

Sunday, May 22, 2016

Dear Fairfield Grace,

After much prayerful consideration and reflection, I have decided to pursue further personal and professional endeavors during the 2016-2017 school year. As many of you know, in addition to leading our youth group, I am a full time Special Education teacher in Greenwich. In this upcoming year I am hoping to move from Fairfield to Stamford to be closer and to look into beginning my Master of Education program, which is required for my teaching certification. After spending a lot of time considering and praying about these new commitments, I realized that I will no longer be able to dedicate the hours that our youth group deserves and requires.

It has been an immense pleasure to serve in this role for the past two years. I have enjoyed building relationships with the youth and adult members of the Fairfield Grace congregation. I appreciate being welcomed so warmly into the congregation by the families, lay leaders, and staff members. I feel lucky to have had the opportunity to plan new events, lead the weekly meetings, community outings, winter retreats and mission trips, organize youth-led services, and worship alongside the youth. Thank you for sharing in my passion about our youth and providing me with all the resources and support I needed to help make our youth ministry program what I hoped it would be.

This role has truly made me a more faithful person. I know it's supposed to be the other way around, but *my* faith has been strengthened in getting to know our youth and young adults and in spending time with them. They have such joy and commitment to God, which has re-sparked the fire of my commitment to Him. I want to thank you all for placing such a priority on our youth in this church. It is SUCH an important ministry. By instilling these beliefs in them and providing them with a place to share and bond in their faith with other young people, you are ensuring that Fairfield Grace remains part of their lives as begin their young adult, and hopefully adult, lives.

I wish all congregation members, lay leaders, parents, and of course, our youth, the best in the upcoming youth group year and in all other great things that are to come to Fairfield Grace.

Faithfully,

Lauren Regan
Director of Youth Ministries