Classis Huron Ministry Report ThereforeGo Ministries September 25, 2024

Background

ThereforeGo Ministries is beginning its 105th year of ministry this fall. We have been known by several names since 1919, including the Young Calvinist Federation and Youth Unlimited, before changing our name to ThereforeGo Ministries in the summer of 2020. While our ministry has always been independently operated, we have a long history with the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Current structure

Dynamic Youth Ministries (DYM) is the non-profit ministry "umbrella" that TGM operates under with the Calvinist Cadet Corp, a church-based club ministry for boys. Each organization has its own governing board and budget, but the legal entity is registered under the DYM name in both Canada and the United States.

ThereforeGo's funding is dependent on individual churches, revenue from participant registration for SERVE, our church-based mission trip experience for high school students, and donations from individual donors. We do not receive financial support from the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Our Mission

ThereforeGo's mission is to help churches challenge youth and emerging adults to commit their lives to Jesus Christ and transform this world for Him.

For the past 35 years, the primary way we work towards our mission is through <u>SERVE</u> This ministry has had a high level of engagement with Canadian churches and this was evident again this summer. This past summer, 33 of the 85 total churches that participated in SERVE were Christian Reformed congregations from Ontario.

ThereforeGo continues to explore ways to collaborate with churches in the midst of a changing societal context. The definition of who is considered a "youth" and their experience has changed dramatically over the past several decades, and ThereforeGo seeks to expand our ministry offerings to support churches in their work.

ThereforeGo's presentation will focus on the changing reality of youth ministry in the church and ways congregations might respond.

Rick Zomer Executive director of ThereforeGo Ministries