

YOUTH GROUP NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2023

Youth Ministry Summit

This past March, I was able to join over 100 people who work with teenagers in Ligonier, PA. It was the first training that I have been on in a long time. It was a fantastic week to be encouraged in things the Lord is doing in and through me and in the youth ministry at Trinity. It was also a week to think about where I can be leading our youth, leaders and parents better. There were three areas in which I was challenged to think and pray about changes in the youth ministry at Trinity.

I want to strengthen the connection between me, the youth ministry, and parents. I want to try to equip parents with resources to help them minister to their teenagers. I am not their primary influencer, but parents are. I want to pray for parents more regularly and help them know how they can connect with their teens and disciple them.

I want the leadership team that is involved in the lives of the teenagers to be connected better. We have wonderful people teaching and discipling the teenagers of Trinity.

The great thing about an awesome team is you trust each other and can let things go on cruise control. Over some chaotic years we got away from connecting with each other. I am thinking of ways in which I can pray for and encourage our adult leadership team and also give them the resources to connect with and disciple our teenagers.

I want to think through how we develop a student leadership team. One of the challenges of ministry is to treat all students who are following Christ as leaders, and not to form a smaller team as much as train all the students to lead. I am not sure what that will look like at Trinity but it starts with prayer and equipping our adults to encourage and challenge our students to lead.

Lastly, I am an old dog and I like the tricks I do. We made a lot of changes this year in youth group to freshen things up. I know there are other things that could change to provide a better environment for our youth to connect with each other, bring their friends and most importantly be challenged in what it means to follow Jesus with their lives.

I am not sure what all this will look like but I am excited because I know the Lord is at work in our church and in the youth ministry. I know He wanted me at this summit because I needed to be refreshed and to see new ministry opportunities from a different angle. Pray for the youth ministry and that God will continue to lead us and that we would follow Him.



APRIL EVENTS

- 14th TO 15TH - Men's Retreat - Friday night and all day Saturday. See Mike if you are interested in coming.
- 15th - Middle School Girls Brunch
 - 10am to 12 noon at Sarah Gridley's
- 22nd - Women's Welcome Bags
 - 9am to noon, snacks, pack bags
 - Deliver in pairs to Union Station.
- 29th - Dinner & Games with 50+
 - 5pm to 8pm - sign up - bring food

High School Youth Group

- 2nd, 16th, 23rd, 30th - 5:30-8 p.m.
- Dinner 5:30 to 6:00 p.m.
- 9th - no youth group - Easter

Middle School Youth Group

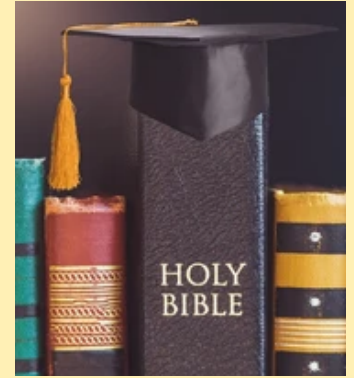
- 12th, 19th, 26th - 6:30-8 p.m. (5th - International Dinner 6 to 8pm)

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE CELEBRATION

MONDAY, MAY 8TH

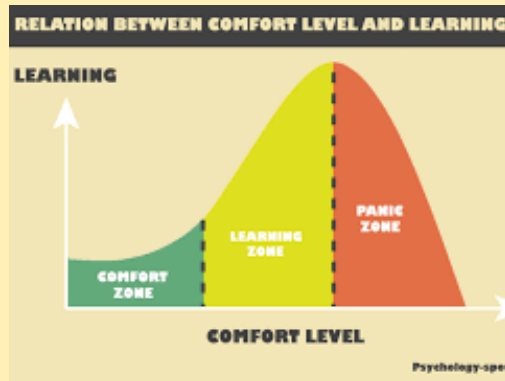
6 TO 9PM

DINNER, DESSERT &
PROGRAM
SIGN UP!



WHAT IS YOUR ZONE?

We love comfort. There is nothing wrong with us being comfortable. But too often we make an idol of comfort. We are unwilling to do things that push us out of that comfort zone. As you see in the chart, where does most growth happen? It happens not in the comfort zone, but in the learning, or better yet, the growth zone.



The challenge of ministry is finding our own way into the challenge zone and leading our people into that zone too without pushing them into the panic zone. The prayer of our youth ministry is that we as leaders would push out of our comfort zones and lead our students to do the same. As we all do that it will be exciting to see what God will do and how each leader, student and the church will grow.

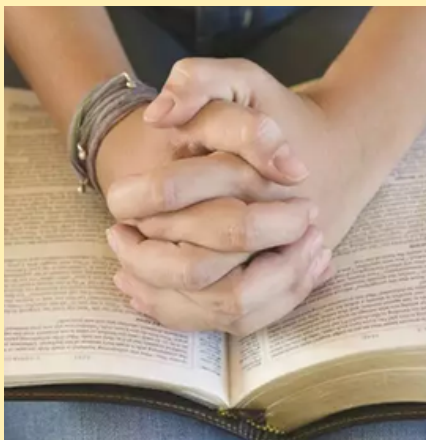
APRIL BIRTHDAYS

11 – Dante Reid
17 – Madeline Bassoff
17 – Joy Sonju
18 – Joseph Njunga
27 – Gina Wang



"Don't be defined by your past. It was a lesson. Not a life sentence."

Karen Salmansohn



PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL

1. PRAY THAT OUR STUDENTS WOULD HAVE A PASSION AND DESIRE TO READ THE BIBLE.
2. PRAY FOR THE PLAN FOR SUMMER YOUTH GROUP, THAT IT WOULD BE A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND BONDING.
3. PRAY FOR OUR SENIORS, THAT THEY WOULD TRUST THE LORD WITH THEIR FUTURES.
4. PRAY FOR THE EMPTY CHAIR – THAT A NEW STUDENT WOULD COME OUT TO YOUTH GROUP THIS MONTH.