

TRINITY YOUTH GROUP NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2025



DON'T BURY IT! DESTROY IT

Idols are hard to eliminate. When an idol in our life is revealed, we often bury it instead of rooting it out. We think by burying it, it is out of sight and we are good. The problem is that idol will appear in our lives somewhere, somehow. When you are weeding in your garden, if you just clip the top off the weed you have not dealt with it because it WILL come up again. You have to pull it up by the root, often having to dig deep to get all the parts of the root. Don't even leave a little piece. James tells us when we serve our idols, when we live like the world, that we are setting ourselves up as enemies of God. James says to the people in the church if this is them, that they are an adulterous people. Ouch! That is harsh. Yet that is the picture that James wishes to convey when our passions and desires are for the world instead of God. And what is the result of living this double minded life of worshipping God on one hand and serving idols on the other? We are told that we will fight, quarrel, covet and murder. Root the idol out. Repent of worldliness.

How do we destroy those idols in our lives. James 4 says we are to draw near to God, resist the devil, weep and mourn over your sin. We have to hate our sin and become more and more like Jesus. That is right, we are to ask God to sanctify us. We can only do this as we read our Bibles, pray, put ourselves in positions where we can learn and grow in our faith.

Dealing with idols is hard. John Calvin said our hearts are idol factories. Living in this world will provide us with all kinds of opportunities to serve this world and its idols. That is the battle we deal with in our flesh. But God does not leave us alone to fight this battle with our passions, but he promises to draw near to us and to exalt us as we submit to Him. What a promise. You don't fight this battle alone. Take it to Jesus in prayer.



DECEMBER CALENDAR

YOUTH GROUP

- **Sundays - 6pm to 8pm**
- **7th - Regular Gathering**
- **14th - Christmas Service Project Activity**
- **21st - Christmas Party**
- **NO YOUTH GROUP THE 28TH**

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER MEETING

DECEMBER 23RD - 7:00-8:00

Questions: E-mail Mike at mwolcott@trinityhbg.com or text at 717-379-7490



BREAKAWAY 2026

February 13 to 15

Theme: "No Other Gospel"

Blue Mountain Camp and Conference Center

\$110 by January 4th; \$135 by January 19th

Scholarship Money is available

This is a retreat of the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

9 - Grant Creason

10 - Sesuna Kidane

18 - Charlotte Coleman

23 - Leah Rudy

29 - Olivia Deitrick



PLEASE PRAY FOR



1. AS WE STUDY THE WORD IN YOUTH GROUP, THAT GOD WILL APPLY HIS WORD TO THE HEARTS OF OUR YOUTH AND ADULTS.
2. HOSPITALITY - WE WOULD WELCOME NEW PEOPLE AND THOSE WHO DON'T HAVE AS MANY CONNECTIONS.
3. SMALL GROUPS - IT IS A CHALLENGE FOR MANY OF OUR YOUTH TO OPEN UP FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS. PRAY WE WOULD ALL SEE HOW BEAUTIFUL IT IS WHEN WE SHARE OUR VICTORIES AS WELL AS OUR HURTS.
4. BREAKAWAY - PRAY FOR MANY OF OUR YOUTH TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR PRESBYTERY RETREAT
5. LEADERSHIP - PRAY FOR OUR ADULTS WHO DISCIPLE THE STUDENTS - FOR WISDOM IN LEADING AND GUIDING THEM.

- "Maybe Christmas," he thought, "doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas . . . perhaps . . . means a little bit more." The Grinch