

National Youth Conference 2014

Opening Prayer | Wednesday AM, July 23

Jim Chinworth



You call us dear God; again.....and again.....and again.

You call us to stretch, and notice, and serve.....and be served.

Give us eyes to see where our gift, ...our life....can make a difference.

Give us ears to hear between the words the true condition of our neighbors and friends.

For we know, deep down, that at the heart of our desire is the desire to love you; to live and love through your eyes.

This love, this truth, puts away the scorecards, throws off the labels that hurt, turns away shame;

Leaving us compassionate enough to stand against cruelty,

 fierce enough to counter indifference,

 courageous enough to risk something new.

Meet us, dear God, in the unexpected places, in the unexpected faces,

 and show us the joy of healing relationships,

 the joy of good and honest talk,

 the joy of looking each other in the eye,

 the joy of deep listening and light laughter.

These will be moments to remember;

 trusting you truly are with us always, in all our days;

 and your peace is within and between us, as it is in you.

These things we pray in the name of the one who is our peace; Jesus Christ. Amen

Contact us: cobyouth@brethren.org - 847.429.4323 **Find us:** www.brethren.org/nyc

