

The YAV Program

The PC(USA)'s Young Adult Volunteer Program offers a variety of opportunities to young adults, ages 18-30, at 18 different sites across the country and around the world.

In addition to working with a partner mission, participants in the YAV program live in Christian community with fellow volunteers. The housemates engage in spiritual formation and vocational discernment with the housemates.

Gloria has been placed in New Orleans for the 2009-2010 program year. She has yet to receive a specific assignment but will likely be working for Project Homecoming, the rebuilding effort of the Presbytery of South Louisiana and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.



PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH (USA)



Young Adult Volunteer:
Gloria King
New Orleans, LA

For more information about the YAV Program, visit
<http://www.pcusa.org/yav/>

Donations can be sent to:
Union First Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 217
Cowansville, PA 16218

Gloria can be reached at:
gloria.g.king@gmail.com
724-543-1267

“Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.”

1 Cor 15:58

Gloria King's Experiences

Early Years

The daughter of the Revs. William and Mary Marks King, Gloria grew up in the Union First Presbyterian Church in Cowansville, PA. As a teenager, she was ordained a deacon, served as the youth group representative to the mission study group, and helped with various programs.

College Years

Gloria graduated in May from Penn State University with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and a Certificate in Engineering Design.

When she arrived in State College, she searched for a church family. Because the Presbyterian Church was too much of a hike from her dorm for her to be as active as she wished, she found a church home with the Penn State Lutheran Student Community (LSC).

The week Gloria arrived at PSU, Hurricane Katrina made landfall. The following May, Gloria traveled with the LSC to volunteer with Lutheran Disaster Response, the ELCA equivalent to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.



Gloria and fellow Cowansville church member, Chris Fleeger, in New Orleans with the LSC

The following summer, the LSC had hoped to return to New Orleans but lacked funding. Instead, Gloria planned an official trip for a few members to volunteer at East End Cooperative Ministries (EECM) in Pittsburgh.



Gloria and fellow LSC members packing Meals-On-Wheels at EECM

National PC(USA) Gatherings

In 2004, Gloria attended the Presbyterian Youth Triennium at Purdue University. In 2006, she traveled to Louisville, KY to participate in the National Gathering of Presbyterian Women where she first spoke to representatives of the General Assembly Council about the YAV Program in the conference exhibit hall.



Gloria and several Kiskiminetas Presbytery friends at the National Gathering of Presbyterian Women.

In 2008, Gloria traveled to San Jose, CA to serve as the Kiskiminetas Presbytery's Youth Advisory Delegate at General Assembly. Her experience at GA instilled a strong sense of the importance of the unity of the denomination in order to continue the PC(USA)'s great work in the world in the name of Jesus Christ.



Gloria and Carol Adcock, moderator of the General Assembly Council in the GA Exhibit Hall

Next Step: YAV Program

Gloria has been placed in New Orleans for the 2009-2010 YAV program year. She has yet to receive an assignment but will likely be working for Project Homecoming, the rebuilding effort of the Presbytery of South Louisiana and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

She could be a Construction Manager's Assistant, who serves as a point of contact for a homeowner. Alternatively, she could be working as a Volunteer Village Coordinator, who helps keep a volunteer village running smoothly.

How You Can Help

As she prepares to travel to New Orleans, Gloria is both excited and anxious. She looks forward to serving the people in New Orleans, to learning more about herself, and to growing in her faith, but the idea of moving to New Orleans for a year is intimidating. She takes comfort in the fact that she does not go alone. She knows that God will go with her, and she asks her friends back home to keep her in their prayers.

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