



Youth Room



November/December 2018

Volume 1, Number 6

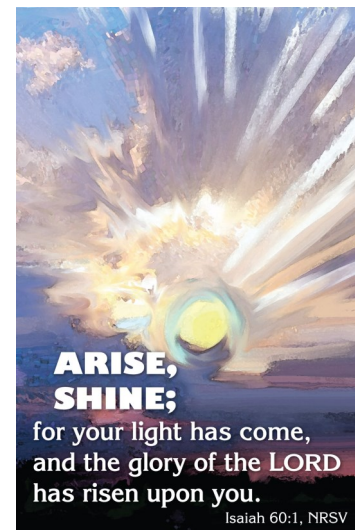
The November/December edition of the Youth Room! It's hard to believe that I've been sending this to you for an entire year! And you know what I've been pondering all year? Should I write about Thanksgiving or Christmas for the last edition of 2018? Do I focus on being thankful? Or do I talk about how we should always remember that Christmas is the time we celebrate our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ? As I was thinking about this last week it finally hit me. Why not talk about both?

Thanksgiving and Christmas, it turns out, do have something in common. They both are an opportunity to look at all the ways we are blessed and how we can pass that blessing on to others. What is this entire season if not a blessing? What is being thankful for the things we have if not an opportunity to pass that blessing on to others? And what is Christmas if we don't reflect on all the wonderful ways in which we have been blessed not only by family and friends, but by God as well.

Inside this issue of the Youth Room you will find many opportunities in the next couple of months to celebrate our blessings. Sometimes, on the upcoming movie night or trip to go ice skating, we will share the blessing of our company with each other. Other times, like your Christmas concerts, you will share your blessings with me and your parents. And then, at times, like Living Nativity, Global Market, and Christmas Eve, there will be equal opportunities for you to share your blessings and inherit more of them.

As for me, as I reflect on one year of writing to you every other month, I am very aware of the blessing that each of you are in my life. When you enter Seminary and as you prepare to become a pastor you are conscious of the way that you will change lives as you go forward, what you are not made aware of is how the lives of those around you will change you! I am pleased and proud to have you all in Youth Group and at church. I'm blessed by your presence, your personalities, your spunk, your grace, your energy, and the love that you have for one another! I pray, in the years to come that it will never change, that you will continue to bless one another as you've blessed me, that you will continue to hold each other fast to the idea that we are all disciples of God no matter how old we are! You are my blessings this year.

Happy Thanksgiving! Merry Christmas!



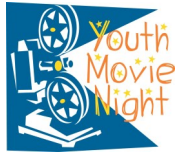


Jesus is the
of
Christmas!

November 10 & 11-Global Market
 November 22 & 23-Thanksgiving Break, Church Office Closed
 November 25-Journey to Christmas
 December 9-Apopka Toy Drive Collection
 December 14 & 15-Living Nativity
 December 16-Youth Group Ice Skating Party
 December 24-Christmas Eve (Services at 5, 7, & 11)
 December 25-Christmas, Church Office Closed

Birthdays:
 December 7-Christina Roberts (14)
 December 7-Shane Roberts (14)
 December 8-Annabelle Bartholomew (13)
 December 11-Morgan Melchiorri (12)
 December 29-Gary Henderson

UPCOMING DATES



In honor of all the work done at Global Market, on November 11th we will be having a movie night at youth group. Be sure to bring pillows, blankets, and of course PJ's as we relax after a weekend of fundraising! Please try not to arrive too late as we'll need to start the movie at 5:00PM!

On Sunday, December 9 we will be participating in an age old Youth Group tradition for the upcoming Living Nativity: the assembling of the luminaries. Luminaries during Living Nativity serve to guide visitors, who may not be familiar with the church, to the lawn where we host our show! Please make arrangements to be at Youth Group on this day so that we can get the bags unfolded, the candles and sand inside, and set them aside so that come the night of Living Nativity they are ready to go! The more help we get, the more time we'll have for hangout time and games afterward!



COME ALONG!

The Youth Ice-skating Party is back! On December 16th, please join us for a special extended Youth Group from 4:00-7:00PM. We will be going ice skating at the Winter in the Park Holiday Ice Skating Rink located in Winter Park. If you don't know how to skate it is the best time of the year to learn! After ice skating we will walk to Panera to share our last meal of 2018! This will be the last Youth Group event of the year so be sure not to miss out! Cost will be about \$13 for skating, look for permission forms in the Church Office starting in December.

There will be no Youth Group on November 25th, December 23rd, or December 30th! After the Holidays regular Youth Group will resume again on January 6, 2019!

COUNT DOWN TO 2019!

Good-bye 2018! Hello 2019! Here are just a few things you can look forward to in the new year!



- ◆ VBS 2019
- ◆ Youth Group
- ◆ Escape Room
- ◆ President's Day Lock-In
- ◆ Homeless Coalition
- ◆ Magic Yarn Project
- ◆ Montreat 2019

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Along with the holiday season comes plentiful opportunities for service as we celebrate this wonderful season together.



November 10th and 11th the church will host the annual Global Market in the Fellowship Hall. For Youth this is our opportunity to sell our notecards and raise money for our trip to Montreat this year and Southwinds in 2020! Funds are desperately needed for these two events so please make time to join us on Saturday, November 10 from 9:00AM-1:30PM and Sunday, November 11 from 12:00PM-1:00PM. We're trying to arrange shifts so that no one has to stay on Saturday the entire time.

On November 25, the Christian Education Committee will have their annual Journey to Christmas event in Fellowship Hall immediately following the 10:30AM service. Youth are needed to help out with the crafts! If you like crafting, please get in touch to find out how you can help!



The Apopka Toy Drive Collection will be on Sunday, December 9 at the 10:30AM service. Youth are needed to work with children to collect the toys in wagons at Children's moment and sort them out in 301 afterward.

The dates for this year's Living Nativity are December 14th and 15th. For this event we need Youth to participate in the show as Shepherds, Angels, Mary, Joseph, and the three wise men. We will also need youth to make sure the luminaries are kept lit. Please mark your calendar and plan on joining us, you may even consider bringing a friend, we need all the help we can get!



Finally on Christmas Eve the 5:00PM service will be our family service and we are looking for youth to serve as liturgists as well as ushers for this service. Please contact the church office if you will be there!

MEALS NEEDED

Attention parents! Youth Group is a special place, filled with very special people! People who encourage your Youth, teach your Youth, love on them, and help them feel wanted and needed in the church. But Youth Group also provides one other very important thing in the life of every Youth ...food! If you are able to donate a meal to the Youth on any Sunday, please sign up and help us keep our youth fed!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084aa4ac2fa7fa7-meals1>.

I want to see you "in concert!"



The holidays are a wonderful time of the year for musicians! If you are performing in a school concert, doing candlelight or singing at a resort at Disney, whether you play tuba, guitar, or sing soprano, I want to see you! Be sure to let Emily Wasser know the dates and times of your Christmas concerts and please let her know if tickets are best purchased in advance! I'll wave at you from my seat!