

YOUTH

Dear youth parents, I hope you guys have had a great start to 2026! Jessica and I are so excited to see what God has been doing in our youth group. We have been praying for the students and praying for you guys, and we have seen his provision already! With that being said, this document is meant to be informational regarding the youth group and some upcoming events/changes for the 2026 Spring/Summer Season. Please read it in its entirety, as this is some of the most important information I will have to pass along this year. I suggest maybe even looking at it with your students, so they are informed as well. It is broken up into chronological order. Feel free to reach out to me with any questions you may have, but hopefully this document will help with most of them! (I also highlighted dates for the convenience of your calendars)

Fellowship Building (Immediate)

As many of you know, we have moved our youth group to the fellowship building on Sunday nights. This has been an awesome transition for us and for our discipleship time, so we are going to continue meeting there and we appreciate how smooth you guys have made this transition. In the coming months you may see some changes to the room, and I just ask that you guys be aware that this area is designed for community growth and fostering relationships within the youth, so we really want to let them have that area on Sunday nights. Keep in mind parents, we will meet every Sunday night starting at 5:30, we will have a snack and some gametime before we get into the lesson. Encourage your students to come and join us! That community is essential!

Look Up Lodge Attendees (Immediate)

Our youth group will be returning to Look Up Lodge this Summer, the dates for that will be **June 28th - July 3rd**. Before I speak on deposits, I want to remind you all, that attendance to youth service and youth activities on Sunday nights and other youth activities throughout the year, is a prerequisite for going to Look Up Lodge. Look Up is a week of team/unity building for those whose practice is to be apart our youth on Sunday nights and youth group as a whole. This is not to exclude certain students, but rather to keep the integrity of the faithful group who comes throughout the year. If you are questioning if your student is one who might not be “eligible” to attend as of right now, please reach out to me and let’s talk about it. If your student has not been attending or has missed many Sunday nights, but it is for a reason that is uncontrollable or unforeseeable, please reach out to me and we can walk through it as well. Our job (Pastor Tim and I) is not to be the church police. However, it is my job to create/maintain unity and community within the youth group, and honor those who have been faithful to our program as a whole. It really is a case-by-case thing, so please don’t hesitate to talk about it before the first deposit!

Look Up Lodge Payments (Initial Deposit Due in April)

FULL COST \$300 Per Student

Initial Deposit Due: **April 5th *Easter Sunday* \$50**

Second Installment Due: **May 3rd \$50**

Remaining Deposit Due: **June 21st *Father’s Day* Cost TBD** *Depending on the outcome our BBQ Fundraiser*

Summer Kickoff Party (Upcoming)

We will be having a bonfire/bowling night on **Friday night May 8th at 5:00.**

We will meet at the church and ride in the van to Rock Springs in Easley and bowl at their IMPACT Center. Then after bowling we will go to Preacher Tim's house for hot dogs and a bonfire... and maybe a night swim in the pool!

Invite your friends! And we will have an RSVP list and some more info the closer we get to the date.

VBS (Upcoming)

We will continue with a class for teens during our VBS this year. I know that we traditionally don't think "Youth Group" when we think "VBS" ... but it has really been an enjoyable time for our youth the last several years, and if your student hasn't come, they have been missing out. This year I want to incorporate the youth in certain areas of volunteering for our VBS, so keep an eye out on the VBS volunteer signups because they are right around the corner! The dates for VBS are **May 31st-June 4th**. Please sign up and join us!

BBQ Fundraiser (June... but quickly approaching!)

Y'all know the drill! Time for a local favorite! We will be doing our BBQ plates again this year to support the Youth Group going to Look Up Lodge. My goal this year is that it is the biggest that it has ever been!!! I am expecting to sell out in time to go to Handel's! I'm for real! I think if we all pitch in, call our cousins to come, tell everyone in our neighborhood about it, let our teachers and our friends know... we can make this the biggest BBQ Fundraiser of the year! This is an "all hands on deck" event, and you must be present and working to receive the benefits of the fundraiser. It is always a fun time, and it always helps us with supporting those who go!

The day for the fundraiser will be **Sunday night, June 7th**.

Guys, it is going to be an awesome summer, God is STILL doing SOMETHING NEW! I will do my best to keep this information in front of you guys so that people don't slip through the cracks. I only ask in return that you guys' partner with me in discipling these students. Use the weekly Youth review and know that I am a call or text away! Jessica and I are so glad to have some roots here, we love this church, and we love you all. Let this summer be the one where you and your student draw closer together and closer to the Lord! -Wesley