

Youth Ministry

We started off 2020 with great energy. The Rev. Laurie Anzilotti recruited Ken Brown and Julie Bennet to lead a “Youth Care Corps,” and plans began hatching to reinvigorate youth ministry, as a few of our younger kids started “aging up” into youth group. Unfortunately, with the pandemic, the first few months of Fall, it was difficult to get youth participating. Many were overwhelmed with the online demands of school. We are grateful to Ken and Julie for their enthusiasm and valiant efforts. We are hoping to relaunch the care corps, when the pandemic allows us to make more firm plans for the future.

As sometimes happens in ministry, simple things can catch on when you least expect: *In December youth group alumna Chloe Olliff started a very simple evening prayer small group with youth on Zoom. This is her report:*

Youth ministry is a vital part of any church community, and I have been honored to lead a virtual youth small group for the last two months. We meet over Zoom for a half an hour on Sunday evenings, and we start our circle with introductions and some ice-breaking questions. I use the method of roses, thorns, and buds to invite the youth to reflect on their week, and then we all take part in a short evening prayer service, based on Compline. The small group ends with time for casual conversation. Originally started as an Advent small group, I decided to continue holding Zoom sessions after Christmas. The largest group we had consisted of four people, including myself, but four different youth have participated since December. I intend to keep leading this small group for as long as there is interest, and I am looking forward to spending more time with Holy Communion’s youth in the future.

Thank you to the youth of Holy Communion for participating in Youth Group.

Respectfully submitted,

Chloë Olliff