



December 2025

Dear Church Leader,

How can we raise up the next generation of faithful, capable leaders in our churches? The Northwest Conference offers a unique opportunity to do just that through *Adventures in Leadership* (AIL)—a week that helps high school students grow in faith, character, and leadership.

For more than 30 years, AIL has challenged and equipped students to lead like Jesus through wilderness adventure, biblical reflection, and intentional mentoring. This rigorous experience gives participants a foundation for Christian leadership and helps them discover their God-given gifts. Many students describe it as one of the most transformative weeks of their high school years.

This year's AIL will take place **June 13–20, 2026 (Saturday to Saturday)** at **Adventurous Christians**, located on the Gunflint Trail near Grand Marais, MN (covenantpin.es.org/adventurouschristians). The week includes a **four-day trip into the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness**, where students will put their learning into practice. The cost is **\$575 per person**.

Each church may recommend one or two students currently in **grades 9–11** to apply. We encourage you to talk with potential nominees and their families before they apply. AIL involves significant physical, emotional, and spiritual challenge—it's designed for students ready to fully engage. Because we make a deep investment in this program, participants must commit to the full experience. Space is limited to **28 students**, and if necessary, preference will be given to older applicants.

We also invite your church to consider investing financially in this leadership development opportunity. Many congregations provide partial or full scholarships so cost isn't a barrier for students called to participate.

To nominate a student, visit our website to download the application materials or contact the NWC office for a packet. Completed applications, including a **\$100 deposit**, must be postmarked by **Monday, February 9, 2026** (deposits will be returned if a student is not accepted). Applicants will be notified by **Wednesday, March 4, 2026**.

Thank you for your partnership in identifying and nurturing young leaders. Please join us in praying for this summer's participants and the ongoing impact of *Adventures in Leadership*.

In Christ,
Ginny Olson, Director of Next Gen Ministry
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