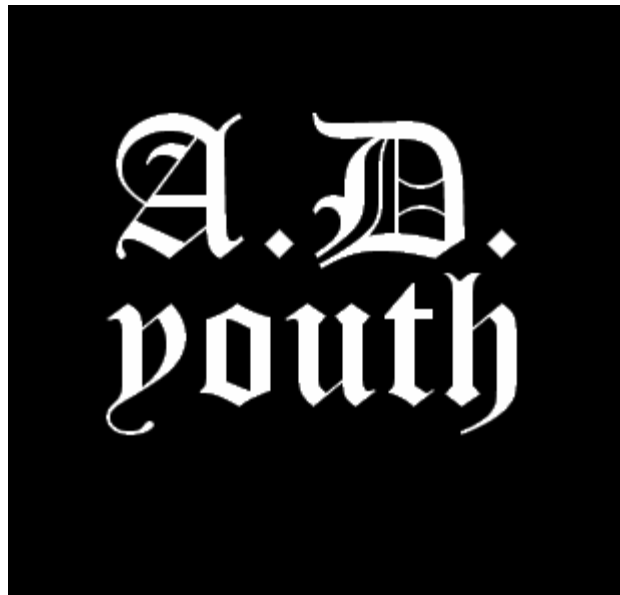


A.D. Student Ministries
Of
Faith Evangelical Free Church



2010-2011
Student/Parent
Handbook

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Dear A.D. Youth and Parents,

Welcome to youth group! The staff and students are excited to have you join us in this crazy thing we call life.

Here at A.D. Youth, we're pursuing to live our lives how they're meant to be lived. And while that may include loads of pepsi, paintball, and pizza, the most important ingredient is Jesus Christ. We've come to realize that if something isn't worth dying for, then it isn't worth living for. With this in mind, we've decided to work together to live lives that glorify God in every way. Lives that seek to honor Him above all else – even ourselves.

If I could give you one piece of advice as you begin to make new friendships and learn some crazy games, youth group is what you make of it. Like anything else, what you put in is what you will get back. I hope that you'll ignore any doubts or pride and get to know the students, staff, and programs that can help you in *your* crazy thing called life.

I pray that you will take hold of every advantage A.D. Youth has to offer and equip yourself for a life devoted to God.

By God's grace,

Pastor Matt
Youth Pastor

Programs

A.D. Youth Group

Sundays from 6:00-7:30pm.

Youth Center opens from 5:30-6:00pm and 7:30-8:00pm

Faith4Life Small Groups

Thursdays from 6:30-8:00pm

Youth Center opens from 6:00-6:30pm and closes at 8pm

Faith4Life runs each spring and fall semester for approximately 12 weeks each

30 Hour Famine

A two-day, one night event in April

Fundraiser for starving children globally

Summer Events

Calendar issued each spring

Bible Quizzing

Contact Vince Rossignol for more information.

Teachers/Volunteers

The youth workers labor hard to provide a quality program for our teens each week, many giving hours each week in preparation and prayer. They are the backbone of this ministry.

Matt Ouellette	email: pm@fefchurch.org	phone: 873.0343
Melissa Ouellette	email: mattynmelissa@yahoo.com	phone: 712.5931
Julie Rowe	email: ljrowe2@fairpoint.net	phone: 649.0609
Katrina Richards	email: mbfponies@yahoo.com	phone: 692.2323
Larry Rowe	email: ljrowe2@fairpoint.net	phone: 923.3361
Jay Sproul	email: jay@lgtees.com	phone: 872.5180
Frank Johnson	email: halfdzjohnsons@myfairpoint.net	phone: 861.0106
Janet Johnson	email: punkinpatch6@gmail.com	phone: 861.0106
Ryan Redman	email: ryan.redman@gmail.com	phone: 692.0289
Vince Rossignol	email: vincer@risin.com	phone: 313.6567
Zach Rossignol	email: christian_4_life_07@yahoo.com	phone: 649.1879
Robertā Doe	email: rdoe7@roadrunner.com	phone: 923.3055

Purpose Statement and Philosophy

The purpose of the youth ministry here at Faith EFC is five-fold, and each of our programs or events is designed to meet at least one or more of these five purposes: grace, growth, groups, gifts, and good stewardship. The youth ministry exists to see all teens grow in each of these five areas.

