

Hello Everyone,

I want to start this message off by giving great thanks to all that helped making our Advent Meal a success. I was very impressed by all of your hard work and helping me learn a lot of new “ways” around the kitchen. Coming together as a group allowed us to accomplish something great. We made almost \$900 dollars after expenses that will be used for our Youth Activities. I look forward to our future events serving our congregation. I really enjoy the fellowship when we come together and bring smiles to faces. We have some events below coming up this month and on a special note the youth group meeting day and time will be changing from Monday at 7pm to Sunday at 7pm. I am going to try a different day and time to see if that may work better for some. The past few weeks the attendance has been poor and I understand as most have very busy schedules.

Dec. 15 (Saturday) This is the cutoff for going to the Great Plains Conference Event in Salina, KS. I will need an upfront payment for each person attending of \$25. The registration, lodging, and transportation will be covered by our Youth Funds. am still looking for 1 female and 1 male adult to attend this event as chaperones. Joyce and I will be going as adults so far. For every adult that is registered the second adult registration is free. We will be leaving Friday night Jan. 4 from the church at 6:30pm We will be traveling as a group in a 15 passenger van. For more information on this event click the following link. <https://www.greatplainsumc.org/theoneevent> Below are the people I have confirmed are going.

Marc, Joyce, Ethan, Cameran, Becca, Shaylin, Justin, Eman, Noah, and Dylan. That is a total of 10. Let me know a.s.a.p. if you will go. I would really like two more adults to go as every second adult is free registration. This would help with chaperone duties.

Dec. 16 (Sunday 9:35am-10:35am & Sunday Night 7pm – 8pm) Sunday morning gathering in the youth room we will continue with a weekly challenge, a study from our Journey with God curriculum followed by a vlog recapping our material and the advent dinner. Sunday Night at Youth Group will be painting in the room with music playing from some of the artists that will be at the OneEvent. I will have treats and drinks for us to enjoy. We will also be writing some thank you cards for some special people who jumped in to help with our Advent Meal.

Dec. (No Date Set Yet) An evening or afternoon of a couple hours ringing the bells for the Salvation Army. This is for part of the Red Kettle Campaign. We will gather as a group to ring together. I will be making sure some cookies and hot chocolate are available. **Let me know some days/times this might work for you. I was thinking a weekend afternoon or evening.**

Dec. 22 (Saturday) 12pm -3pm This day we will be going to the Ronald McDonald House. The plan is that we would go around Noon and be done by 3 pm. The idea was brought up to meet somewhere for lunch then go to the house. Let me know if you will be attending or have any questions. This has been a good experience in the past. We have some gift bags to give. We will tour the area and visit. **Please confirm with me if you can or cannot go to this activity.**

Dec. 31 (Monday) This day is the deadline to change our registration numbers for the Youth Mission Trip to Benton Harbor, MI next June 16 - 21. I will be working this month to confirm who will be going. Youth and Adults numbers will be counted. I already have some who have committed to going. Awesome job for the youth already coming up with a T-shirt design for the trip!

Grace and peace,
Marc Welander
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