**EYE 2017**

The Episcopal Youth Event (EYE) takes place every three years. This year seven of us traveled to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma July 10-14 for EYE. There were about 1100 young people and adults present at Central Oklahoma University. From our Diocese we had four young people and three adults. The adults were myself, Mother Jackie Broughton and her husband, Bill. The four youth were from St. John’s Sparta, St. Katherine’s Owen, and Grace in Menomonie. The theme was Peace and Reconciliation. The bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City in 1995 and the subsequent Memorial provided a powerful backdrop to the theme of EYE. The staff at the OKC Memorial said that when our EYE youth visited they had never seen a more respectful group of young people. All of us from Eau Claire returned home deeply moved by what we had experienced. The worship and music at the EYE was excellent. Also Bishop Curry gave a wonderful opening sermon. The youth enjoyed meeting other teens from different dioceses from around the Church. EYE is designed for youth about to enter grades 9-12. The Diocese provides this opportunity to our young members free of charge. My hope is that with EYE 2020 we will have more young people anxious to attend.

—Bishop Jay Lambert