

ANSWERING HIS PASTORAL CALLING

Senior M.Div student, Eric McIntosh is a native of Pittsburgh, a spoken Word artist, and a licensed minister. Eric serves as the executive director of the Neighborhood Youth Program in nearby Wilkinsburg, Pa. This youth program is a Christ-centered creative and performing arts program which allows kids to explore and experience the arts of music, dance, poetry, singing, theatre, and visual arts. It is through these vehicles that kids are mentored. "I like giving them a program that they can express themselves," Eric said.



NYP is open and serves kids Monday through Friday. As executive director Eric, is tasked with raising money for the non-profit. "I enjoy the impact raising money has for the kids. Creating programming that is exciting to youth, engages youth, and holds their attention. It becomes a positive choice that they choose over the streets, that's the biggest thing right there!"

How does Eric's seminary journey intersect with his work for Wilkinsburg youth? Eric sees himself in a pastoral care mode for his staff. This completely aligns with his gifts and calling. "I'm pastoral," Eric said. He takes the rich education offered at PTS and shares the love of God with kids and his staff. Together they are bridging the Word and World.

Written June 2011

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