

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) General Youth Council

Job Description and Expectations

For the purpose of this information and future correspondence you may see the following acronyms for terminology that is repeated throughout.

GYC –General Youth Council

DHM–Disciples Home Missions

DOC-Disciples of Christ

The GYC shall consist of youth and adults that are active in their home congregations, who have a desire to give leadership and who commit themselves to the work of the Youth Council.

GYC plans, implements and evaluates the total general youth ministry program for the Christian Church (DOC). Specific events may include: General Assembly Youth Programs and other youth centered events sponsored by the Christian Church (DOC).

There are one to two meetings per year. One meeting is held during the winter, generally in January, and one during General Assembly every other year. In a year when General Assembly is not held, GYC will forego the second meeting. Meetings will last three to four days with travel days being on the first and last dates of those meetings. All travel expenses incurred by the members of GYC will be paid by DHM. Meal expenses incurred during the winter meeting will be paid by DHM as well. **All GYC members are to attend all meetings.**

All GYC members are to attend and participate in General Assembly or other Youth Ministry Event. GYC will be requested to arrive at least one full day in advance and remain through the entire event and in some cases remain an additional day after for evaluation. GYC will be responsible for personal expenses other than travel, rooming and registration.

GYC is composed of approximately 14-17 people, 10-12 youth, 3-4 adults and one support staff person from DHM. Candidates will be interviewed by phone or online method such as ooVoo, Skype, or other electronic means and voted on by members of the GYC currently serving with final approval from DHM. GYC will seek to be representative of youth in the whole church through a balance in sex, racial/ethnic background and geographical representation. Members will be selected in October and November with new service beginning the following January with the GYC's first meeting.

A youth representative must be completing their sophomore year of high school to be eligible to serve and serve a term of 2 years.

All GYC members are to promote and interpret the Disciples youth events as opportunities arise through local church, regional and constituency events and communication with the General Office for instruction and resource materials.

To the extent possible, members of the GYC are to extend staff representation in awareness and support of youth ministry across the whole church.

All GYC members will keep open and regular communications with DHM.

It is expected that GYC members will not consume alcoholic beverages or illegal-controlled substances especially when at GYC sponsored events or together as a General Youth Council.

Each applicant must return this packet in its entirety in order to be considered for the position of GYC representative.

Being a member of General Youth Council is a privilege, a commitment and a responsibility. Christian values are the center of all meetings and therefore being a member can provide you with many opportunities for growth in your own life.

****Please keep this copy for your records.****

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) General Youth Council

Youth Covenant of Service

I understand that GYC shall consist of youth and adults that are active in their home congregations, who have a desire to give leadership and who commit themselves to the work of the Youth Council and agree to share and uphold this commitment.

By July of 2020 I will have completed my sophomore year of high school.

I agree to serve a term of two years if selected to GYC.

I am aware that in order to be considered for position of GYC representative, I must return this packet in its entirety and I am responsible for ensuring all needed references are included or have been submitted to DHM.

I am aware that the selection of GYC occurs in October with new service beginning the following January with the GYC's first meeting.

I understand that GYC seeks diversity in sex, race/ethnic background and geographical representation; however, in doing so, will not sacrifice the value of GYC representation.

I understand that I will be interviewed by phone or an online method.

I will attend all meetings of the GYC as well as General Assembly, and other Youth Ministry Events and understand that failure to do so could result in removal from GYC. I also understand that these meetings may take place in a part of the United States to which air travel may be required.

As a member of GYC, I will work with my fellow representatives, GYC sponsors and DHM staff with planning, preparation and presentation of Youth Ministry Events.

I understand it is my duty to promote and interpret Disciples youth events as well as extend staff representation in awareness and support of youth ministry across the whole church.

I will not consume alcoholic beverages or illegal-controlled substances especially when at GYC sponsored events or together as a General Youth Council.

