

# ST. † DAVID'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH



“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”

Acts: 2:42

**Growing Together for Ministry**  
A Meditation from Grace Horn,  
Director of Youth Ministry

Working with youth has always seemed to be something God was calling me to do, as I have been given opportunities throughout my entire life to serve my community in this way. I cannot imagine what my life would look like without babysitting, working in my church's nursery, serving on Camp Mikell's summer staff, and even now in this capacity as the Youth Director at St. David's. Somehow, I still often find myself considering, "Why am I doing this work?" and, perhaps more importantly, "What are the roles youth and children play in God's kingdom and the church?" Simply put, why does youth ministries matter so much?

I believe that the Body of Christ is like a jigsaw puzzle, with each human being representing a unique piece of the whole puzzle. All people are beautifully made in God's image. Without including every single human, considering their unique strengths, weaknesses, and individual character traits, we are not getting the full picture. We are not able to see the full Body. We are not able to put every piece in the puzzle. We cannot truly know God. Each person represents a different shaped piece, with no two looking the same. Somehow, in one perfect way, each person (or piece), fits together to form one image.

Adolescence is all about determining where your piece of the puzzle fits. And this puzzle isn't easy. There are no edge pieces that can be simply snapped together, or pieces with big pictures on them that make them incredibly easy to figure out their exact spot. When you are young, you are being formed by so many elements of this world, and the church can either hurt or harm who you are becoming.

Youth ministries, as well as other ministries throughout St. David's, create a space for individuals within the church to be in fellowship with each other. It does not matter where you are on your spiritual journey, who you have been in the past, or who you are becoming. Through youth ministries, youth can grow and feel loved for whoever they are. That, to me, is the ultimate teaching of God. Through growing and loving together in youth ministry, we are laying the ultimate foundation for a life lived through Christ, so that each child understands their important role in God's abundant kingdom.

# Prayer

Powerful Father, we thank you for the unity we have in our ministry and for the good leaders you have given us. We pray that you may give us the grace to continue serving you in truth and spirit. Let your Holy Spirit guide us in any decision making. May He minister to us, convict us when we sin, and lead us to repentance, so that we may always be close to you. We glorify your holy name. **Amen**

