

*"The Faith Formation Team of the Minnesota Conference listens to God's still speaking voice, to discern a vision of how best to equip, empower, advocate, resource and evaluate faith formation in local churches, the Minnesota conference, and the wider church." The above statement of purpose provides the lens through which the Faith Formation Team of the Minnesota Conference engages our work to support local congregations in their ministry with children, youth, and the adults who nurture them.*

Like last year this has been a year of transition and change, we welcomed Kevin Brown as the Associate Conference Minister of Faith Formation for Children and Youth as we said good-bye to Garth Schumacher in the interim position. We give thanks for both Garth's and Kevin's ministries to the Conference.

Due to these transitions the Faith Formation Team met only once in the past fiscal year. We held a winter retreat at Arc Retreat Center. With a change in team membership the weekend was a time to deepen relationships, dream together and brainstorm about ways to broaden support for congregations in the Minnesota conference, and begin to establish ministry and programmatic priorities for the team. We confirmed the need to develop and have a web-presence for faith formation resources. The team again had conversation on how to make the Faith Forming Five more accessible to congregations and these revisions will first be shared at the annual meeting. We continued budget conversations concerning the best stewardship of the Ashley endowment and what recommendations we would make to the board regarding programming initiatives and wider church support.

In addition the Team approved grant monies for the Global Partnerships Team. This money is for scholarships to assist young adults (18-19) in a partnership visit to the Philippines.

Team Members: Nathan Holst, Amy Wick Moore, Abigail Henderson, Sheri Nelson, Leah Springer (chair), ex-officio Kevin Brown (staff)