

# New Jersey Synod LoveStruck Leadership Project

## CONGREGATIONS

1. Cong. LoveStruck Teams with:
  - youth
  - young adults
  - key adult leaders, incld. pastor
2. Bi-Weekly team check-in (online or in person)
3. Monthly gatherings that include
  - Faith practices practice
  - Relationship Building
  - Sharing stories of a LoveStruck God in their lives and worlds

## YOUNG ADULT RIVER GUIDES

- 2-3 Young Adult Project Leaders
- Semi-monthly meetings with Project Coordinator. (1-online, 2-in person)
  - Monthly Sunday time with each of 3 congregations in their Cohort
  - Trained, Supported & Stipended

LoveStruck

- ❖ Young faith-filled Leaders of color and their congregations,
- ❖ who are called by a God of extravagant Love
- ❖ to accompany and lead in a church and world that needs them.

## FAMILY & HOME

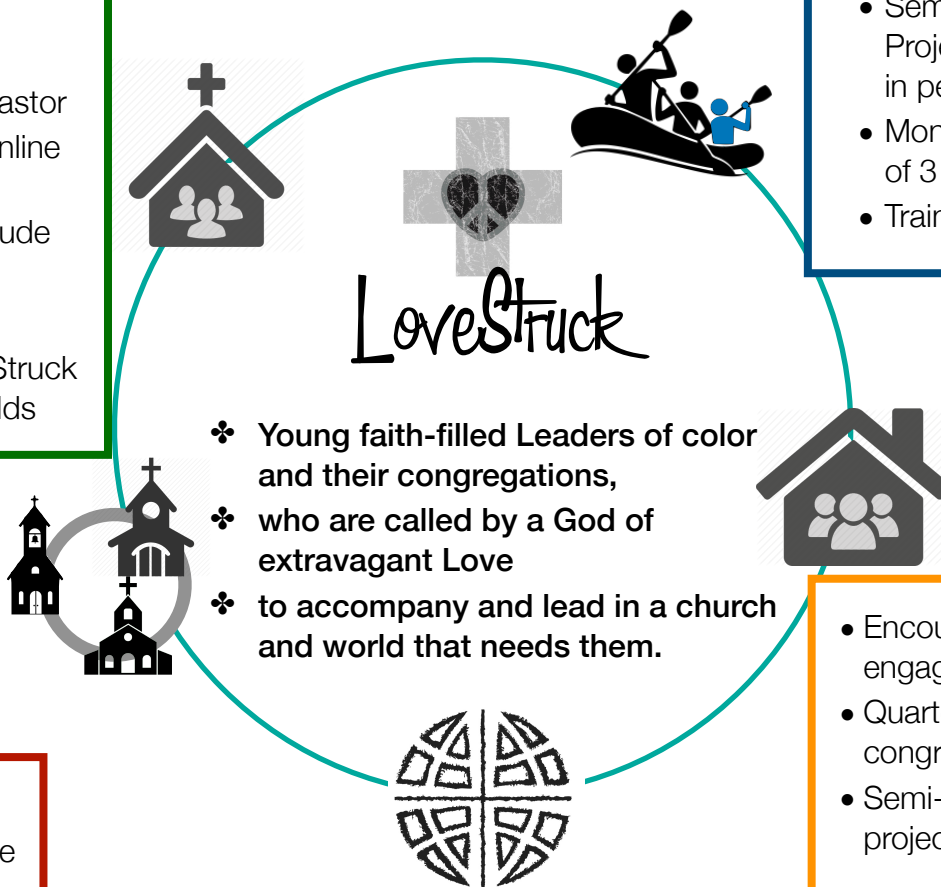
- Encourage, resource & train families to engage in faith practices for the home
- Quarterly family gatherings in each congregation
- Semi-annual family gatherings for all project congregations

## MULTI-CONGREGATION COHORTS

- 2 sets of 3-cong. cohort groups
- Bi-monthly gatherings that include
  - Learning
  - Relationship Building
  - Servant Leading
  - Sharing stories of a LoveStruck God in their lives and worlds
- Rotate meeting hosting sites

## NJ SYNOD & CHURCHWIDE

- Periodic leadership/training opportunities.
- Key Partners:
- Synod Staff: Bishop, DEM, YM Specialist, Asst. to Bish. for Multicultural Ministries
  - Cross Roads Camp; LEAMNJ



## Why?

Because young faith-filled leaders of color are being called by a God of extravagant love to lead in a church and world that needs them; and because our church has the great blessing to be called to accompany them.

### Core Questions for LoveStruck Leaders to be explored

- What will help intensify their faith?
- What will help them discover purpose for their lives?
- What will help them enjoy God? (-Augustine)

### Core Questions for the LoveStruck Church to be explored

- How will this experience open our hearts to God?
- How will giving them greater leadership in the church transform us?
- How can we learn, grow and change because of our time with them?

### Primary Content in all 5 areas (see diagram)

- Relationships building: intentional faith-journeying with mentors, peers, etc.
- Servant Leadership: leading in the church and world
- Learning: leadership skills, faith practices, etc.

## YEAR ONE

- Create LoveStruck congregational teams & multi-congregation cohort groups
- Begin project work in all 5 areas (see diagram)
- Quarterly assessment/discernment meetings with congregational leaders, river guides & key synodical partners.
- Adjust and enhance project work as needed based on assessment/discernment meetings

## YEAR TWO

- Continue project work in all 5 areas.
- Continue quarterly assessment/discernment meetings.
- Continue to adjust and enhance project work as needed.
- Begin Next Steps work:
  - **Dream** - what could God do with LoveStruck next year & beyond?
  - **Plan** - where might the Spirit lead this?
  - **Prepare** - what do we need to do to follow the Spirit next?



## NEXT STEPS

- Follow the Dreams, Plans & Preparations from Year Two work.
- Go **RED**:
  - **Reflect** - What has God been up to within and beyond this project?
  - **Evaluate** - What went well? What did not? What are we learning?
  - **Discern** - What is God calling us to next because of this project (in all 5 areas)?
- Consider creating a resource for the church based on project & its **RED**.