

St. John Youth Ministry 2024-2025!

This is a tentative summer 2024 draft. Everything is up for change.

August

- Aug. 4 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Back to School Supply Drives
Vivian at Back Bay Mission Camp
Aug 4-10
- Aug. 11 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost with communion
Parent Meeting, 12 PM
- Sat. Aug. 17 Back to School Retreat, 10 AM
- Aug. 18 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
School year blessing in worship
Pool Party (I think?)
- Aug. 25 Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Potluck after church
Younger Adult Fellowship?

September

- Sept 1 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Youth Lesson after church, 12.
God our Creator: Source of Life
Worship help training
- Sept 8 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost with communion
Gospel Café?
- Wed. Sept 11 Wednesday Night Bible Studies Begin, 5:30 PM
- Sept. 15 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
- Sept. 29 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October

- Oct. 6 World Communion Sunday
Youth Lesson after church, 12.
Christ our Redeemer: Word of God
Youth select council liaison
CROP Hunger Walk Preparation

- Oct. 13 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
- Oct. 20 Twenty first Sunday after Pentecost
Fall Church Business Meeting, 12
Reformation Day/Halloween Party?
- Oct. 27 Reformation Sunday, Church Anniversary
Catered Lunch, 12.

November

- Nov. 3 Totenfest Sunday
Time Change Sunday
Youth Lesson after church, 12. *the Holy Spirit: The Wind of God*
- Nov. 10 Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost with Communion
CROP Hunger Walk 5K, 3 PM.
- Nov. 17 Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
- Nov. 24 Reign of Christ Sunday
Community Thanksgiving Service, 6 PM.

December

- Dec. 1 First Sunday of Advent
Youth Lesson after church, 12.
The Church: Christ's Body on Earth
- Dec. 8 Second Sunday of Advent with Communion
Christmas Party
- Dec. 15 Third Sunday of Advent
- Dec. 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent
- Wed. Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Service, 5 PM.
- Dec. 29 First Sunday after Christmas

January

- Jan. 5 **Epiphany Sunday**
- Jan. 12 **Baptism of Christ Sunday**
Installation of 2025 Officers
Youth Lesson after church, 12.
A Crash Course in Church History
- Jan. 19 **Second Sunday after Epiphany with Communion**
- Mon. Jan. 20 **MLK Jr. Day March**
- Jan. 26 **Third Sunday after Epiphany**
Spring Church Business Meeting

February

- Feb. 2 **Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**
Youth Lesson after church, 12.
God's Gifts to Us, and How we Use Them
- Feb. 9 **Fifth Sunday after Epiphany with Communion**
Mission Waco, Urban REAP?
- Feb. 16 **Sixth Sunday after Epiphany**
- Feb. 23 **Seventh Sunday after Epiphany**

March

- Mar. 2 **Transfiguration Sunday**
Youth Lesson after church, 12.
World Religions and Faiths: Playing Well with Others
- Tue. Mar. 4 **Pancake Supper**, 6 PM
- Wed. Mar. 5 **Ash Wednesday Service**, 6 PM
Help impose ashes with Rev. Jacob.
- Sat. Mar. 8 **Conversation with Congregation Beth Shalom**
- Mar. 9 **First Sunday in Lent with Communion**
Time Change Sunday

Planning on a Spring Break Mission Trip

- Mar. 16 **Second Sunday in Lent**
- Mar. 23 **Third Sunday in Lent**
- Mar. 30 **Fourth Sunday in Lent**

April

- April 6 **Fifth Sunday in Lent**
Youth Lesson after church, 12.
Church Membership: What it Means to be in the Church
- April 13 **Palm Sunday**
A Conversation with a UCC Global Missionary

Thur. April 17 **Maundy Thursday Service**, 6

Fri. April 18 **Good Friday Service**, 6 PM

April 20 **Easter Sunday with Communion**
Community Service before Church, 7 AM

April 27 **Second Sunday of Easter**

May

May 4 **Third Sunday of Easter**
Youth Camp Fundraiser Lunch

May 11 **Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Sat. May 17 **End of School Retreat, 10 AM**

May 18 **Fifth Sunday of Easter**

May 25 **Confirmation/Youth Sunday**
Reception to Follow
End of School Party

St. John Youth 2024-2025

What's in store for this school year?

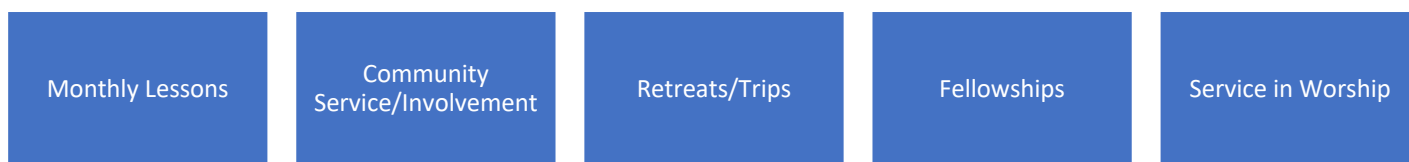
I am grateful that we have had 2 wonderful years of youth ministry so far. This ministry is integral to the future of our church and the formation of teenagers in our area to know that they are created by a loving God and called to faithful service of our neighbors wherever they may go.

This year of youth ministry will be very different from the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years. I am attempting to concurrently run a confirmation program *within* a broader youth ministry. This means that all 7 (or hopefully more!) of our youth members will be learning, or re-learning the confirmation curriculum together. So what does that mean?

- *For our (two) confirmands*, they will be learning the basic contours of Christian theology for the first time. The subjects covered will include: prayer, the Bible, worship, God the Creator, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Church, Church history and heritage, spiritual gifts, world religions, and the joys and responsibilities of church membership.
- *For the (five) students already confirmed*, they will continue contributing to the classroom environment. Let's be honest, especially during the earlier lessons in 2022, the already confirmed students were less mature and unable to keep their focus as well as they can now. I envision the 11 lessons we will explore this year will stick much better than they did in the first go round. For lessons the already-confirmed students know better, they can help teach younger students, and ask deeper questions to enrich our learning.

What do we ask of our students?

The youth ministry at St. John has 5 components:



Confirmands will be asked to participate in:

- *All monthly lessons*, with 2 or less absences (opportunities to make up lessons are available)
- *Most community service/involvement opportunities*, (more flexibility here, but please try to come). Fellowships are pure fun and are purely optional
- *Both retreats*, back to school and end of school retreats are an important part of our time together. This year both retreats are day retreats with no overnight stay. Please make every effort to come, these can be rescheduled if needed. We are planning an optional spring mission trip for the week of March 10.
- *Service in worship*, I'd like for every youth member to lead in worship at least once or twice a month as their social ability allows.