

Youth Weekend Repeat Retreat with InterDistrict Youth Cabinet

The Youth Repeat Retreat happened again this year on January 10-12. Lancaster Church of the Brethren hosted a one (or two) night stay at the church for a time of faith, fun and fellowship. Five congregations joined the event shared by the Interdistrict Youth Cabinet.

The IYC, as it is called, is a group including mostly Bridgewater College students. The team also share the Round Table Event at the college each year in late February. Five churches joining in this year were: Lancaster, Mount Wilson, Stevens Hill, York First and Manassas COB.



Our weekend began with a performance of the Gospel of Mark by Aaron House from Piercing Word ministry. He shared his own struggles as a youth with societal labels and serious self-control issues. He related how teaching himself to memorize scripture and verses from the Bible changed his life. After that he shared the entire book of Mark in a dramatic one-man performance using a scarf and 3 boxes as his only props.

The main events were the 3 learning sessions on Saturday with the IYC team. Our theme was 1 Corinthians 12:12-27. All of our discussion times, and activities supported how we use our different individual gifts and talents in creating the body of Christ, the church.

Most local groups left for home after the last session ended about 4:30. Manassas and Lancaster stayed a second night and attended church in the morning. Throughout the weekend the youth and advisors had free time to play 9-square, or table games in the youth room, or just hang out together.



This was the second year (why we called it Repeat Retreat) for the ANE District to support a winter youth retreat for churches at an extremely low cost. The participant's fee was just \$10 a person to cover Snack, Breakfast and Lunch on Saturday. Nineteen youth attended. We hope to add even more church groups next year. Youth groups who are interested in joining this event in 2026 should contact Linda Byers at Lancaster Church of the Brethren (lindab@lancob.org) Details on January dates will be decided by those who plan to attend.