I understand that being a member of General Youth Council is a privilege, a commitment and a responsibility. I agree to uphold Christian values as the center of all meetings and commit myself to being open to the growth and opportunities found in the Church and with the General Youth Council.

Youth Applicant Signature: _____

Parent or Guardian:

I, _____ (parent/guardian), understand the job description and expectations of the General Youth Council and understand the Covenant of Service. I support my daughter/son in applying for this position and will assist them in fulfilling their responsibilities.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS AS PART OF THE APPLICATION



Talent Release Form

I, the undersigned, do hereby give Disciples Home Missions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada (henceforth referred to as DHM), the photographer, and parties designated by DHM, including clients, licensees' purchasers, agencies, and periodicals, the irrevocable right to use my name (and/or any fictional name) and photographic images for reproduction in any medium, including video and Internet, and for purposes of advertising, trade, display exhibition, or editorial use. I have read this release and fully understand its contents.

Signature

Date

Name

Telephone

Address

City/State/Postal code

Guardian's Consent

I am the parent or legal guardian of the above named minor and hereby approve the foregoing and consent to the photograph's use subject to the terms mentioned above.

I affirm that I have the legal right to issue such consent.

Signature

Date

Name

Telephone

Address

City/State/Postal code

PLEASE RETURN THIS AS PART OF THE APPLICATION

General Youth Council Financial Policy

The travel and ministry of the General Youth Council (GYC) is possible by funds from the Disciples Mission Fund and other generous gifts to Disciples Home Missions. This allows accepted members the opportunity to attend events like winter retreats, General Assembly and other leadership development opportunities. As a member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and GYC, we are called to be good stewards of the gifts and resources made available to us.

Anytime you travel for GYC and DHM covers the cost of your travel (including but not limited to airfare, rental cars, lodging and registration fees) financial resources are made available in good faith that you will be present for the duration of the event. While inevitable events will always happen, we are hopeful that you will honor your commitments by attending the events you have covenanted to be present for.

DHM recognizes that volunteer time and contributions are vital to our success and achievement. However, if you need to cancel/change your plans for your personal schedule, you (or your parent/guardian) will be responsible for the costs incurred for any cancellation, rebooking or associated fees in its entirety. Payment will need to be made to DHM within 30 days of the changes.

By choosing to be a member of GYC as either a youth or adult member you and/or your parent/guardian are agreeing to these terms.

GYC Member Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Printed Name: _____

Relationship to GYC Member: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS AS PART OF THE APPLICATION

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) General Youth Council 2021-22 Youth Application

Before submitting this application please make sure you have referred to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) General Youth Council Job Description and Expectations. If you would like more information visit <https://www.discipleshomemissions.org/dhm/dhm-ministries/general-youth-council/gyc-expectations/>.

I. GENERAL (Please print or type)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ (City) _____ (State/Province) _____ (Zip)
Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Racial/Ethnic Background: _____ Female: _____ Male: _____

Region and/or Constituency group you represent: _____

Are you a part of an underrepresented or minority community that you wish to disclose? _____

What days/times are the best for GYC to schedule your interview? _____

II. CHURCH AFFILIATION

Name of church you are currently attending: _____

Address _____ (City) _____ (State/Province) _____ (Zip)

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name of Minister: _____

Are you a member of this church? _____ If no, are you a member of a church? _____

Name of church where you are a member (if different from above): _____

Address _____ (City) _____ (State/Province) _____ (Zip)

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name of Minister: _____

III. **INVOLVEMENT** On a separate sheet of paper please list any offices or responsibilities you have had in the following areas.

- a. Church
- b. School
- c. Community
- d. Other

Please indicate below the following events in which you have participated. Indicate the event or committee and year(s) attended or served.

