

Christ Church Communiqué



The Monthly Newsletter of Christ Church

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Student Ministries at Christ Church

Purpose

The purpose of Christ Church Student Ministries is to assist parents in their God-given responsibility to bring up their children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord (Ephesians 6:1-4) so that they might become men and women of God—complete in Christ; competent and equipped for every good work (2 Tim 3:16b).

Process

Nowhere do the scriptures contemplate living the Christian life in isolation. Rather, at all points, the Bible presents the Christian life—at all ages and levels of maturity—as lived within the context of a covenant community of faith. As such, nowhere in the scriptures do we see that children or youth were separated from their parents or other adults for purposes of discipline and instruction in the Lord. Indeed, awe came upon every soul—both young and old—as the church gathered corporately to study the Word of God, experience authentic biblical fellowship, break bread together, and pray (Acts 2:42).

The Bible teaches that parents are the primary educators and shapers of their children, and that the home is the primary setting in which the discipline and instruction of the Lord occurs. At Christ Church, we assist and encourage parents in fulfilling their God-ordained roles by training parents, and providing additional opportunities for children and youth to spend time with wise and godly adults who help to acquaint children and youth with God, the truths of Scripture and its application to all spheres of life, and to serve as models of Christlikeness to reinforce the primary training and modeling occurring in the home (2 Tim 3:14-17).

We also anticipate expanding our **Youth Ministries** to include:

Camps and Activities: We aim to have two major camps every year—Winter Camp and Summer Camp. Camps can serve as an important element of a well-rounded youth ministry providing intensive times of sustained teaching and focus on the things of God without the distractions and busyness of the world. We also anticipate offering various extracurricular activities through the year for times of fun, relaxation, outreach, and relationship-building.

Service Opportunities: We seek to offer a variety of service opportunities for our students to get them involved in the “doing” of ministry. Through service to others, Christ is imitated and God is glorified, as our students begin the important transition in their thinking and living from taking and receiving to serving and giving.

In the short, through the Christ Church **Student Ministries** we seek to contextualize God's vision for His church in age-appropriate ways for our youth that they might both know and live out the "preeminence of Christ in all things, to the glory of God in everything, and for the joy of all peoples everywhere."

Description

Initially, our **Youth Ministries** will be comprised of those students who have completed sixth grade and/or are twelve (12) years of age and extend to those students who are entering tenth grade and/or are fifteen (15) years of age. For the present time, students who are sixteen years of age or older will remain with the adults during both Sunday mornings hours and select from the Adult Core Seminars for their Christian Education hour.

We encourage all **Youth Ministries** students to remain in the corporate worship service during the first hour. During the second hour, **Youth Ministries** will meet with an adult teacher to: 1) spend time in singing, 2) briefly review and discuss the principle points of the sermon, 3) engage in an activity that is designed to reinforce the primary teaching of the morning, 4) take part in a Bible study, and 5) experience authentic biblical fellowship with their peers.

Open Positions

Youth Ministries Sponsor

The purpose of the Youth Ministries Sponsor is to help in the oversight, planning, organizing, and implementation of our youth ministry teaching, training, fellowship, and activities. The Sponsor will work closely with the parents of youth ministry students and the pastor to ensure that the vision and purposes of our youth ministries are accomplished. Specific responsibilities include: assisting in the establishment of appropriate curriculum; helping to identify and assimilate mature, Christ-like adults to serve as teachers, mentors, and examples to our youth; assuming responsibility for overseeing our Sunday morning youth education hour; and helping to organize youth activities, follow-up, outreach, service projects, and camps.

It is important for those prayerfully considering service as our Youth Ministry Sponsor that they are not responsible for doing everything, but for assuming responsibility for everything getting done. The Youth Ministry Sponsor may be either an adult individual or couple, and will be required to submit to a mandatory background investigation and fingerprinting for working with minors. Adult Sponsors will also receive appropriate training suitable for the position. The Youth Sponsor will report directly to the pastor and will meet with him on a regular basis (or as necessary) to ensure that the priorities and purposes of Youth Ministries are being appropriately implemented and accomplished. The Sponsor will not be compensated. The Sponsor will have access to a budget.

The anticipated time commitment for this position will vary depending upon the experience and giftedness of the individual/couple fulfilling the position. Of course, more time will be required in the early phase of the position as the ministry is being formed and implemented.

Youth Ministries Teacher(s)

The purpose of the Youth Ministry Teacher is to assume primary responsibility for the teaching of God's Word and any accompanying curriculum to our students. The Youth Ministry Teacher will be responsible to the Youth Ministry Sponsor and work closely with the Sponsor to ensure that the priorities and purposes of the educational and training component of our Youth Ministries are being accomplished. The anticipated time commitment will vary for this position depending upon the experience and giftedness of the teacher, and demands of the selected curriculum.

Conclusion

I ask that you bring our **Student Ministries** before the Lord in prayer, and that you prayerfully consider your role in helping to equip, teach, train, and love our youth, so that our students might claim 2 Tim 3:14-17 in our memory and for God's glory:

“But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from who you learned it and ***how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings***, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”

Grace and peace,

Robert W. Evans



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