



UNIVERSITY CHURCH OF
CHRIST YOUTH GROUP

UYG Parents' Newsletter

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Exciting Bits of Info

- Please thank **Wes Walstrom** and **Jay-ar Miclat** for picking up an extra load this summer and helping teach classes so that some of our other teachers could take the summer off!
- UYG Family Dinners are every Wed. Night beginning at 6:30 before class starts at 7:00.
- Congratulations to **Nathan Amerman**, **Todd Latham**, **Eric Bennett**, and **Jacob Perez** for their decisions to get baptized this summer!

4th Annual UYG Car Wash Day

For the 4th year in a row, the UYG will be holding a Car Wash day in the parking lot at the church building on Saturday, September 19th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This event is always



a lot of fun for the teens, but more importantly, it is a GREAT way for them to reach out to our neighbors and let them know that we want to share God's love with them.

We will again be offering these car washes for FREE, along with oil changes and other routine car maintenance needs. Because many people who come through

that day will not leave without giving us a donation, we will have a bucket out for that, but this event is NOT A FUNDRAISER. It is an opportunity for our Church Family to reach out to our neighborhood and do something beneficial for them.

There are many ways that you and your family can help out that day. We will need lots and lots of volunteers, so if you can be here that day, plan to be! We will also need lots of supplies like sponges, buckets, wash rags, squeegees, chamois, hoses,



We'll be doing Car Washes AND Oil Changes FOR FREE!



We will also need to feed the people that bring their cars to get washed!

power washers, LOTS of soap, cones, canopies, more sponges, and more soap! And we'll need supplies for the food that we'll be cooking out: burgers, hot dogs, buns, condiments, cheese, soda, water bottles, individual bags of chips, and cookies. If you can help with any of these things, please see Dennis Whyte, or sign up on the sheet outside of Josh's office. Tell your neighbors, co-workers, friends, and family to come out that day, as well!

Servant Action Leadership Team

That's what SALT stands for, and each year we have 10-12 UYG teens that want to be a part of this team. It really is for any UYG teen that wants to step up and help lead the UYG for the year - High Schooler or Middle Schooler, girl or guy, new leader or experienced leader. The team meets once a month to talk about biblical characteristics of

being a leader, to talk about things going on in the UYG that need their attention, and to pray for all the members of the UYG. The SALT teens have a lot of input into the activities and the lessons that the UYG



does during the year, and are given the opportunity to lead some of those events.

If your teen is interested in applying for SALT, have them pick up an application from outside Josh's office, and turn it in by Sept. 9th.

Summer Intern Report



Dear UYG Family,
 I just wanted to thank you so much for this summer! I loved getting to know each of you as a family and individually. God moved in pretty big ways, and you guys definitely impacted my life. I appreciate how open and loving you were to me, even from the very beginning of the summer. I hope to see all of you again soon. Thank you for everything! I love you all!



In Him,
 Nicole (the Intern)

The UYG was really blessed to have a great Intern work with us this past summer! Nicole Guillo did a great job teaching in the Middle



have an intern, we will again be needing donations from the UYG families to help fund

School class and leading our girls through their Chik Chat discussions each week. And she was a great help at Kadesh, Camp Cornerstone, and on the Mission Trip. Please thank God for sending her to us!

this position. We would like to have the **commitments** towards that money in by **Nov. 1st**, and the **money** itself in by **Dec. 13th**. On average, we will need around **\$125** from each UYG family. Please talk with your family and decide what your family can help with financially toward this need.

As we begin to look at next summer and the opportunity to

UYG Classes



We always have some great class topics going on in the UYG, and we are excited to see what God does with these lessons and how He works in the discussions in each class.

For the next few months on Sunday mornings, both the Middle School class and the High School class will be studying about what it means to live in a "covenant community"

with our Christian brothers and sisters by looking at some Old Testament leaders, Jesus' teachings, and examples from the New Testament church. The teachers rotating through those classes will be Don Fleer, Jay-ar Miclat, Wes Walstrom, Dennis Whyte, and Josh.

On Wednesday nights, we will have a combination of Praise Nights and service nights in

September. Beginning in October, we will start a series about the Names of God, and the Names He Calls Us. It should be really neat to look at how those names tell us things about ourselves, our God, and the relationship we have with Him. We will wrap that series up right in time for Christmas. Make plans for your teens to be with us in class each week!

Fall Festival



On Wednesday Night, Oct. 28th, our church will host a Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat here at the church building starting at 6:30. This is a great way for us to fellowship together as a family, but also a chance to invite lots of friends to join us.

