

Welcome to the Youth Group!

The Youth Program is for students from grades 7 through 12. Here are some basic pieces of information about the Youth Program...

Events during the Program Year:

The Program Year runs from September to June. For exact dates, please check with the church calendar on the website or the Program Year guides (Fall Life and Spring Life). Program offerings during the summer are minimal and Youth Group does not meet on Sunday mornings. Please consult the summer edition of the Refrigerator Door for details.

Youth Group meets Sundays at 9:30 am in the Youth Room- The Youth Group meetings are the main focus of the Youth Program and the event that most of the youth attend regularly. The content changes- but generally there are "Sabbath Sundays" which are light in structure and provide free time for conversations and games, weeks when a topic is explored through one's personal values and/or faith perspectives, and periodic stories and lessons told from different faith sources.

The Youth Room is located on the second floor of the church house (the north part of the building). Go up the stairs and enter the first door on your left. Facing the Nursery, continue deeper to your left down that short hallway.

FRI NITE Clubs are offered on periodic Fridays during each month and is a great



way to simply have fun being with one another. Events typically start around 6:30 or 7pm and last about 2 hours. Some are onsite events- like game night, lock-ins, or movies or offsite activities- like bowling, scavenger hunts, or other events around town. Specifics about the upcoming FNCs (including start time, cost- if any, and meeting location) are found by calling the Youth Hotline or can be read in the Refrigerator Door- details below.

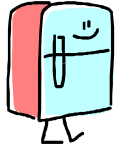
BIO (By Invitation Only) is a monthly offering specific to certain segments of the youth group (i.e. girls only, boys only, high school students, etc). These tend to have a more spiritually-oriented aspect within the programming.

Service Projects are offered periodically throughout the year. Previous service opportunities have included raising money for The Heifer Project, helping local nonprofit organizations, and road trips to New Orleans and North Carolina.



Be a Representative!!! Youth can help shape the direction of the Youth Program by participating in Youth Meetings. The **Youth Council** is a newly formed group consisting of one student representative from each grade level. Quarterly meetings form to decide events like the Winter Fun trip, Work Trip possibilities, and provide suggestions for FNC activities. One youth is chosen to represent the Youth during **Youth Committee Meetings**, which are comprised of the Youth Director, Associate Minister, and several adults. This group guides the direction and mission of the Program.

How we Communicate:

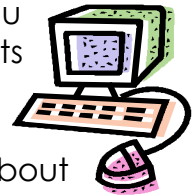


The Refrigerator Door: This newsletter is posted periodically- about every other month and contains a schedule of activities and articles of interest about the Youth Program. It is mailed to the homes of Youth Group members and can also be found online in the near future.

Youth Hotline: By calling the church's main number (847/ 864.2181) and when prompted dialing extension 103, you can access the recorded message and voicemail that we call the Youth Hotline. It contains details for the upcoming activities and is updated often. This number is also how you can reach the Youth Director, Dave Howser, when he is in the office or to leave him a message.

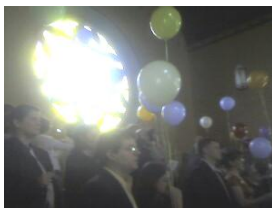


Website: On the church's main website (www.lakestreet.org) you can find a calendar section. Periodically there are special events listed that pertain to the Youth Program. There are also recent editions of the monthly newsletter called, "The Spire," which also contains a calendar section of church events as well as articles about different aspects of the Youth Program.



Youth have gained some responsibilities and privileges at this age:

- Youth help pass the offering plates in the balcony.
- There are opportunities to participate in readings during the service.
- Certain services are designated as Youth-led and/or All Ages services in which Youth lead the service.



- A favorite privilege has been to participate in the Balloon Wrangling (inflating and distributing the balloons) for the Easter service.