

OUR VISION

We strive to walk alongside high school and middle school youth as they continue to discover who they are and who Jesus is calling them to be.



OUR YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES...

...is identity focused. We help youth discover who they are as beloved participants in God's kingdom of peace.

...is built on relationships. We strive to offer space and time where youth can grow in their relationship with God and cultivate Christ-centered relationships with peers and trusted adults.

...is empowering. The Holy Spirit works in our youth through their gifts and passions. They are called to leadership in the church and their local communities.

"We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us."

-1 Thessalonians 2:8

WESTMINSTER STAFF

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GET CONNECTED

Our ability to do ministry alongside our youth is only made possible by adults who are willing to invest their energy and time to see teenagers flourish in life and faith. We would love to partner alongside you that you might share your gifts with the youth and families of Westminster. If you're interested in serving Christ through helping us live into our vision to serve youth and their families, please contact Chris Clark.

We welcome volunteers to serve...

- Youth Vision Team
- Youth Group Leaders
- Sunday Morning Teachers
- Confirmation Small Group Leaders
- Retreat Leaders
- Event Coordinators
- Summer Trips
- Honduras Partnership



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IMAGO DEI YOUTH MINISTRY WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 2019-2020



SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP

5:30-7:30PM SUNDAY NIGHTS

Youth in grades 6-12 gather in high school and middle school groups for engaging conversation, fun community building, and spiritual growth.

THE YEAR OF EMPATHY

Did you know that since the 1960's researchers have been studying the trends of empathy? Over the years they've discovered that empathy is changing in how people put it into practice – particularly young people. Most of us are able to empathize with those we consider to be on our "team" or in our "tribe". But when it comes to those on the "other team", well that's almost taboo. This ability, which is meant to help us connect to our fellow human beings, is oddly practiced in a restrictive way rather than a liberating way. Jesus seemed to be consistently trying to expand peoples' empathy toward those considered "others" or even those considered "enemies".

This summer as we were dreaming of what Sunday nights would look like, we thought, "What if we just spent an entire year on empathy?" Why not spend an entire year learning about empathy, listening to stories, and putting it into practice? Why not spend a year practicing something that is beneficial to opening up our imaginations and helping us live more radically compassionate lives that look more like what Jesus envisioned for the world?

So if you've read this far, you can probably guess that *this year* at Youth Group will be *The Year of Empathy!* You can think of Youth Group as a sort of "empathy lab" where we'll be doing all the fun stuff we normally do (snacks, games, hangout) and engaging in conversations around how we define empathy, hearing stories from people and engaging stories in Scripture, and finding all kinds of ways to put empathy into action. We know spending a whole year on one topic sounds a bit...boring – we promise we're committed to keeping it fresh, fun and engaging! 😊

SUNDAY MORNING

MIDDLE SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:45AM SUNDAYS IN THE SITE (ROOM 414-415)

Middle school youth gather to explore stories of characters in the Bible and explore where God can be found in their own stories as teenagers.

THE THREAD

9:45AM SUNDAYS IN THE COVE (ROOM 407-408)

High school youth gather for conversations centered around faith and how Jesus' call to love God and love their neighbor might influence their thought and action regarding current events in our local community and beyond.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

YOUTH LITURGISTS

Interested in helping lead worship on Sunday mornings? Youth help lead liturgy on the fourth Sunday of every month.

EVENING WORSHIP

5:30-7:30PM OCTOBER 6, 13, 20, 27, NOVEMBER 3 & 10

From Oct. 6 through Nov. 10 we will gather for a meal, worship and hangout time in The Cove each Sunday evening.

CREDO CONFIRMATION

Youth in 8th – 12th grade who have not been confirmed in the church spend nine months in small groups to learn more about the Christian faith. Through small group conversations and hands on service, youth will develop their understanding of what it means to follow Jesus into the world. Register on the church website by September 1.

SERVE & OUTREACH

BRIDGE ACADEMY

6:15-8PM, 4TH TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

Youth in grades 6-12 help lead a homework club for elementary school kids through games, snacks, music, and more.

RISE AGAINST HUNGER

OCTOBER 13 (DURING MORNING WORSHIP)

Come help out during the morning to help pack food bags which will be sent out to help end hunger in communities around the world.

TREE PLANTING

9AM-12PM OCTOBER 19

Come join us to plant trees at Pocopson Park as a way to care for creation. Bring work gloves and a shovel - we'll meet at the park.

WEEKEND RETREATS

MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT

OCTOBER 4-6

Held in Honey Brook, PA where youth spend time worshipping together, having lots of fun outside, and growing in relationship with one another. Open to youth in grades 6-8.

REALITY RETREAT

NOVEMBER 8-10

Hosted by the Presbytery of Donegal, this weekend brings churches from PA to retreat in Northeast, MD. Open to youth in grades 9-12.

HAVING FUN

IMAGO-ATHLON

4:30-7:30PM SEPTEMBER 8

We are kicking off the year with a water balloon triathlon! Be ready to get wet as teams will compete in 3 major events. The evening begins with dinner and ends with s'mores around the camp fire.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

5-8PM DECEMBER 15

Come for a holly jolly time together, hilarious Christmas themed games, and a classic holiday movie.

STAR WARS: RISE OF SKYWALKER

DECEMBER 20

Join us for the next movie in the epic Star Wars saga! Invite a friend to spend an evening in a galaxy far, far away.

MID-WINTER WEEKEND

JANUARY 24-25

There will be middle school and high school events this weekend for students to have some fun after a long first school semester. Come hang out for some much needed mid-winter fun!

YOUTH CHOIR

CHOIR

6:30-7:30PM 1ST WEDNESDAYS & 10:30AM ON THE 2ND & 4TH SUNDAYS

The Youth Choir is open to all youth in 6th-12th grade, sings once a month at the 9:45am service and takes part in special services throughout the year.

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAM COAT

7:30PM MAY 2 & 4PM MAY 3

Support our 6th - 12th graders as they present this beloved Broadway musical, Joseph and the Technicolor Dream Coat by Andrew Lloyd Weber and Tim Rice. This full staged, costumed musical with orchestra is based on the story of Joseph from the Bible's Book of Genesis.

