

We, the Faith Communities of the St. Cloud Area, want to commend all the coaches, team leaders, activity directors and principals for your dedication to the young people in the St. Cloud Area. Because you have been so committed to their wellbeing, we have many wonderful young people of whom we can all be proud. Your faithfulness in building healthy young adults is appreciated.

As persons responsible for directing youth activities in our faith communities, we invite you to partner with us in continuing to develop happy, healthy, and well-rounded young people who will soon be assuming adult leadership roles in our communities. Supporting the spiritual growth and helping our young people build skills to help with moral decision-making is an essential part of equipping our youth for life.

In today's society, our youth are being asked to choose between so many good choices – school, sports, extra-curriculars, jobs, church, family, friends, and more. It is important that, as adults making these requests of our youth, we do not compete against each other. We recognize the need for practices and games most evenings of the school week. We ask that you recognize and respect Wednesday as a night set aside for our youth to be formed in faith within their various parish programs. This means releasing them from practices without penalties, paying attention to major homework assignments made that night and due the next day, and encouraging them to pay attention to this part of life as valuable and important to invest in as well.

We also ask parents to consider the values they want to help their sons and daughters develop for life. Your voices speak the loudest of all. When you and your daughters and sons are pushed to choose between two good things, it places families in discord as well. It is important that you take a stand and give voice to your opinions in private and public forums. Your voice and actions speak loudly to your children in learning how to prioritize values and activities and how to make good personal choices.

Self-discipline, teamwork and perseverance are important. We also value and teach these ideals. We ask that you support us in encouraging the spiritual and moral dimensions of growth as well.

Sincerely,

The letter above was signed by 49 spiritual leaders from the St. Cloud area: including Bishop John Kinney, Pastors, Priests, Youth Ministers, Faith Formation Coordinators, Deacons and many other persons in leadership roles from Methodist, Lutheran, Catholic, Evangelical and Non-Denominational Christian churches .

If your church has been accidentally missed and you would like to add your name to the list of supporters, send an email to [faith.formation.ginny@hotmail.com](mailto:faith.formation.ginny@hotmail.com). A complete list of names along with the letter is posted at the **ChristSeed** Website at: [www.ChristSeedstcloud.com](http://www.ChristSeedstcloud.com).

+ John F. Kinney  
Bishop of St. Cloud

Rev. Dee Pederson, Lead pastor  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Fr. Tom Knoblach, PHD  
Pastor, Holy Spirit, St. John Cantius and St. Anthony Catholic Church

Rev. Steve Cook, Pastor for Congregational Care and Community Outreach  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Rev. Janine Olson, Pastor for Discipleship Ministries  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Pastor Paul Cloeter  
Trinity Lutheran Church

Pastor Mark Johnson  
Jubilee Worship Center

Rev. Kristen Anderson  
Associate Pastor of Education & Mission  
Salem Lutheran Church

Rev. William R. Meier  
First United Methodist Church

Pastor Vince Bain  
Messiah Lutheran Church, Sartell

Deborah A. Krogstad, AiM

Youth & Family Minister  
Atonement Lutheran Church

Pastor Art Cotant  
Joy Christian Center

Pastor John Jose  
Youth Pastor, Joy Christian Center

Pastor Jim Wiebolt  
Associate Pastor, Harvest Fellowship

Rev. Geary Smith  
Senior Pastor, Place of Hope

Rev. Carol Jean Smith  
Senior Pastor, Place of Hope

Rev. Harold Spann, Pastor  
Peace United Church of Christ  
Rev. Dwaine Bruns,  
Senior Pastor, Resurrection Lutheran Church, St. Joseph

Rev. Joel Sund, pastor  
Faith Lutheran Church

Pastor Wayne Anderson  
Salem Lutheran Church

Pastor Paul Dare  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Pastor Jon Riggert  
Associate Pastor, Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Jeremy Tuholski  
Youth Pastor, Jubilee Worship Center

Fr. Bernie Gruenes  
Pastor, St. Michael Catholic Church, St. Cloud and St. Joseph, Waite Park

Fr. Peter VanderWeyst,  
Associate Pastor, Holy Spirit, St. John Cantius and St. Anthony Catholic Church

Fr. Marv Enneking, Vicar General  
Diocese of St. Cloud

Fr. Robert Harren  
Pastor, St. Stephen Catholic Church, St. Stephen

Fr. Robert Rolfes, Chancellor  
Pastor, St. Mary's Help of Christians, St. Augusta  
and St. Wendelin, Luxemburg

Fr. Joseph Feders, OSB  
Pastor St. Joseph's Catholic Church, St. Joseph

Fr. Virgil Helmin  
Pastor, Church of St. Marcus, Clearlake

Fr. Ron Weyrens  
Pastor, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Sauk Rapids

Fr. Lauren Germann  
Pastor, St. Francis Xavier, Sartell

Fr. Tony Oelrich, PHD  
Pastor, St. Augustine, St. Mary's Cathedral and Neuman Center  
Fr. Aaron Kuhn  
Associate Pastor, St. Augustine, St. Mary's Cathedral and Neuman Center

Fr. Alan Wielinski  
Pastor, St. Peter and St. Paul's Catholic Church

Pastor Bruce Timm  
Redeemer Lutheran Church

Deaconess Kimberly Fetz  
Redeemer Lutheran Church

Jeffrey A Willert, DCE  
Trinity Lutheran Church

Deacon Joseph Kresky  
St. Josephs Church, Waite Park

Deacon Fred Reker  
St. John Cantius, St. Cloud

Deacon Richard Scheierl  
St. Augustine Church

Deacon Steve Pareja  
St. Francis Xavier Church, Sartell

Deacon Vern Schmitz  
Church of the Holy Spirit

Deacon Carl Nord  
St. Anthony's Church

Ginny Duschner, Director of Faith Formation  
Holy Spirit, St. John Cantius and St. Anthony Catholic Church

Scott Frieler, Youth Minister  
Church of the Holy Spirit

Alex Blondeau, Coordinator of Youth Ministries  
Discovery Church

Rachael Nelson, Discipleship Ministry with Grades K – 6  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Kathryn Christensen, Discipleship Ministry with Grades 7 – 12 & Families  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Linda Arnold, Religious Education Coordinator  
St. Francis Xavier, Sartell

Rachael Nelson, Discipleship Ministry Grades K - 6  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Eileen Garcia, Director of Religious Education  
Sacred Heart Church, Sauk Rapids

Jan Maciej, Director of Religious Education  
St. Michaels Catholic Church

Melissa Fox, Director of Faith Formation  
Church of St. Marcus, Clearlake

Eric Blake, Youth Director  
Salem Lutheran Church

Janet Minke, Faith Formation Director  
St. Mary's Help of Christians, St. Augusta

Chelsea Terwey, Youth Minister

St. Mary's Help of Christians, St. Augusta

Joan Krause, Director of Faith Formation  
Sacred Heart Parish, Sauk Rapids

Lisa Neu, Director of Faith Formation  
St. Augustine's, St. Mary's Cathedral and Newman's Center

Cathy Sauer, Faith Formation Coordinator  
Church of St. Paul