

Youth Group News

Hey Families!

It's so hard to believe that we're nearing the end of another school year! Because the end of the school year can be so busy with exams, performances, and celebrations, we're providing you this list of youth group dates that will hopefully help you in your planning! Please note we will not have any Wednesday night gatherings for the remainder of the school year.

SPRING & SUMMER CALENDAR

- **April 19:** Youth Group
- **April 26:** Youth Group
- **May 3:** Graduating Senior Celebration @ the home of Fred & Carol Knight (Grandparents to Karoline & Ella!)
- **May 10:** *No Youth - Mother's Day*
- **May 17:** Youth Group
- **May 24:** *No Youth - Memorial Day Weekend*
- **May 31:** Youth Group
- **June 7:** *No Youth - Vacation Bible School Volunteer Dinner @ 5 PM in the Christian Life Center.* If your student is volunteering to help with VBS they should attend the dinner. It's our church's way of saying thank you for volunteering and passing out important info about VBS.
- **June 14:** *No Youth- Night 1 of VBS!* VBS is Sunday, June 14 through Thursday, June 18, from 5:30- 8 PM each night
- **June 21:** *No Youth- Father' Day*
- **June 28:** Youth Group
- **July 5:** *No Youth - 4th of July Weekend/Night before our summer trip*
- **July 6-10:** Summer Trip to M28 - If your student signed up for M28 you should have received an email from me asking for their t-shirt size and giving you some additional information.
- **July 12:** Youth Group
- **July 19:** Youth Group
- **July 26:** Youth Group
- **August 2:** Youth Group Fall Kick Off - We'll welcome our new 7th grade students!

OTHER NOTES FOR SUMMER:

There are a few dates not on this calendar. One set of dates are the days and times for VBS decorating. They will be the week prior to VBS, (June 8-12) but the times have not been determined. We'll let students know when they can come help decorate closer to time! Youth Group students are certainly not required to help decorate for VBS, but if they're interested we can always use their help!

Another set of dates not on this calendar are some hang out days in the youth hall over the summer. Some students have expressed interest in redecorating their small group room and we have some other areas that need a deep clean. I'll pick some dates I know I will be in the youth hall over the summer that we can work on those projects and send them out closer to the summer. I'll even treat anyone who wants to come work on those projects with a Sonic slush at the end of the day!

Traditionally near the end of summer our students lead our morning worship services. They do everything from the music to the announcements, greeting, and preaching! It is always an exciting day where they get to use their gifts and talents and lead others in worship. We have not determined the exact Sunday for this, but it should be either the last Sunday in July or the first Sunday in August. We'll let you know soon!

One other opportunity for your student this summer is volunteering at Side by Side. Side by Side is our church's Respite Ministry. This ministry hosts persons with Dementia, Alzheimer's or other issues with memory loss from 10 AM - 2 PM each Wednesday. We refer to these persons as our "Friends." This ministry gives caregivers of Friends some time off from caregiving which is so important. Students can come and volunteer on a Wednesday this summer. Volunteering means playing games with our Side by Side Friends, doing a craft with them, playing games, and eating lunch together. If any students have a talent they can share at Side by Side, like singing a song or playing an instrument or showing how to paint there is an opportunity to share their talents! I'm happy to talk to you more about this if your student is interested!

I'm looking forward to a great summer! Please reach out with any questions you may have.

Emily Barlow

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