

Dear Youth Ministry Family,

What a joy it has been to kick-off the school year with you! We know the beginning of the school year is filled with excitement, hope, trepidation...and it takes us all a minute to find a rhythm to the new schedule after the carefree days of summer. One of the things we pray you will consider putting into your regular schedule is Centenary United Methodist church! All that happens here is about *loving our youth on behalf of Jesus in hopes of loving them to Jesus* and in the greater whole of the church, *to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world*. We are simply not all that we can be if you aren't here with us growing in the likeness of Jesus. You belong here!

We want to share with you a "forecast" of what is coming up in Youth Ministry this month so that you can mark your calendar and plan to be with us as often as possible.

Here are some highlights:

- Wednesday night "Nourish" returns tonight, September 3rd. Join us each Wednesday evening at church for community dinner (in Memorial Auditorium, RSVP is required) at 5:15pm and bible study at 6:00pm on the 4th floor. This week, however, we will all have the chance to get to know our new Senior Minister, Willis Greene, in a 'rapid fire' question and answer time after dinner in the auditorium. Come with any question you may have for her! And then next week we will begin our study "Together, Community that Marked the Acts 2 Church". All youth are welcome!
- This Sunday, September 7th from 5:00pm-6:30pm plan to come to our brand new "Class Dinner" Night – a chance for each class to gather at someone's home to share dinner, connection, and an evening scripture focus. Our dream is that this will be a way to reconnect with your church friends in your class and remind you that you belong to each other.

WHERE'S MY CLASS MEETING THIS SUNDAY?

6TH GRADERS: The Clark's Home, 250 S. Pine Valley Rd #864-270-6600

7TH GRADERS: The Koufman's Home, 323 N. Stratford Rd #336-972-1042

8TH GRADERS: The Duda's Home, 3730 Winfield Bluff Ct #919-593-3931

9TH GRADERS: The Bonsall's Home, 2790 Acorn Ct #336-661-5053

10TH GRADERS: The Ward's Home, 444 Arbor Rd #336-782-0089

11TH GRADERS: The Holden's Home, 1011 Englewood Dr #336-575-0365

12TH GRADERS: The Cox's Home, 2417 Buena Vista Rd #336-408-3730

*****Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions to your classes host or to Kevin or Tammy! We are so thrilled to begin this new way of connecting you to one another!*****

- Niner-Niner is a ministry for the newest members of our Senior High Ministry...our fabulous Freshman! Join us one Saturday a quarter to step outside the norm and be together with your other freshman friends to reconnect, build community, and remember you are loved, seen, and heard. Our first Niner-Niner will be Saturday, September 13th from 4:15pm-7:30pm. The cost is \$35 for an incredible evening at Top Golf in Greensboro! Space is limited so make sure to reserve your spot here!

What is Niner-Niner? This pronunciation of "nine" is used in aviation and other contexts that rely on clear communication to minimize misinterpretations, especially when communication conditions are poor. Sometimes being a freshman can be overwhelming and confusing, so come be with us so we can clearly remind you who you are and whose you are. We want to be with you as you sort through the mixed messages the world is sending you and encourage you to keep practicing your faith.

- As always, all youth (6th-12th) are invited to come be with us at 10:00am in the Youth Commons EVERY SUNDAY morning. Together we will explore Jesus' life and ministry as seen through the eyes of Mark. We will discover how Jesus' life and ministry influences us as we seek to love God and love neighbor. As always, there will be plenty of coffee and breakfast treats to be had!
- Speaking of Sunday school...we have a ton of options for parents. Check out what's available to you here so that you can grow in your faith as well.
- Love Thy Neighbor is September 14th from 12:00pm – 2:00pm. We love our neighbors and know you will too! We hope you'll come serve our neighbors with a hot lunch, hospitality gift, BINGO, and our free medical clinic & pharmacy. There is a way for everyone to serve.
- Sixer's goes to Adventure Landing on Friday, September 17th from 6:00pm-8:00pm. The cost is \$20 per person, and registration is required. You can register [here](#). Our ministry to 6th graders is such a great way to get to know your church friends, go on an adventure, and see Jesus through this unique ministry.
- Join us for Youth Group on September 21st & 28th right here at Centenary on the 4th floor. What's youth group, you ask? Youth group is a chance for you to begin your week with food, fun, fellowship, intentional spiritual community, prayer, and nourishment for your souls so that you can go out into the rest of your week refreshed, renewed, seen, heard, and loved!
 - Here is our Sunday night schedule:
 - 5:00pm-6:30pm Middle school youth group (@middle school rm)
 - 6:15pm-6:45pm ALL YOUTH dinner (\$3 per person)
 - 6:45pm-8:00pm Senior High youth group (@senior high rm)
- We are inviting parents to read with us, part 2! Youth Ministry and Shining Light on Mental Health have partnered to read four important books to help us better understand our teenagers. The first book in the series is "The Five Love Languages of Teenagers" by Gary Chapman. Pick up a copy wherever you like to buy your books, read it as your leisure, and then join us on November 2nd at 10:00am in the Senior High room for coffee and conversation around the book.

Parents, Ways you can volunteer:

- Provide the meal for our ALL-youth dinner on September 21st or 28th. Such an easy way to show your love for our teenagers...feed them! You provide dinner and dessert, and we will take care of the rest!
- Be a table leader for Sunday school. Come be a part of the conversations we have on Sunday mornings during Sunday school.

- Be a volunteer on Sunday evenings at youth group. We always need more adults to be a part of our games, study, and conversations.
- Do you love basketball? We are always looking for help keeping score, coaching, washing our uniforms...if this sounds like something you want to do, let us know. Our Twin City Basketball season starts at the end of October.

We are so excited to have the chance to be with you all throughout the month of September in so many amazing ways! Like we said earlier, all we do is for YOU so that you may grow in your love for one another, grow in your faith, and grow in your understanding of God's great love for you. As always, if you have questions, concerns, or just need a listening ear, we are here to help you navigate all things Centenary Youth Ministry.

Be Here! Be You! Be Loved! Belong!

Tammy & Kevin