**1 Peter 4:8-10** (Common English Bible) **8**Above all, show sincere love to each other, because love brings about the forgiveness of many sins. **9**Open your homes to each other without complaining. **10**And serve each other according to the gift each person has received, as good managers of God’s diverse gifts.

**York River District Youth Council Guidelines**

For those of us who have accepted the grace of Jesus Christ, we are called to joyfully share God’s unconditional love by inviting people into friendship, accepting them as God’s creations, and forgiving each other and ourselves. Since God never planned for us to do this work alone, he gave us his Holy Spirit to encourage us individually and to build us into the Body, also known as the Church. To reach unique individuals where they live, God has charged each believer in service to the Word. We are all needed and wanted to share our diverse God-given gifts.

The purpose of the York River District Youth Council is to train Church leaders, both youth and adult, on how to invite area youth and, by extension, their parents, guardians, and families into relationship with Christ and the Church.

**Guidelines for congregation leaders nominate potential Youth Council members:**

* Youth-aged persons, typically students in grades 6-12th under the age of 21.
* Adult leaders willing to participate in District protection policy training, sign a covenant, and undergo background checks.
* Professing member of a local York River District congregation.
* Demonstrates a positive attitude and willing spirit.
* Able to act as the connection between District Youth Council and their local congregation.

**Expectations for District Youth Council Members (Youth and Adults):**

Christian Growth

* Living into the Great Commandment of loving God and one’s neighbor.
* Joyfully sharing your gifts for the good of the Church.
* Serving Christ by participating in the diverse work to plan, prepare, and host events.

Communication

* Respect others and their point of views, even differing ones.
* Will not bicker, belittle, or bully, nor permit these actions in your presence.
* Participate, at least monthly, via YRD Youth Ministry online mediums.
* Maintain active email and Facebook accounts or have access to a guardian’s for updates.
* Share YRD Youth Ministry event opportunities with local congregation and encourage participation.

Safe Sanctuaries

* Provide leadership by following the rules that apply to every participant.
* Share safety concerns with adult leaders.