

FAQ's

Sunnybrook Christian Church
YouthGroup 9th-12th | Family Ministry Resource

1) How & Why do you transition students, rather than just having them “move up?”

One of the ways we have seen success with major grade changes is by intentionally transitioning students from ministry to ministry, rather than just “putting” them in a new group. By transition, we mean that there is gradual movement. This begins with having certain Wednesday nights where we combine the junior high with the high school for our programming. It also includes these specific upcoming events:

- 8th Grade Students visit High School Sunday School on May 5th
- We'd love to meet you and answer any questions on May 5th 8:30-9:15am in the Hub.
- Promotion Sunday - Move into High School Ministry on May 19th

2) What's the plan for Sunday mornings?

We have a class for 9th-12th graders that meets at 9:30 AM. As a reminder, we do not offer communion and offering during this time and it isn't intended to be a "worship service." This is a time for us to teach, train, and equip students in how to study, understand, live out, and communicate the truths of the Bible. One of our major goals during your child's high school years is to transition them into the larger adult service and begin to challenge them to use their spiritual gifts to serve on a regular basis. One of the ways we make this a gradual transition is by having our class attend and sit together during the 9:30 AM service on 4th Sundays for those who do not attend second service each week after Sunday school. During the 11:10 AM service that follows (on 4th Sundays), students are encouraged and equipped to serve in either the Treehouse, Elevate, or some other ministry within Sunnybrook.

3) I thought High School started in 10th Grade in Stillwater?

In the Stillwater schools, 9th graders are still at the Junior High building even though they are technically in high school academically. At Sunnybrook, we use the phrase “High School Ministry” or “YG” to group and minister to our 9th-12th grade students and their families.

4) What's different about High School programming from Junior High?

We believe high school is a critical stage as these students are about to leave home and head to college or the workforce. Therefore, our goal is to help them mature in faith and to live missionally. Through our ministry, we pray students will know they are new creations in Jesus who are made to serve the world for God's glory.

5) What major events do we need to plan for each year?

Fall Retreat: Every fall, we take students on a weekend getaway to focus their hearts on God, bond as a group, have some fun, and teach on a specific issue which needs to be addressed among our students. Recent topics have included comparative religions, spiritual formation, spiritual gifts, sex and dating, and biblical manhood and womanhood. The chosen topic for each year will be communicated prior to parents and students.

Spring Break on Mission: Every spring break, we take students on a mission trip in order to show them what it looks like to live missionally outside the context of their own community. Our goal is to help them see how they can use their time, gifts, money, and energy to tell people about Jesus through their words and actions in somewhere like inner-city Dallas or Central America. These trips are formative for students in their maturity and an essential piece of our discipleship process.

Cyokamo: Every June we take students to Alba, Missouri, to camp Cyokamo. The purpose of Cyokamo is to assist churches like us in leading students to faith and maturity in Jesus Christ. To fulfill their purpose, Cyokamo provides in-depth Bible teaching and preaching, an atmosphere of worship and celebration, interaction with solid Christian leaders, motivation to consider ministry as a vocation and a well-rounded environment of recreation and fellowship.

YouthQuake: YouthQuake is an incredible experience for students and adults at Sunnybrook that happens every July in Como, Colorado. This trip is intended to challenge us physically and spiritually outside our normal comfort zones as we connect with our Creator and engage with peers from other churches. YouthQuake is packed with awesome activities including white water rafting, camping, mountain hiking, daily devotionals, shopping, worship, life-changing messages, and other thrilling Colorado adventures.

6) What does Wednesday Night look like?

We believe it is vital for students to have mentors in the faith to train and guide them and for them to have a strong community of Christian brothers/sisters who can encourage and keep them accountable in their daily walk with Jesus. We facilitate these formative relationships through small groups that meet on Wednesday nights at 6:30 PM throughout the school year. During this time, we will regularly have fun, praise God through song, serve in the community and/or hear a sermon that will guide discussion for each small group.

7) How do you communicate?

For general reminders and announcements we text and email. We also use the website (www.sunnybrookcc.org) for event details, registration, and information. We use [facebook.com/sunnybrookyg](https://www.facebook.com/sunnybrookyg), Twitter (@sunnybrook_yg), and Instagram (@sunnybrook_yg) to post devotions, lesson summaries, give event updates, and post pictures and video from our events. If you have any questions or just want to talk, feel free to call us at the office (377.0923), Justin or Morgan's Cell (612.9887; 612.8805), or email: jebert@sunnybrookcc.org; mweece@sunnybrookcc.org.

8) What does our Student Leadership Team do?

All of our students have the opportunity to join our High School Leadership Team each fall. In doing this, they will participate in actively serving and leading within the High School Ministry, depending on their passions and gifts.

Some of the following are ways students serve on the leadership team:

- Outreach service projects (coordinate, plan, and lead service projects in the community)
- Welcome team (looks for visitors or students on their own to personally welcome and join them Sundays and Wednesdays)
- Card writing/follow up team (writes to those who are visitors, who have been missing, and birthdays)
- Prayer team (gathers to pray before church each Wednesday and periodically before church Sundays)
- 4th Sunday treehouse team (serve every 4th Sunday in birth-5's hallway)
- 4th Sunday Elevate team (lead the elementary service every 4th Sunday)