

Middletown Church Hosts Upstate Youth Federation Week of Prayer

Middletown church hosted the Upstate Youth Federation Week of Prayer which began on April 2 and concluded on April 10. The theme for the week was *Jesus is the Same Yesterday, Today and Forever*.

The speaker on the first weekend was Jason McCracken, marketing representative for MESSAGE magazine. McCracken held the youth's attention with his straightforward dialogues on teen sex, drugs, education, and religion.

Each night during the week, one of the local churches sent a delegation of youth to be in charge of that night's meeting. Churches represented were Port Jervis, Poughkeepsie, Spanish Haverstraw, Peekskill, and Middletown.

José Cortés, Greater New York Conference youth director, spoke

on Friday night, April 9. His topic centered around Peter in prison, answered prayers, and doors of



A number of youth and adults stood for baptism and consecration after Bill Wood presented his message.

opportunity being opened. Cortés also shared several personal experiences and about the choice he made to serve the Lord.

Bill Wood, Atlantic Union Conference youth and Pathfinder

director, spoke on Sabbath, April 10. At the conclusion of his sermon, a number of youth and adults came forward for baptism and consecration. Wood's grandfather pastored the Middletown church in the 1940's. In the afternoon, the youth divided into two groups to visit an adult care facility and a nursing home for singing and witnessing.

After the musical Vespers, the youth went bowling and concluded with a basketball game between Spanish Haverstraw and Middletown. Both teams became winners!

The goal and purpose of the Upstate Youth Federation is to work together implementing all types of programs, religious and social, for the youth of the Hudson Valley area.

*Richard Mills, communication leader
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