalog](#), too.

*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](mailto:shanaboshart@centralplainsmc.org).



Contact Shana any time at 319-936-5905 or [shanaboshart@centralplainsmc.org](mailto:shanaboshart@centralplainsmc.org).  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 352, Kalona, IA 52247

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.