Different ministry groups will

be handling different parts of the night. If you would like to volunteer your ministry group, let Josh know! The UYG will take care of the Trunk or Treating during the night. That means we will need several families to decorate their cars, and teens to be there to pass out candy. Plan to be there!



Volunteers & Sign-Up Sheets

I get to brag about the UYG pretty often, and one of the biggest things I brag about is how many parents and other adults we have involved in this ministry. We have families hosting JAM Sessions in their house, parents coming to Fun Nights, volunteers coming on retreats with us, teaching class, and even playing in the dark with us! We have adults who don't even have teenagers helping teach our classes on Sunday mornings, and we have adults in our church family being Prayer Pals and Mentors for our teens



throughout the school year! In a recent article (Christian Chronicle - Editorial, April 2009), it was said that one of the biggest things teens need to help encourage them to keep their faith strong after they graduate High School is to have adults involved in their lives who pray for them and that will be someone the teen can come talk to, other than the Youth Minister. I am so thankful that we have



that kind of involvement from the adults in the UYG! When you sign up to come help out with an activity, you are not signing up to just help in the kitchen, or just be a driver. You are signing up to hang out with the teens and get to know them on a deeper level. You are signing up to be available to them when they are in need

and to be someone that cares about them. I truly believe that is one of the biggest things that makes the UYG such a great group to be a part of! So take a look at your calendars and decide which activities you can help out with this fall. The sign up sheets are posted right outside my door, so sign up!



UYG Retreat - November 6th-8th

Why go on a retreat? When Jesus wanted to invest in people, He often took them on a retreat, out of their routine, and away from distractions. We all need time to refocus our lives on what's important. And what's more important in your lives and in the lives of your students



than spending time in God's Word, worshipping Him, deepening your relationship with Him and your brothers and sisters in Christ? A retreat is a place where all of this happens and more! It's a weekend set aside for God to move and work in a setting

specifically created to prepare your students' hearts to hear Him speak! The UYG Retreat will be the weekend of November 6th-8th and will be held at Covenant Heights up in Estes Park. More details will be announced in class and mailed out soon, but make sure that your teen has this weekend marked on their calendar so they don't miss it! Don't let work, schoolwork, or anything else get in the way!



The UYG always has a great time on our retreats, so don't miss this one in November!

One-on-One Time

The UYG is awesome! We have 36 teens on our roster, with another 5 or 6 teens that regularly visit with us (and that we pretty much consider part of our group!) We have 25 High Schoolers and 11 Middle Schoolers; 18 girls and 18 guys. The UYG involves 27 families, and includes right at 100 people, when you count parents and siblings. That is just about 1/3 of our church family! I love the UYG!

The UYG is a great group, and it is great as a whole...but its even better when you get to know the teens on a one-on-one level. We



have athletes, singers, dancers, actors, Honors students, scouts, missionaries, science geeks, Future Farmers of America, artists, and musicians.

Over the next few months, before the end of the year, I've made it a goal to spend some one-on-one time with each one of our UYG teens - just a simple "hang out" time after school, or meeting them for lunch, or whatever we can

schedule. For some, this will be a checkup on how their relationship with God is, for others, it will just be a "get to know you better" time. But I think it will be a great thing that will help me know more of the needs that our UYG teens have, and how I can best lead them closer to a relationship with Christ. Be watching your mailbox for a letter about scheduling these one-on-one times with your teen.



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Dear UYG Parent,

Praise the Lord...what a great summer we had with the UYG! There were so many blessings that came from the lessons that we had, the activities we did, the trips we went on, and the relationships that were built up this summer. Please take some time today to thank God for all of those things that made the UYG Summer so great this year!

And while we're talking about summer, let me go ahead and give you some dates that you need to know about: Kadesh 2010 is June 20th-26th; Camp Cornerstone 2010 is June 27th-July 2nd, and

our Mission Trip will happen some time during the span of July 19th-August 6th. I will get more exact dates to you as quick as I can, but go ahead and "pencil in" those dates for now. And as you can see with Kadesh & Camp Cornerstone being back-to-back weeks, we are going to need some help with travel arrangements getting kids home from Abilene and from home to Edmond all on the same day. Again, I will let you know our plans as soon as I can.

This is the last Parent Newsletter that I will be writing as a "non-parent"! Shiloh and I have been so blessed to be a part of the

University Church and the UYG for the past 5 1/2 years or so, and we cannot thank you enough for the support and care you have given us during this time as we've been anticipating the arrival of our daughter. We cannot wait for her to get here, and we know that you will continue to love & care for our family. So thank you!

And as always, thank you for the opportunity to work alongside you in the lives of your family & your teens!

Get Real & Live It!

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Pictures are worth how many words?

