



## Director's Corner: Joshua Recaps and Reflects on 2017

January marks my 7<sup>th</sup> month with the Kiski Area Youth Network! These past months have been an incredible start to my time with this great ministry. I am excited about all that is ahead in 2018, but I'd love to recap a couple fun memories that we created in 2017. I've been involved in a fantasy football league with some of our students. This would be a lot more fun if I wasn't sitting in last place... In October, we took our students to Gearhard Farms for a bonfire, s'mores, and corn maze, which was a blast. As many of you hopefully know, November is home to KAYN's largest event of the year, the Turkey Trot!! This was my first year experiencing this race, and I was blown away by the turnout. It is nothing short of a miracle that God would bring together so many different people from so many parts of the country to run together to support this ministry. In December, we had our KAYN Christmas party during the Thursday night program, and this allowed us to reach students in a new way. We had a great turn out, with some new faces and 44 students in attendance. That night was full of games, too much food, and a contest for the ugliest Christmas sweater! All of these events have allowed me to form stronger relationships with many students so that I can connect with them on a deeper level. Although I have only been here a short while, it is abundantly clear that God has placed a hedge of protection around KAYN. I know that this is in part a response to your constant prayers for us, and we are so grateful for all of you. I wish all of you a wonderful New Year!

"And pray in the spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people."

~ Ephesians 6:18

In Christ,

Joshua Westurn

## Prayer Requests

Pray for guidance for the KAYN board members as they continue to make decisions regarding the **renovation of the Youth Center**. There are currently documents being reviewed by the Zoning Board that will determine our next steps.

Please pray for Joshua, that he may continue to **develop strong relationships with both students and administration**. Also, that he may have wisdom as he seeks to design new **outreach and mission opportunities** for students.

Continue to pray that God would supply the ministry with **dedicated volunteers** who have a heart to reach high school students for Christ.

*Send your prayer requests to us at [kiskiareayouth@gmail.com](mailto:kiskiareayouth@gmail.com) or find us on at [www.facebook.com/KiskiAreaYouth](http://www.facebook.com/KiskiAreaYouth) or on Twitter @KiskiNet*



## Raising KAYN: The Third Terrific Turkey Trot

On November 23<sup>rd</sup>, KAYN had the opportunity to host an event that is becoming a community tradition when it held its most successful (and coldest!) Turkey Trot to date! Over 50 volunteers, several sponsors and the support of the Washington Township Police and Constables made the 5K race and 1 mile fun walk possible. There were 625 participants ranging in age from 3 to 75, many in costume or festive attire! Competitive for some and a brisk morning walk for others, the Turkey Trot was fun for all and raised almost \$20,000 for the ministry of KAYN!



**The New Year is the perfect time to make a commitment to provide KAYN with volunteer or financial support. Please visit [www.KAYN.org](http://www.KAYN.org) to make an online donation or to complete the Volunteer and Ministry Support Form.**

## Student Spotlight: Rachel Pittman



“Then I heard the voice of The Lord saying, ‘Who should I send? Who will go for us?’ I said ‘Here I am. Send me.’” Isaiah 6:8 (CSB). My name is Rachel Pittman and I am a senior at Kiski. There, I work alongside some amazing individuals as the Bible Club President. KAYN has played a rather interesting role in my life, from giving me incredible friends and godly counsel, to making me aware of the calling The Lord has placed on my life. Almost four years ago, I went to New York City for the third time on an inner-city missions trip to the homeless community. It was on this third trip to the city with KAYN that God revealed to me that my calling in life was to pursue inner-city missions work. To prepare myself for this stellar adventure I am about to embark on for the rest of my life, I have gone on many missions trips, and taken on many leadership roles in the church and my school. I have been extremely blessed by The Lord, and His blessings on my life continue to flow as I follow him faithfully and completely. It has been hard at times, but with the help, love, and support of my KAYN family, I am able to follow God’s will for my life. In the fall of 2018, I will be attending Warner Pacific University in Portland, Oregon to major in Urban Studies, where I will learn how to better share Jesus’ love with others. Without KAYN, I may never have fully understood or accepted the desire placed on my heart for pursuing inner-city missions. And for that, I thank you. I look forward to seeing how God grows in and through other individuals involved with KAYN. I hope KAYN continues to prosper and change lives the way it has mine.