G-Force:

Taking your relationship with God to a New Level

1. Grace – Where students move beyond religious rules and regulations, and learn how to live in God's grace and share this growth with their friends.

1 John 2:6

Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Christ did.

Colossians 3:17

Whatever you do or say, let it be as a representative of the Lord Jesus.

Ephesians 2:8-10

God saved you by His special favor [grace] when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus.

2. Growth – Where students discover that spiritual practices can bring them closer to the heart of God.

1 Corinthians 9:25-27

All athletes practice strict self-control. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. So I run straight to the goal with purpose in every step. I am not like a boxer who misses his punches. I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should. Otherwise, I fear that after preaching to others I myself might be disqualified.

Romans 12:2

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will know what God wants you to do, and you will know how good and pleasing and perfect his will really is.

3. Groups – Where students understand the importance of experiencing authentic community. Where they can learn what it means to know and be known – to have real friendships throughout their lives.

Philippians 2:1-4

Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and sympathetic? Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one heart and purpose. Don't be selfish; don't live to make a good impression on others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourself. Don't think only about your own affairs, but be interested in others, too, and what they are doing.

Ephesians 4:16

Under his direction, the whole body is fitted together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

4. Gifts – Where students can discover their spiritual gifts and learn how to dedicate them to serving God, and watch how God uses their gifts to impact the world.

1 Corinthians 1:7

Now you have every spiritual gift you need as you eagerly wait for the return of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Timothy 1:6

This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you.

5. Good Stewardship – Where students learn how to trust God with all of their resources and talents and discover what it means to live with freedom and generosity.

Proverbs 3:9

Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything your land produces.

Acts 20:35

And I have been a constant example of how you can help the poor by working hard. You should remember the words of the Lord Jesus: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

Parents

Role of Parents

We believe that the parents are designed by God to be the primary spiritual caregivers in a teen's life. The role of the Youth Pastor and the youth ministry is to come along side parents by providing another Godly influence in a teen's life, to encourage the teen to follow the parents' leadership, and encourage parents in their efforts to raise their teenagers. Parents can partner with us by making sure that your teens attend youth group as much as possible since we cannot have an influence on teens that we have little contact with.

Parental Training

Each year we make an effort to provide profitable training for parents with teenagers. In the past, Phil Chalmers presented the dangers of today's youth culture and Josh McDowell explained the parent's role in their teen's spiritual growth.

Support Services

Stats and links on this present generation	www.battlecry.com
From suicide to media guides	www.philchalmers.com
Video game reviews	www.almenconi.com
Guides to entertainment	www.pluggedinonline.com
Movie and DVD reviews	www.screenit.com
Pornography filters and accountability programs	www.xxxchurch.com
Lyrics of nearly all songs	www.azlyrics.com
Insight on youth culture	www.cpyu.org
Excellent parenting website by Jim Burns	www.homeward.com
Great tips and articles for parenting	www.understandingyourteenager.com
Helping in faith formation by Josh McDowell	www.beyondbelief.com
Christian residential counseling	www.thefoldinc.org
Positive Christian music	www.interlinc-online.com
Lighthouse of Health Care Solutions	866.890.2273
American Foundation of Suicide Prevention	888.333.2377
Teen Challenge Substance Abuse	800.814.5729
National Eating Disorders Organization	918.481.4044

Youth Staff Policies and Procedures

In order to ensure the safety and well-being of the youth of Faith EFC, all those desiring to become a youth worker must be at least 18 yrs old and do the following.

1. Fill out the Youth Staff/Volunteer Application
2. Submit to a background check **See below**
3. Submit references (3)
4. After the first three objectives are complete and satisfactory, the applicant will meet with the youth pastor to discuss any questions.
5. After the first four objectives are complete, the applicant will be invited to youth group for two weeks.
6. Lastly, another meeting will be scheduled with the youth pastor to see where the applicant would like to work.

**Please note: In the event the applicant fails the background check, some flexibility MAY be given, BUT zero tolerance will remain for any sort of sexual/physical abuse or assault.

Trip Chaperoning Procedures

1. Groups will be no larger than 6 teens to 1 adult of the same gender.
2. Students will be paired with a "buddy" for added security.
3. Before a vehicle leaves a stop, the leader will give a role call and mark an attendance sheet.
4. Wristbands will be given to each attendee with the youth group's cell number in the event the group gets separated.
5. Chaperones will meet and go over the expectations and rules before the event.
6. One leader on the trip will not attend to a group of students, but monitor all previously stated security measures.

