

questions?

stop by our youth table in the lobby on sunday mornings or email tabitha at trice@lakeforest.org

The Youth Ministry Team has been hard at work with our Ministry Architects for around eight months now. They meet monthly and have each been working on specific tasks to continue shaping a **sustainable youth program**.

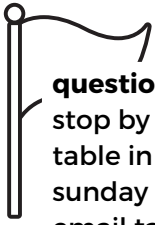
The Youth Ministry Team is back at it after a brief break for the holidays. Here are some of the current items being worked on:

- We are working to launch a bible study for 6th-7th grade students (to compliment the current Activ8 study for 8th-12th grade students).
- Development of a proactive planning calendar to be used throughout the year for behind the scenes things to help us work ahead and avoid last minute planning.
- Student leadership development - we are working to ensure that systems are in place so our students have opportunities to lead & grow their leadership skills at Youth Group.
 - One specific example is equipping our current youth students to create a welcoming and friendly environment for new students coming in. (Youth Welcome Team!)
- We're developing a strategic plan to ensure that students are integrated into other areas of the church, and youth ministry is woven into the fabric of our church.
- An events notebook is being created to help our event planners succeed and limit double work.
- We are actively exploring what missions opportunities will look like for the Youth Group.
- We are putting structure and planning around what food should/will look like for Youth gatherings.
- We are putting structure around how we welcome a new student in and how we ensure new students come back again.
- We are developing a "rites of passage" plan that defines what it looks like to jump from Kids Ministry to Youth, and also jump from middle school to high school.

For more information, read our previous updates or reach out to Tabitha Rice at trice@lakeforest.org

JANUARY UPDATE





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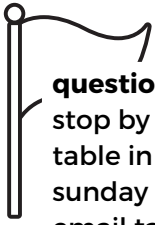
NOVEMBER UPDATE

Our work has continued to progress since our last update. We have continued to implement new and exciting measures into the youth program which will set things up for years to come. Here are a few key updates:

1. We have been drafting documents around the training and education of our volunteers to help build the safe church practices for our kids here at Lake Forest. This includes drafting new language around how we communicate with our youth, teach our youth, and help create a safe and educational space for them here at Lake Forest Westlake. Big thank you to Connie, who has really spearheaded the drafting of these documents!
2. Communication- Along with the continued updates from the Sunday morning platform and website, we have also launched a more robust email notification system along with a brand-new texting program called Slick. This will allow us to keep kids and their parents updated on everything they need to know about youth.
3. Upcoming Events - We have several holiday events and service opportunities coming up for youth!
5. Youth Pastor Search - We are still continuing our search for a new youth director, please have continued prayer for all of the teams working on finding the right candidate for this position as it is a very vital role for our youth.

For more information, read our previous updates or reach out to Tabitha Rice at trice@lakeforest.org





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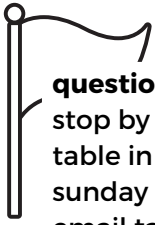
The Youth Ministry Team has been hard at work during the last few months. They have had three meetings and have each been working on specific tasks to create a **sustainable youth program**.

SEPTEMBER UPDATE

1. The Youth Ministry program format has been approved and put into place, with a Fall ministry calendar also in place. We had a wonderful launch on September 10 with these new systems in place!
2. A clear and consistent communication pathway to both parents and students is being established with the guidance of the church Communications Strategist, also to include a text messaging option to youth parents. We will be rolling this out soon.
3. Job descriptions have been written and distributed to volunteers. As part of these descriptions, safe church practices training has been included and training has begun for volunteers.
4. Ways that the Youth Ministry leadership will receive feedback from volunteers and will recognize and show appreciation in support of its volunteers has been thoughtfully discussed and agreed upon.

For more information, read our August update or reach out to Tabitha Rice at trice@lakeforest.org





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The Youth Ministry Team has been hard at work during the last month. They have had two meetings and have each been working on specific tasks to create a **sustainable youth program**.

One thing that is very important to know is that we now have a **Youth Information Table!** This table with all your Youth updates and information is located in the lobby next to the fireplace on Sunday mornings.

Our Youth Ministry Team is also working closely with our Content & Communications Strategist to build systems of communication for our youth ministry that will keep parents, students, and the church informed. We are excited to be developing **meaningful communications strategies**.

Also, a **Prayer Team** has been recruited for our Youth Program and specifically the Youth Ministry Team during this time of renovation. We know that God is behind this process. We are grateful for the Prayer Team that has stepped up to pray for the Team and the Leaders that will fill the new roles of our Youth Ministry.

Thirdly, **Youth Volunteer Positions and Job Descriptions** have been created. If you are interested in working with the Youth, please be on the lookout for updated information or reach out to our Youth Ministry Intern, Tabitha Rice.

Last and what many have been waiting for - a **program calendar for Youth has been created**. Parents and students will be receiving that soon!

There are many other tasks underway, and the team is working hard to kick off the Fall season. As a church, please continue to keep our teens and the Youth Ministry in your prayers.

AUGUST UPDATE

