**CARRIE GOLDSMITH**

Youth Pastor

Carrie started at RCN in July 2016. This is her first time serving as a youth pastor. Prior to this, Carrie worked as a Mobilization Coordinator for Extreme Nazarene Missions, and she is very interested in overseas mission work.

Before her call to ministry, Carrie worked as a teacher for 11 years—in Idaho, Indonesia, and California. She received her BA in Elementary Education with a minor in music from Northwest Nazarene University in 2001. She received her Master’s in Education from CSU Bakersfield in 2012. She is currently working on her Master’s in Pastoral Ministry through NNU.

What do you enjoy most about your ministry?

I love hanging out with teenagers, and helping them grow spiritually. I look forward to building relationships, helping them draw closer to God, and challenging them to be disciples of Jesus. I love getting to be a part of making a difference in someone’s life.

What is your favorite bible verse or passage?

I Thessalonians 5:16-18, "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” I love that God’s will for us is laid out in such simple, though challenging, terms. No matter what circumstance I am in, I am to be joyful. I can do that by finding something to be thankful for in that situation. And the only way to be thankful is by praying continually. As I pray, I am filled with joy, and thankfulness will flow out of me. I love the cyclical nature of these verses and the challenge within them.

Outside of church, what takes up most of your time?

Hanging out with friends/family: playing games, hiking, traveling, adventuring. I also love to read (and make videos of me reading aloud). I also love to sing, play the piano, act, crochet, and watch movies.

What’s on your iPod?

My favorites are Relient K, DC Talk (still love them!), For King and Country, Owl City, Superchick, Andy Grammer, Adele, and various movie and musical soundtracks. I also love to listen to my favorite worship songs on Amazon—Hillsong, Kari Jobe, Bethel, etc.

Describe your perfect day.

I wake up without an alarm clock and go to my patio to drink tea and read my Bible. Afterwards I meet up with friends for an epic hike, and then we eat dinner at an amazing restaurant. Then (because this perfect day has extra hours and endless energy) we go to someone’s house, where we roast marshmallows around a bonfire and play games until late into the night. Then we finish up the night by watching a movie and eating buttery popcorn. #perfectday