

The holidays are coming! The holidays are coming! The holidays are...here!

November and December, for as long as I can remember, have always had a certain pace to them: quick! Everything seems to happen in November and December! Everything seems to happen all at once so that it seems like one minute you are sitting down to a nice family dinner at Thanksgiving and the next you're finishing off dessert at Christmas. These months have always been filled with activity after activity and event after event. That's always seemed strange to me. At a time when most pastors are screaming at their congregations to slow down and enjoy the wait, we often feel busiest of all!

But there is one group in the church that never makes me feel that busyness. There is one group that has always had the ability to take my mind out of "the big picture" of November and December and get me to live in the here and now.

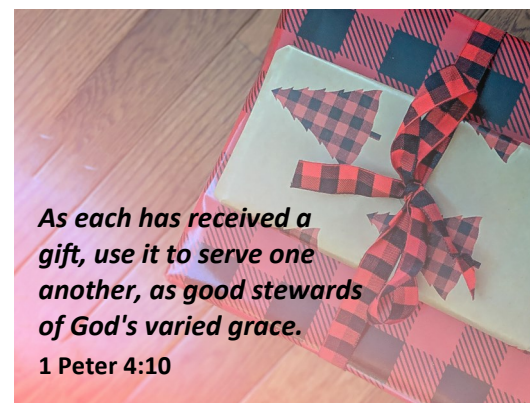
It's you!

Gathering at Youth Group every Sunday night is a great joy for me in ways you can't imagine. For two hours as we sit around the dinner table, congregate on couches, play games, and have discussions, I get to slow down. I get to spend time with you, hear about your lives and all that you're doing, I get to be a proud youth pastor.

Last year, after we went Go-Karting for our special Holiday Youth Group, we sat around the table eating burgers and drinking milkshakes. You were smiling and talking about school and Christmas and parents. You were happy just to be together. And it is one of my most cherished memories.

It is cherished because you were the perfect example of what the holidays were meant for. I have never in my life seen or led a youth group that loves one another as you do! And it is my favorite part of being your leader and spending time together.

As we enter this holiday season, I want to thank you for always reminding me what the holidays are about, for loving one another as you do, and for helping to center me in the midst of the crazy! You are my favorite part of the holidays.



As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.
 1 Peter 4:10



November 8 & 9	Global Market Lock-in
November 28	Thanksgiving
December 15	Photo Scavenger Hunt
December 20 & 21	Living Nativity
December 24	Christmas Eve
December 25	Christmas Day
December 31	New Years Eve



November 7	Serena Helton (12)
December 7	Christina Roberts (15)
December 7	Shane Roberts (15)
December 8	Annabelle Bartholowmew (14)
December 2	Gary Henderson

UPCOMING DATES

Global Market w/ Lock-in November 9th and 10th. The church is hosting the annual Global Market in the Fellowship Hall on the 9th starting at 9:00AM. For Youth this is our opportunity to sell our bookmarks and notecards to raise money for Montreat 2021! Funds are desperately needed for these two events so in anticipation we will be hosting a lock-in on Friday, November 8, starting at 4:00PM leading into the Global Market on November 9th. There will be no Youth Group on November 10th. Please sign up for the Lock-in by Friday, November 8 and be sure to bring \$10 for the corn maze!

No Youth Group on November 24th-Happy Thanksgiving!

On December 1st we will be tie-dyeing our new Youth T-shirts! Please remember to bring your new white, youth T-shirt (or any other white clothes you wish to dye) on this night. We'll have a number of different patterns that you can do!

On December 15th, we will have an extended Youth Group from 4:00-7:00PM. During this time we will be hosting a Christmas Themed Photo Scavenger Hunt before having dinner at Panera! Please look for the permission form at the end of November!

No Youth Group on December 22nd & 29th.

CHRISTMAS EVE

The 5:00PM Christmas Eve Service needs you!!! Every year, WPPC hosts a family oriented Christmas Eve service led by children and youth. For this service we need liturgists to read scripture, we need brave souls to volunteer to sing, and this year we would love for the Advent Candles to be lit by you, the Youth Disciples! If you would like to form a group of 3, 4, or 5 to help light the Advent wreath at the start of the service, if you'd like to read scripture, or sing, or play an instrument, please get in touch with Emily Wasser immediately to start planning!



It's time once more for T-shirts! Youth Disciples have their own T-shirts! We use them for group outings, mission mornings, and this time around, we use them to have fun. This year we will be ordering white youth disciples T-shirts. Why white? Because we intend to put our own spin on them this year at a tie-dye party! Using the order form, please order your T-shirts by November 13th and bring them on December 1st to our Tie-dye Party!

Confirmation Class

Reminder

The first Faith Interview is due in Confirmation Class on Sunday, December 15. Remember, two interviews are required over the year and only one interview can be done with a family member!

VOLUNTEER NEEDS

The Apopka Toy Drive Collection will be on Sunday, December 8 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 room 301 afterward.

Living Nativity Actors—bring friends! The dates for the 2019 Living Nativity are December 20th and 21st. 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. Please consider bringing a friend or two; we need all the help we can get! Please let Emily Wasser know the date and time you intend to arrive so she can keep track!

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 at the link below and help us keep our youth fed!

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

CONCERT NOTICE!!!!



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!