

## the curriculum

The curriculum for the certificate is based upon areas of leadership in youth ministry which are standard for all participants. The overall programme will vary depending on the participant's previous experience and training and on the participant's chosen focus for the year. Each participant's programme will be unique to them.

### **communication**

- ✓clear verbal skills
- ✓giving and receiving feedback
- ✓teaming skills
- ✓managing conflict

### **planning/models of youth ministry**

- ✓programme planning
- ✓resource adaption
- ✓reflection and evaluation tools
- ✓exploring aspects of an integrated youth ministry

### **theology**

- ✓understanding United Church doctrine and polity
- ✓exploring and articulating United Church theology
- ✓overview of the history of the Christian Church

### **practical spirituality**

- ✓exploring spiritual disciplines for personal spiritual growth
- ✓exploring ways to engage youth in spiritual practice

### **biblical connections**

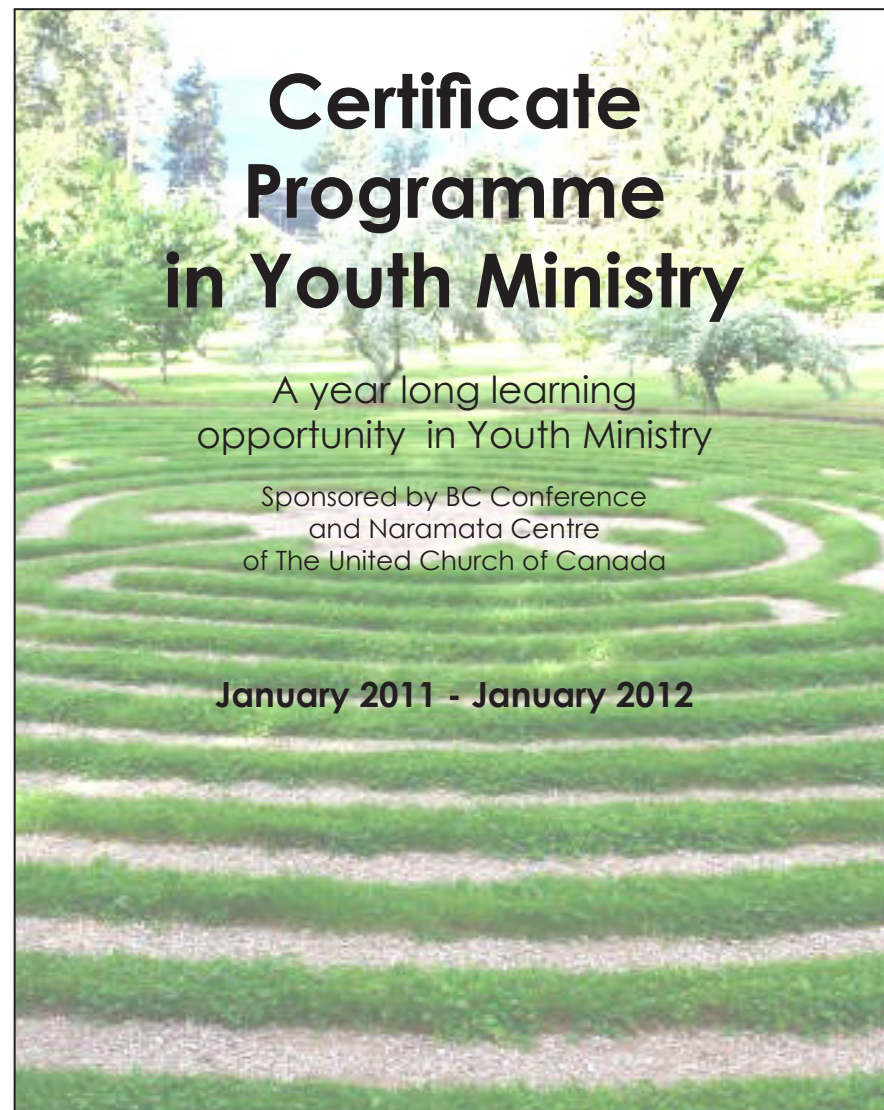
- ✓wrestling with scripture and it's meaning in our personal lives and work
- ✓basic intro to Christian Scripture
- ✓explore models of working with the bible and youth
- ✓United Church beliefs about the bible

### **educational/developmental theory**

- ✓cognitive, social and physical development of youth
- ✓approaches to faith and spiritual development
- ✓understanding youth culture

## the facilitators:

Key leadership of the certificate programme is offered by Conference and Naramata Centre Staff as well as outside facilitators and workshop leaders. Doris Kizinna is the Administrative Director of the programme and welcomes your questions and further conversation. All leadership will have extensive experience in congregational, presbytery and conference youth ministry in the United Church and all will bring passion, expertise and enthusiasm to Youth Ministry. Come ready to learn!



