

# FORGE

STUDENT MINISTRY

## Parent Handbook

## OUR STAFF



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Hey there!

We are the new youth leadership team here at KFUMC, and wanted to introduce ourselves as well as clearly communicate with you some of our programs and goals that we have for your students. We also want to use this handbook as an overarching resource of what to expect from our middle school and high school student ministry.

We recognize that parenting teenagers is a difficult task, but as you well know, these middle school and high school years are some of the most formative times for your student. We want to help you in any way that we can, and more importantly, we want to see your students thrive, no matter where they are in their walk with Christ.

We also want you to know: we are here for you too. Of course this is a student ministry, but what we do cannot happen without your help and support. We want to continue a partnership with you in being another positive voice in your students' lives. No matter what your involvement or your student's involvement looks like, our goal is to serve the Lord by serving you.

## OUR PURPOSE

Our goals for the ministry of KFUMC are:

- **Share** the love of Jesus with our neighbors
- **Heighten** the worship of God - heart, soul, mind, and strength
- **Invite** people into a deeper relationship with God
- **Nurture** our children and youth
- **Excel** in loving one another - both inside and outside the church

As a student ministry at the church, we want to accomplish all of these goals, but we have the unique privilege of being able to help **Nurture** youth!

“Don’t let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity.” – 1 Timothy 4:12

**Forge** – (*n.*) A place or establishment where iron or other metals are wrought by heating and hammering; especially, a furnace, or a shop with its furnace, etc., where iron is heated and wrought

### MISSION

Forge Student Ministry exists to further the ministry of Kerrville First United Methodist Church by nurturing students in a Christ-centered community, empowering them to be refined by the Holy Spirit and molded by God to be used to further His Kingdom.

### VISION

Forge Student Ministry seeks to lead students into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ, equipping them to boldly live out their faith and giving them opportunities for fellowship, discipleship, and service.

## WEEKLY PROGRAMS

“Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.” – Hebrews 10:24-25

### Wednesday night youth

- 4:00 PM – Study hall/open gym
- 5:30 – Dinner
- 6:30 – Group game
- 7:00 – Worship

### Sunday school

- 9:30 – MS & HS Sunday School

### Small groups

## VOLUNTEERS

Interested in getting involved?

We're looking for adults to join our team in a variety of different roles:

1. **Weekly Programming** – Want to be part of one or more of our weekly programs? We are looking for people to help with Wednesday nights, Sunday school, and small groups on a weekly basis.
2. **Special Events** – This is the team that will help out with special events: lock-ins, game nights, nights out, retreats, summer camp, etc.
3. **Prayer Team** – It is our goal to send out prayer requests and student ministry happenings each month. We would love for you to come before the Lord with us to present our requests to Him!

## SAFETY GUIDELINES

In the past year, there has been a big update in our church's child safety policy, put out by the Rio Texas Conference that KFUMC is a part of. Some of these changes include:

### SafeGatherings

Our staff and certified volunteers go through an application, background checks, reference checks, and child safety training in order to protect our students and their families. As part of our church policy, a minimum of one adult per eight students that has gone through this process is required at each of our weekly programs as well as special events.

### Contact with Students

Guidelines that we follow in our contact with students:

- We will contact a parent or guardian before we make any individual contact with a student.
- Any time that students are present, a minimum of two adults are required.
- One on one interaction with students must happen in a public place.

### Mandatory Reporting

By Texas state law, all of our staff and volunteers are required to report any dangerous or potentially dangerous situation including:

- If a student is being harmed, abused, or neglected.
- If a student is harming or abusing someone else.
- If a student is harming or at risk of harming themselves.

## CONTACT

If you are looking to get involved, if you want to know more about our student ministry, or if you just want to talk with one of us, we want to be available to you!

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### **Social Media**

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook!

Instagram: @kfumcforge

Facebook: facebook.com/kfumcforge