

What OP Youth Ministers Do

Our approach to ministry is based upon a deep and personal regard for the transformational power of the Holy Spirit. Our goal is to direct students and their families towards encountering our Maker, so they may build a dynamic and intimate relationship with God and his Word. Our prayer for students is that they yearn to sit quietly in His presence and that they want God's truth to be the loudest voice in their life. We pray that students will trust God and allow Jesus to be Lord of their lives. We accomplish this ministry through these tangible practices:

Spiritual Growth and Development of Teens

- Source, develop, and teach curriculum on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights that help students understand scripture and God's plan for their life.
- Plan and execute activities such as Bible studies, retreats, camps, and other spiritual experiences for students.

Community Building in OP Youth

- Create community among all students by promoting the development of meaningful relationships.
- Plan and execute gender specific events to cultivate gender specific community.
- Foster Middle School and High School specific communities through classes, small groups, and events throughout the year.
- Recruit adult leaders that seek to form intentional relationships with students for the purpose of mentorship, discipleship, and intergenerational connections.

Developing Servant Hearts in Students

- Plan and execute service opportunities, mission trips, and other experiences that provide training for students to draw others into the grace and truth of Christ by being his hands and feet to others. We believe that we experience God's ministry to us by doing ministry to others. We encourage families to gather with the church community and then to go participate in the redemptive work of heaven by serving their neighbors.

Pastoral Care and Relationship Building

- Form intentional relationships with students in the youth ministry. These relationships allow us to really know what is going on in the lives of the students and their families.
- Offer pastoral counseling for students that are looking for guidance and help with life's struggles.
- Provide resources for students and families that point to professionals and other useful tools to help navigate the struggles of adolescence.

Cultivate a Spirit of Joy in Students

- Plan and execute activities that allow students to have fun and experience joy in a safe environment.
- Create opportunities that are intentional about providing rest and play.

Teen Room Maintenance

- Keep teen wing clean, maintained, and hanging photos up to date.
- Set up and tear down for all weekly programs.

Participation in Church Programs and Leadership

- Serve alongside the whole church staff to plan and execute various church wide activities
- Create opportunities for youth to engage intergenerationally with the whole church and participate in church service