



The only cost to attend the retreat is \$25 a person. All meals and lodging will be provided. If you are interested in inviting a youth, please share this brochure with them and make a personal invitation. To register please visit this link: <http://tomahshinga.com/retreatsevents/>

Listen God is Calling: Discernment Retreat for High School Youth

“Lift up your eyes on high and see:

Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.” Isaiah 40:26

Two Retreat Dates Offered:

August 24-25, 2018
Mercy Center
St. Louis, MO

September 7-8, 2018
Camp Tomah Shinga
Junction City, KS

For more Information:

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**Sponsored by the ELCA
Central States Synod**

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Do you recognize gifts in a youth you know, gifts for ministry both in the church and in the world? Can you identify and invite a youth to “listen” to a tugging from God and begin to discern what God is calling them to do?

The Central States Synod is sponsoring two discernment retreats for high school youth. Pastors, youth workers, lay leaders are encouraged to **invite** a high school youth to attend along with themselves. The retreats, held in two locations, will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Friday and end by 4:00 p.m. on Saturday.

The purpose of the retreats is to:

- Identify and nurture youth who have a vocation in the church
- Raise up leaders (rostered and lay) in the church
- Assist high school youth discern their gifts for ministry, both in the church and in the world

During the retreat youth and their mentors (inviters) will talk about, explore, and engage in activities that help them:

- Identify the many voices calling and directing us – what are they saying?
- Listen for and distinguish God’s voice in the midst of the many voices.
- Hear what God is saying to us now – what is God calling us to do?

In high school my pastor invited me to attend a discernment retreat, along with himself, our bishop, and other youth in our area. He thought that I had gifts and we spent our time exploring what they might be and how I might listen for God’s call in my life. It was the first time that I thought I might want to work in youth ministry. It helped tie together all the other times I had sensed a tugging from God, but couldn’t name them at the time. This retreat stuck with me while I was in college, wondering about my future, and along with encouragement from other pastors and leaders along the way, was a foundational part of why I attended seminary and became a pastor. I highly encourage pastors and youth workers to seek out students who would benefit from this retreat.

- Pastor Amy Stewart
- Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
- Manchester, MO