Youth Center Guidelines

1. You may use what you wish with this in mind: if you break it, you repair/replace it.
2. No one is to touch any sound equipment either at the booth or on stage unless they are performing with authorization.
3. No one is to put the video screen up or down.
4. No one is to be in or near the baptismal tank.
5. No one is allowed in the kitchen without permission.
6. Couches are to be sat on, not jumped on.
7. No one is to leave the Youth Center during an event without permission.
8. No one is to leave the Youth Center parameters during an event without permission.
9. Parents are entirely responsible for their children's transportation.

Attendance

Attendance will be taken at each youth event and stored in the youth pastor's office. All first time visitors fill out a visitor card and will be followed up by a post card or a phone call.

Conduct

Expectations:

1. Please try to attend all events on time.
2. Respect the authority of the adults in charge.
3. Respect the church's property and that of others.
4. Avoid violence at all costs. Report all fighting to the staff.
5. Be considerate by controlling offensive language and socially unacceptable behavior.
6. Respect personal boundaries of individuals.
7. Smoking is prohibited on the church grounds.
8. All cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off during all events when requested by a leader.
Ex: ipods, mp3 players, psps,

Dress Code

Modesty is the name of the game! Immodest apparel is inappropriate for believers. Please make sure your clothing is modest in appearance (no bellies, no butts, no cleavage and no underwear showing).

Behavior Contracts

In the event behavior is consistently unacceptable, a behavior contract will be written with the behavior and consequences expected if it continues. This contract will be signed by the staff, student, and parents.

Discipline

If after warnings, calls home, and behavior contracts, behavior is still undesirable, a meeting will be called with youth staff, youth pastor, student, and parents to discuss the suspension from youth group for a minimum of two weeks.

***** Anytime a teen is disciplined parents will be informed. *****

Driving/Parking

Parking Lot

1. Please obey the 10 mph speed limit in the parking lot.
2. Be mindful of other vehicles, businesses, and students using the space.
3. Please park in the designated parking spaces.
4. Students are not allowed to leave the youth center to go to their car without permission.
5. If driving inappropriately, the student will be asked to leave the premises.

Drop-off and Pick-up

1. Students should arrive no earlier than the designated time allotted.
2. Pick-up should be prompt at the designated time.
3. Upon arrival, students must first enter the youth center and sign in.
4. Students who drive and must leave early must make prior arrangements informing the youth pastor.

Medical

Emergency and Illness Form

All students are encouraged to provide an updated Emergency and Illness Information Form to keep on file at the church in case of emergency. This form is good until they reach the age of 18. It is the parents/student's responsibility to update the form when changes arise.

Medications

Students must report any use of medications during youth activities to the adult staff. No student is to distribute medication to another student. All medications must be in its original container and clearly labeled. The medication will be self-administered by the student under appropriate supervision.

Event Cancellations

In the event of inclement weather, cancellations will be posted on the church's voicemail. Just call 873.0343 and listen to the instructions.

Fundraising

1. All fundraising must go through the youth pastor and fundraising committee.
2. No raffles or anything resembling gambling is allowed.
3. Bottle drives are registered with each local town office.
4. No outside fundraising is allowed.

General Information

Telephones/Electronics

1. Cell phones and all electronic devices must be turned OFF during each event when requested by a leader.
2. Electronic music devices are strongly encouraged to be left at home.
3. No secular music may be listened to on the property, during events, or trips.

Dating Relationships

Wherever you have teens, you will have dating. Dating is to be seen as a healthy sign of the maturing process of a teenager. Couples who are dating should conduct themselves in a Christ-like manner.

1. Couples are encouraged not to be couples during youth events.
2. No one is to be touching, lying on, sitting on, kissing, holding hands, or off alone.

Food Services and Sales

From time to time food is sold at events. All proceeds go to the youth fund.

Communication

Students and parents can be aware of events and info through the following channels:

1. Church website at www.fefchurch.org by clicking the A.D. Youth icon
2. Sunday morning announcements
3. Faith Connection
4. Information table in the youth center
5. Attendance at parents meetings
6. Facebook: ADyouth