



- My name is Ben Ziemann and I am the new Youth Ministry Director at St. Stephen Catholic Church. Let me start by expressing how excited I am to get this program up and running! I was blessed to grow up here in Glenwood Springs and have the opportunity to go on many youth events (World Youth Day, Mexico Mission Trip, Confirmation Retreats, etc.) all due to the tireless efforts of many volunteers. So, I rejoice to repay this kindness in my own efforts and God willing more! What I foresee is establishing a weekly youth night. **Sunday nights from 6:30-8:00pm in the basement of the Church/St. Stephen's School. The first night is Jan 3rd!** I see this night as

a youth fellowship night with lots of games, activities, talks, praise and worship, etc. Each night will have a theme and some practical application of how to apply that theme out in the world. I come from a summer camp background so let me tell you... we are gonna have some fun! I also come from a youth/campus ministry background so we are going to learn about Jesus Christ, and how to be a better follower of Him, in becoming the "best-version-of-ourselves." **This night is open to middle school and high school aged kids/teens only (6th-12th grade)** and the groups will be separated with youth minister teams to lead each. Every youth in the area is open to attend from all cultures, beliefs and backgrounds. I stress that the teachings and topics will be authentically Catholic, and "universally" we will grow together in our faith (so spread the word!). I rejoice in the Lord in all the good things that are to come to our community! God bless St. Stephen's School, God bless our youth, God bless our youth ministers and teachers, and God bless all of us!

Sincerely,

Ben Ziemann
Director of Youth Ministry
St. Stephen Catholic Church