
THOMAS RIGGS

PROFILE

To provide quality administrative support for church professionals.

To help churches, jurisdictions and church entities communicate their goal and values, enabling the people of God to tell the story of love, mission, service and faith in the most positive light.

To create a ministry where people can reflect and develop for themselves an understanding of what it means to have a relevant faith in Jesus Christ and to develop their own voice to pursue their own calling.

EXPERIENCE

COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR - 2018-PRESENT SYNOD OF THE SUN

As Communications Coordinator, responsible for web site, social media, brochures, notes cards and other print needs for Synod of the Sun. Also responsible for web site creation/maintenance and social media for Presbytery and Synod clients as a part of the Synod's CSP.

Responsible for all administrative work, including payables, mailings, data base maintenance, taking minutes at Synod meetings, providing A/V support and general duties.

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES/DIRECTOR OF OUTREACH – 2010-2018 FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, GRAPEVINE, TEXAS

Responsible for programming and activities of youth in 6th-12th grades, including youth ministry and church participation in Presbytery and Synod youth programming.

Responsible for all electronic and some print communications, including web site, social media, in-house video displays, posters, radio/TV/print, brochures and video production. Staff liaison to Christian Education, Communications, and Visitor & Evangelism ministries. Coordinate and co-staff LGBTQ Caregivers' Support Groups.

PROGRAM ASSISTANT – 2006-2009 GRACE PRESBYTERY, IRVING, TEXAS

Staff liaison and support to the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, the Mission Interpretation Committee, the Peacemaking Sub-Committee, the India Partnership and the Nurture & Education of Church Professionals Sub-Committee. Coordinated Pastoral Care to pastors and other church professionals on behalf of the Presbytery.

THOMAS RIGGS

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES – 2005-2006
ST. VINCENT'S EPISCOPAL PRO-CATHEDRAL, BEDFORD, TEXAS

Responsible for all programming and activities of youth in 4th-12th grades, including youth ministry, Christian Education for this age group, and church participation in Diocesan youth programming. Served as staff liaison between St. Vincent's church and St. Vincent's Episcopal School, including chapel duties, parent/child education classes and recreational activities.

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES – 2001-2005
PALMER MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH, HOUSTON, TEXAS

Responsible for all programming and activities of the Junior and Senior High Youth, including youth ministry, Christian Education for this age group, church participation in Diocesan youth programming and co-creating a new Confirmation program. Director of *Koinonia*, an emergent church worship service. Responsible for selecting and arranging liturgical elements, producing and directing the event and chairing the Design Team. Served as a resource person for Cornerstone, a 12-step recovery program for adolescents. Created an on-going youth mission partnership with The Way Station, a ministry that feeds 200+ homeless people a day.

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES AND LAY CHAPLAIN – 1991-2001
TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH & TRINITY SCHOOL OF TEXAS, LONGVIEW, TEXAS

Responsible for all programming and activities of the Junior and Senior High Youth, including youth ministry, Confirmation, Christian education and church participation in city youth sports. Edited and published Trinity Church newsletter and web site. Designed, implemented and evaluated chapel services for 6th through 12th grade students. Responsible for content and training faculty for religious curriculum for 6th through 12th grade students. Assisted School Counselor in counseling services and character education program. Served as liaison between school administration and church staff concerning school worship functions.

PARISH LIFE ASSISTANT - 1985-1991
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI

Responsible for all activities for Junior and Senior High Youth, including youth ministry, Christian Education and confirmation. Assisted with all Pastoral duties where appropriate. Created and co-led an inter-Lutheran campus ministry to Missouri Western State College.

THOMAS RIGGS

EDUCATION

THE HEARTH COMMUNITY
CERTIFICATE IN COMMUNITY STORYTELLING - 2021

BETHANY COLLEGE, LINDSBORG, KANSAS - 1981-1985
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Honors: Psi Chi Honorary Psychology Fraternity, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Honorary Music Fraternity, Who's Who Among American College Students.

DIOCESAN, PRESBYTERY AND CIVIC LEADERSHIP

Recreation Leader, Teen Leadership Conference, Mo-Ranch, 2016

Keynote Speaker, JHaMS event, Austin College, 2016

Design Team, JHaMS event, Austin College, 2014-2018

Small Group Leader, Senior High Youth Connections event, Grace Presbytery, 2010

Technical Assistant for annual Senior High Youth Connection event, Grace Presbytery, 2006-2009

Bible Study Leader, Camp Gilmont, 2008-2018

Camp Program Director, Senior High Camp at Camp Crucis, 2005;

Junior High Camp at Camp Allen, 2001-2004

Board of Directors, The Center for Youth Ministry, 1997-2000; 2003-2004

Chair of Design Team, Missionpalooza trip to Honduras, 2000-2005.

Board of Trustees, Camp Allen, Diocese of Texas, 2000-2003

Co-founder, City of Longview LIGHTS Program, 2000-2001

Design Team, Youth Lock-In at Diocesan Council, Diocese of Texas, 2000.

Co-founder and Board of Directors, Undergrad Project, City of Longview, 1999-2001

Co-founder and coordinator, Ayudando Honduras, Longview, Texas, 1998-1999

Member, Action Committee on Gregg County Juvenile Crime Task Force, 1993-1994

Vice President, Youth Shelter Advisory Board, Longview Youth Shelter, 1991-1996

Co-founder and member, Youth NETworks, Longview, TX, 1992-1998

Created "Missionpalooza", a Diocese of Texas youth summer mission event that now sends hundreds of Episcopal youth on short-term missions throughout the world, 1992-1996.

Adult sponsor, Christian Leadership Council, Diocese of Texas, 1992-2001.

Northeast Convocation Youth Dean, Diocese of Texas, 1991-1996.

Happening Steering Committee, Diocese of Texas, 1992-1994.

Editor, Youth Workers' Newsletter, Diocese of Texas, 1992-1995.

PUBLICATION CREDITS

Sessions 3, 9, 10 of "We Believe" Spring 2009 Curriculum for Older Youth, Presbyterian Church (USA)

Session 6 & 7 of "FAQ" Fall 2010 Curriculum for Younger Youth, Presbyterian Church (USA)

Author for Feasting on the Word Youth Curriculum, 2011