Local:

_____ Youth leadership events: _____

_____ Congregational Committees: _____

_____ Congregational Board Member: _____

_____ Other: _____

Regional/Area:

_____ Canadian Youth Encounter: _____

_____ Regional/Area Assemblies/All Canada Convention: _____

_____ Voting Delegate: _____

_____ Conventions/Assemblies: _____

_____ Voting Delegate: _____

_____ Regional International Affairs Seminar: _____

_____ Camp and/or Conference: _____

_____ Regional/Area Youth Leadership Events: _____

_____ Regional/Area Board Member: _____

_____ Regional/Area Committees: _____

_____ Other: _____

THIS SECTION CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE

General:

_____ General Assembly: _____

_____ Voting Delegate: _____

_____ Youth Ministry Congress (YMC): _____

_____ Youth Ministry Event (YME): _____

_____ North American Pacific/Asian Disciples: _____

_____ Obra Hispana (Hispanic and Bilingual Ministries): _____

_____ National Convocation: _____

_____ International Affairs Seminar: _____

_____ General Board Member: _____

_____ Member of other General Unit Boards: _____

_____ Other: _____

IV. PLEASE RESPOND TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER.

- a. What have you been doing recently with family, friends, in church, at work and in the community that is important to you? Why is this important?
- b. What is it about the position of General Youth Council representative that makes you want to apply?
- c. Recognizing that each individual has different gifts, how do you believe you can contribute to the General Youth Program?
- d. Recognizing that we keep Christian values at the center of our meetings, finish the following sentence. I experience God when/by/ because...

V. RECOMMENDATIONS Please have the following people email a letter of recommendation on your behalf with at least one of them being a Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) minister. Letters should be sent to kharris@dhm.disciples.org by September 30, 2020

- a. **Your local minister**
- b. **Adult Regional, Area, or Constituency Leader**
- c. **Congregational Youth Leader or member familiar with your ministry**

COVENANT OF SERVICE, COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM, ADDITIONAL FORMS, AND PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT MUST BE EMAILED OR MAILED AND RECEIVED BY September 30, 2020 TO kharris@dhm.disciples.org or Disciples Home Missions, Attn: Kelly Harris, P.O. Box 1986, Indianapolis, IN 46206-1986

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) General Youth Council Parent/Guardian Consent

Applicant's Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Who? _____
(City) (State/Province) (Zip)

Email: _____ Who? _____

I, _____ (parent/guardian) understand the responsibilities and expectations of General Youth Council Representative and give my consent and support to my daughter/son in applying for this position.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

In case of emergency the parent or guardian signing the consent will be the first contact. Please list a second emergency contact.

Name: _____

Address _____

(City) (State/Province) (Zip)

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Relationship to applicant: _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS AS PART OF THE APPLICATION

Disciples Home Missions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) 2020
<http://www.discipleshomemissions.org/> • (317) 713-2666

Frequently Asked Questions

-What do I do if my parent/I am the pastor of my church?

If you are interested in applying for GYC but happen to serve as the senior pastor, or your parents serve in this position, please contact either an elder or officer of the church and have him/her complete one of your recommendations. Make sure to note on your application why you have someone else completing the form.

-What if I do not currently have a pastor at my church, or we have an interim with whom I am not well acquainted?

It is important to have individuals who know you well complete your recommendation forms. Sometimes our congregations either have a new pastor or an interim pastor who is not well acquainted with your work. If you find yourself in this situation please contact either an elder or officer of the church and have him/her complete one of your recommendations. Make sure to note on your application why you have someone else completing the form.

-When should I hear back about the GYC decisions?

GYC will be accepting applications through September 30th. Members of GYC will then review applications and begin scheduling group interviews with each applicant during October. Please note the section on the application that asks for the best days/times to schedule your interview. Final decisions will be made no later than October 31st with notifications going out around November 1st. You will have until November 15th to either accept or decline should you be offered a position to serve.

-What if we aren't currently an active member of a congregation?

GYC understands that life happens and sometimes circumstances change that are beyond our control. If you find yourself either without a church home or are no longer active, but still have a desire to serve with GYC, please provide a short explanation about why you are not currently a member. This can include your personal story of faith, how you are connected to the Disciples, or your hope for the Church.