

## **Orthodox Church in America Diocese of the Midwest**

### **Youth Communications**

#### **Diocesan Report – October 2020**

During this year of pandemic, we have continued to build venues for communications in our diocese. As our nation entered a period of shutdown and our parishes closed during Great Lent, Archbishop Paul hosted several Zoom meetings with both youth and parents in our diocese. These proved an excellent opportunity for youth of all ages to visit directly with our hierarch and each other. We talked not only about the pandemic, but about our daily lives in our homes and parishes. Our first youth Zoom meeting was attended by over 70 individual households throughout the diocese. Subsequent meetings also had significant numbers of participants.

A great benefit of these meetings was an opportunity to further build our email list for communications with youth workers and parents in our parishes. We have also continued to post ideas and events across the diocese on our youth Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/domocayouth>

In an effort to increase more direct collaboration among youth workers, we have begun the process of launching a Slack group for the Midwest Diocese as a place where youth workers can share events and ideas and generally collaborate on plans for church school, camps, and anything else related to Orthodox youth. Although the pandemic has curtailed many opportunities for parishes and young people to meet in person, we hope that a virtual platform will help us to stay connected and continue to make plans for the future.

Erin Moulton always welcomes ideas and suggestions as we build communication across the diocese to support our youth. Please feel free to contact youth communications at

[domyouth@domoca.org](mailto:domyouth@domoca.org)