

9/15/09

Kim and I are so excited to begin another year with the youth and we hope that this year will be one of much fellowship, bible study & ministry.

The Bible teaches us in **Proverbs 22:6** to “**train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it**”, so we will be diligently trying to work alongside you as parents to prepare the youth to be explosive Christian influences in their day to day lives as well as in their walk with Christ. The Youth Council has diligently met and discussed the different ways that the Youth can become involved in missions & ministry in our church and community and have drafted guidelines to help promote ministry work and faithfulness in attendance during the coming church year. Please continually pray for Kim and I along with all the Youth teachers/leaders during the coming year and our families, so that we will be effective in leading the youth and that the devil will be bound and not be able to wage war against any of the youth, leaders or parents while we try to learn more about God and his plans for our lives. Also, please pray for our church as we create a place that our youth will want to come to and that will allow them to thrive and become the Christians and witnesses that God wants them to be.

Our church graciously provides for most Youth Outings and Ministry Projects which allows more Youth to participate and takes the burden off the Youth Parent to provide the sums of money necessary to make several of these Outings possible. By encouraging your Youth to participate in all the Ministry Projects and Bible Study Opportunities that we provide, the guidelines adopted by the Youth Council will be easy to fulfill and your child will be eligible to participate in all Retreat & Special Opportunities available during this church year. Participation/Attendance is required based on the following guidelines (these are in effect beginning in October of each church year):

Church Attendance:

Attend 6 worship services over the course of each month. Morning Worship (Sunday School & Preaching), Evening Worship (Discipleship Training & Preaching) and Wednesday Night Youth Bible Study each count as 1 service. Sunday School, Discipleship Training & Thursday Night Youth Bible Study will also count as ½ toward the 6 worship services requirement.

Ministry Projects:

Participate in 5 ministry projects during the church year. There will be at least a minimum of 10 projects offered throughout the course of the church year.

Strength to Stand Conference – Gatlinburg, TN – January, 2010:

To attend the STS Conference, each Youth must have attended 6 worship services per month during October, November & December and completed at least 3 ministry projects during that same time period.

DNOW – April, 2010:

To attend the DNOW weekend, each Youth must have attended 6 worship services per month during February and March and completed 1 ministry project during that same time period.

Summer Mission Trip – June, 2010:

To attend the Summer Mission trip, each Youth must have attended 6 worship services per month during April and May and completed 1 ministry project during that same time period.

Exceptions:

Exceptions will be granted in the case of illness, death in the family or divorced parent situations where the Youth must split his/her time between two households. Youth will be allowed to participate **WITHOUT** completing these requirements only if the fees are paid by the Youth parent to attend. Please get with me to go over any exceptions to the above rules so that your child will be allowed to participate.

Each Youth Teacher/Leader will keep a record of the attendance in their class and worship services each week along with the attendance at each Ministry Project. Please make sure your Youth lets me know that they are in attendance during Preaching Services so that I don't miss counting anyone.

Most church sponsored outings will be advertised on the bulletin boards in the foyer of the church, on the bulletin board in the Youth room as well as published in the church newsletter, bulletin, monthly calendar, the monthly Youth Newsletter and on the church website. Sign up sheets will also accompany any activity so we can better plan transportation and monetary commitments that go along with these outings. Parent participation as chaperones is encouraged whenever possible, especially on out-of-town trips. There will be areas for chaperone signup on the same sign up sheet for the Youth.

Please make sure that all sign up dates are reviewed because several trips have monetary payment deadlines that must be met. Once the deposit payment deadline has passed, if your child cannot go for reasons other than those defined under Exceptions, it will be the parent's responsibility to find another person to take their child's place on the outing or to pay the money to the church for their child's portion of the trip. Please help us to show the church body that we are fiscally responsible with the funds that the church provides to the Youth Department by carefully considering which outings your Youth will attend before the deadline for deposits arrives.

Attached to this letter, you will find a listing of the Bible Study Opportunities available to each Youth during the coming year, a listing of the Ministry Projects that will be available to them between now and December as well as the Youth Classroom Rules. Please go over all the above guidelines, Bible Study Opps, Ministry Projects and the Classroom Rules with your Youth and Kim and I will go over them as well. Sign up sheets are already posted for most of the items on each list through December.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions related to anything discussed in this letter and I look forward to working with all the Youth during the next 12 months.

God Bless,

Tracy Smith

Kim Robinson

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John 10:10 (King James Version) ¹⁰The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

YOUTH PROJECTS

Beth Moore Ladies Bible Study Helpers

Outreach Babysitting Service

Hunting Kick Off Church Cleanup & Helpers

Fall Festival Helpers

Community Leaf Raking for Elderly or Shut-In

Shopping for Foster Children Christmas Gifts
(WMU Sponsored)

Canned Good Collection for Assistance Center
(Thanksgiving Project)

Parent Day Out

PLEASE PRAY THAT ALL THE YOUTH WHO
PARTICIPATE IN THE ABOVE MINISTRY
PROJECTS ARE HUMBLLED BY THE
OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE OTHERS AND
ALLOW GOD TO MOLD THEM INTO
CHRISTIANS NOT ONLY IN WORD BUT IN
DEED.

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday School
(Tracy Smith, Kim Robinson & Marilyn Hare)

Discipleship Training
(Roddy Brooker & David Wilson)

Youth on Mission
(Jennifer Littleton & Bridgett Brooker)

Youth Bible Study (Thursday Nights)
(Tracy Smith)

Judgment House Gospel Presentation
(Union Grove BC)

Strength to Stand Conference
(Gatlinburg, TN)

PLEASE PRAY THAT ALL THE YOUTH WHO
PARTICIPATE IN THE ABOVE BIBLE STUDIES
ARE ATTENTIVE TO THE TEACHING OF
GOD'S WORD AND ARE WILLING TO LET
GOD LEAD THEIR LIVES IN THIS
CHALLENGING DAY & TIME.

CLASS RULES

**SHOW REVERANCE FOR OUR CHURCH
BUILDING WITH NO FOOD/DRINKS IN
CLASS.**

**MAKE SURE ALL YOUR GARBAGE IS IN
THE GARBAGE CAN BEFORE YOU LEAVE.**

**SHOW RESPECT FOR THE TEACHER BY
PAYING ATTENTION DURING LESSON
TIME.**

**SHOW RESPECT FOR OTHER YOUTH WITH
YOUR SPEECH & ACTIONS TOWARD EACH
OTHER.**

**SHOW APPRECIATION FOR THE
FURNITURE IN OUR ROOM BY NOT LAYING
DOWN DURING CLASS.**