

**Youth Ministry Network**  
**Dwight Regier, Team Leader, WDC and SCC**

Western District and South Central Conference youth ministry has been affected by Covid 19 restrictions no less than any other ministry in our churches.

Interactions with pastors with responsibility in youth ministry, individually and in group contexts, have been able to continue either online or in-person, socially distanced. The pandemic had a different effect on direct event ministries led by the WDC/SCC Youth Ministry Committee. Gatherings of youth that bring larger numbers of youth from numerous congregations, such as Know Jesus, have not been able to happen.

The annual Sponsor Resourcing and Appreciation Event is one event that was able to go forward, not only in spite of the pandemic, but in part because of the pandemic. As its title indicates, one of the purposes is to reach out to volunteer sponsors, especially those from congregations that do not have staff time allocated to youth ministry, and provide resourcing. On September 20, 2020 about 18 volunteer sponsors and youth pastors met via Zoom to talk about, what else? Meeting on Zoom! We spent time listening to and sharing ideas that could help Zoom meetings be more engaging and effective in the youth group context.

We anticipate having a meeting to resource and express appreciation to youth sponsors again in late summer, and hope that our volunteer youth workers across the conference will be able to take advantage of this resource. Watch the WDC website and email for announcements with more details.