



## **It's a Whole New Day for CYLS! Doing Things a Whole New Way!!!!**

The mission of the Southwest Regional Youth Ministry Council of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Southwest is to empower youth as servant-leaders through Jesus the Christ. In achieving our mission, one of the goals is to open Christian youth Leadership Seminar (CYLS) to ALL our youth, not just those who serve their Area councils. As many of you know the RYMC has struggled to find a balance between meeting the needs of ALL our youth and providing time for each Area council to plan for their events.

Prior attempts to open CYLS to all youth have left the non-council members feeling excluded. After much brainstorming and discussion, this year's RYMC decided to "step out of the box" and make change happen.

The RYMC has developed a new and innovative program that we believe will be the solution.

The changes are as follows:

1. CYLS will be held from Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm through Wednesday, July 1<sup>st</sup> at noon. The cost will be \$200.00 per camper and will be open to all youth who have completed grades 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>.
2. During CYLS the focus will be on youth leadership and building unity in our community. There will be no Area planning time.
3. Area councils will be given the choice of leaving Wednesday at noon or, for an additional \$75.00 staying through Friday at noon for un-interrupted planning time. The additional fee is for lodging, use of camp facilities and meals. Each Area is responsible for their non-council members should they choose to stay.
4. All Areas will need to make their choice to stay or leave by the time they register.

When we looked at Area planning time on prior schedules, the Areas received 13-14 disjointed hours of planning during the week. With this new schedule, they have the opportunity to utilize 2 full days of un-interrupted planning. This also frees the RYMC to focus on preparing a dynamic camp that serves the needs for all our youth.

We realize that these changes may come as a surprise to many of you but we ask that you support us as we try something new. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding these changes.

We are excited and ready to serve our Region's youth through this year's CYLS.

In service to Christ

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