



February 11th, 2010

Pennsylvania SE Conference

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

youth and young adults

Micah 6:8 (The Message)

But he's already made it plain how to live, what to do, what God is looking for in men and women. It's quite simple: Do what is fair and just to your neighbor, be compassionate and loyal in your love, And don't take yourself too seriously—take God seriously.

Dear FRIENDS, grace and peace to you in Jesus Christ!

As many of you already know, at an emergency meeting of the PA SE Conference Consistory on February 8, 2010, per the recommendation of the Personnel and Budget & Finance Committees, the decision was made to alter the 2010 Spending Plan of the Conference. The position of Youth and Young Adult Minister of Discipling was eliminated.

Obviously, I am disappointed by the decision and sad that my ministry with you will now change. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving God with you. Your gifts and passion for ministry have inspired, challenged, and blessed me. I have learned so much in my time with you; I hope you have, too. I thank God for the opportunity to minister with ALL of you and I'm humbled by all the amazing work that God's Spirit has inspired us to do together.

I pray for all of the younger generations of our faith community. I pray that their advocates, mentors, and leaders will stand up and empower them so that their voices may be heard. And to all youth and young adults—thank *you* for your honesty and passion for service. I am continually blessed and challenged by you; the world needs your gifts today...

My time as your Minister of Youth & Young Adult Discipling is short; however, I hope that in the remaining months, we can gather together to envision what ministry with and to youth and young adults will be moving forward. This is your opportunity to be heard! I will be meeting with various ministry groups over the next several weeks. I hope that many of you can be a part of this. I will do my best to pass on anything that will help you move forward; it will also be an opportunity for us to celebrate what God is already doing. Also, ministries like Regional Youth Event will continue with the help of volunteer leaders in the Conference. Perhaps this is your chance to be one of those leaders...

Finally, at the PSEC Spring Meeting, April 23-24, I hope that you can join the rest of the Conference for a celebration of our ministry together. There will be opportunities for you to lead worship, play music, fellowship, and discover how God is still speaking to you today. Friends, I thank God for our time together. I love you and pray that God will give you the wisdom and strength to serve with gladness, seeking justice and living the Gospel.

Peace,
Paz,
Shalom,

Josh