



SPRY CHURCH
STUDENT MINISTRIES
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Hello Students and Parents!

The first half of this school year has been very exciting for the student ministries at Spry Church! We have welcomed many new students into our ministry as well as a new youth leader, Alex Plowman. We value each student in our ministry and we are genuinely looking forward to being part of their continued growth in Jesus Christ.

As winter approaches we would like to make students and parents aware of some exciting news and upcoming changes for Spry Church's Student Ministries.

Our long awaited youth center is almost complete! For those of you who are not familiar with this project, we had a vision for a youth center in Spry, a safe place where teens could come for various activities including, weekly youth group, discipleship groups, homework help, drug and suicide intervention and prevention programs, bible and faith classes, and just good old hanging out. We wanted the teens of this community to have a place to call their own, a place where everyone is accepted and supported by a team of leaders who believe in them. Spry Church and our local community have worked very hard this past year on fundraising over \$100,000 to bring this vision to fruition. Parents, church members, and contractors have also volunteered their time to help transform the old Lions Club building (on School St across from the church) into a brand new youth center, complete with two new bathrooms, a small kitchen, and a large multipurpose room. Our project is almost complete and this winter our youth group will have a new location in our very own youth center.

In addition to having a new location this winter our youth group will also be taking on a new name, logo, and essentially a new identity. Our youth group will be called *Uprising* and we will be using a modified version of our Spry Church logo. This logo represents our love and passion for Jesus Christ, our excitement to share the gospel with others, a commitment to seeing God's justice, love and mercy in the world, and our call to stand for the Christian faith in the face of an increasingly secular and self-obsessed culture.

Our group size has grown significantly over the past year and continues to grow. We have been running between 30-40 teens weekly with about 50 teens in the group all together. We do not focus on numbers as they do not define a successful ministry, however, we feel very encouraged and excited to see God working through our ministry to bring more teens to Christ.

Therefore, as our group continues to grow we need to adapt and make appropriate changes to our format to best meet the needs of our students. After much prayer and discussion, our student

leadership team has decided that when our group moves to the new youth center we will also take on a new Sunday Night format that will split the worship and message time based on grade levels. This will allow us the opportunity to continue to grow and provide a setting through which we can tailor messages to our students with an age-appropriate focus. As we see a great deal of value in our older students and our younger students still having time to interact and build relationships we will stay together for large group games and social time.

The new format will go as follows:

- Grades 7 and 8 (Middle School) will meet Sunday night from 5:30pm-7:30pm.
- Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 (High School) will meet Sunday night from 6:30pm-8:30pm.
- 5:30pm-6:30pm grades 7 and 8 - Worship and Message.
- 6:30-7:30pm (overlap time) - Whole group (Middle and High School) games and social time.
- 7:30-8:30pm grades 9, 10, 11, and 12- Worship and Message.

We ask that students be dropped off and picked up according to the following times when we begin meeting at the youth center. Following these drop off/pick up times will help us smoothly transition the two separate groups in and out of lesson times. Please help us by arriving on time for both drop off and pick up.

Grades 7 and 8 (Middle School)
Drop off - 5:30pm
Pick up - 7:30pm

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 (High School)
Drop off - 6:30pm
Pick up - 8:30pm

In order to accommodate families with students in both Middle School and High School we will be offering small groups during the hours of 5:30-6:30 and 7:30-8:30 for students with siblings in the other classes.

*****PLEASE NOTE: These changes will not take place until the youth center is opened. We will contact you with a specific date as we get closer. In the meantime, youth group will still meet as normal from 6:30-8:30pm on Sunday Nights for students in grades 7-12.**

Please do contact us with any questions you may have about the upcoming changes. We will be happy to answer them. We are praying for you and your families. We thank you for the gift it is to serve along side of you!

Standing with you in Jesus!

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"He must become greater; I must become less" – John 3:30