## The Goals of the Certificate Programme in Youth Ministry:

- to equip youth ministry leaders with skills for their ministry through an intensive programme of study, reflection, community, practicum and supervision
- to develop strong lay leadership for the church
- to build greater accountability for youth ministry in local communities



## Youth Ministry: The Big Picture

The past 25 years have been a significant time of development in Youth Ministry in The United Church of Canada. Congregations and Presbyteries are taking the call to Youth Ministry seriously and hiring skilled ministry-personel and youth leaders to fill those positions. It has been an exciting time of growth in the life of the church as we have moved to a standardized practice in hiring and nurturing youth ministry leadership. There are many opportunities within the United Church for people to practice youth ministry as a vocation and as a volunteer. This programme has been a major step in giving people a background in the skills required to work with Youth in a United Church setting. Over 35 people have participated and completed the Certificate Programme in Youth Ministry in the last 11 years.

### The Training:

The year long, part-time training programme runs from January 2011-January 2012 and will be divided into three phases: 3 night meetings and a 5 day intensive, other events and learning opportunities, required practicum experiences and integration of the work of the year into a youth ministry context.

#### meetings and intensive:

The meetings and intensive will concentrate on building theoretical understanding of youth ministry, enhancing existing spirituality and building on understanding of leadership gifts and strengths. The participants will meet for training events in January, February, April, September and the following January. A 5 day intensive will happen in June. A field trip will take place in October. You will attend the youth leader stream at the Evolve Conference in November. The opening, closing and June Intensive will be held in Naramata, while the other events will take place in other locations in BC depending on where participants are from.

#### other events:

There are opportunities for participants to take part in events like: the Evolve your Faith Conference, the Spiritual Retreat for leaders each spring, engage in Spiritual Direction, courses at VST, and other courses at Naramata Centre. Consultation will happen with the facilitators to see how some of these opportunities can be worked into your programme. There will be some assistance for the cost of these opportunities however there is a limit per participant on what the programme can sponsor.

#### practicum:

There will be a number of opportunities provided to expand leadership through experience, supervision, and feedback in a variety of youth ministry settings, (United Church Camps, Naramata Centre Summer programmes, congregations, presbytery and conference youth events and secular youth organizations). The practicum experiences will be specific to each participant and their learning goals.

#### integration:

This phase provides an opportunity for the participants to integrate their learnings within their local ministry settings. This phase will be both supervised and highly individual according to the learning goals of each participant.

#### final project:

Each participant is expected to complete a major assignment focussing on one area of youth ministry related to their learning goals. There are a variety of diverse options for the final project.

#### mentors:

Each participant will be connected with a mentor, a member of the wider conference church community, for discussion and support. Once connected it is the responsibility of the participant to maintain the relationship with the mentor.

#### youth ministry context:

Each participant **must** have a context in which they can practice the skills they are developing and integrate them into the programmes they provide. This will most likely come in the form of a congregational context but could also work at the presbytery level of youth ministry. Please consider and discuss your context with the Director.

#### what does it cost?

The cost for the programme is \$4200 for BC and Alberta Participants. Participants from other parts of Canada will be in consultation with the Director regarding fees. The cost includes all weekends away, the 5 day intensive including accommodation and food. This fee also includes your registration for some of the other possible events with a limit, a great stack of youth ministry books and resources, and some of the costs related to your practicum. This fee also covers the majority of your field trip experience (meals are your own responsibility). You are responsible for your own costs of travel to all events other than the field trip. It does cover accomodation, food and tuition. There are places you can apply to for funding, the number one source being your Congregation. Other sources include the Heartwood Bursary, the Congregational Fund for Leaders, the Imagine Fund and other possible conference funds.

#### here's how to apply:

The application process includes a self assessment questionnaire, conversations with the facilitators to determine if this the right programme for you and the possibility of conversations with others in the applicant's congregation or other place of ministry. Due to the highly individualized nature of this programme, only a limited number of participants will be accepted.

Please contact Doris Kizinna to receive a full package of information about the programme including course outline, application and details about information and the cost.

For further conversation and an application package  
please contact:

**Doris Kizinna**

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