



youth@third

What we do and why

The purpose of youth ministry – to meet Jesus Christ together. Table fellowship and programs are the vehicles in which we do this, but they are not the focus. We seek to design our time together so that we can encounter Jesus in the things we do, and in each other. Therefore we will talk, work and play in a manner honorable to Christ, realizing that Jesus is someone who loves children, has a sense of humor and serves others!

The Youth Ministry Committee is affirming some traditional objectives over the course of your youth's involvement with the youth ministry programming at Third Church. We feel that it is important to maintain these activities because they consistently enrich our relationships with Christ:

- * Meet weekly for a time of faith development, fun and service
- * Share table fellowship with a family style meal.
- * Develop our gifts of music and appreciation for the arts.
- * Provide opportunity for deeper spiritual formation and faith development
- * Prepare youth to make decisions about joining a community of faith.
- * Seasonal retreats to deepen bonds of fellowship and faith.
- * Attend regional/national conferences and go on mission trips outside Rochester area.
- * International conference/mission experience every 4-6 years.
- * Connect youth with leadership development opportunities of the larger church. (Presbytery, General Assembly, ecumenical bodies)

Stick with us and there will be opportunities to do some amazing things!

Advisor Role: "It takes a village to raise a child." – African proverb.

- * Youth advisors make a significant commitment of time, creativity and emotional energy to develop relationships with our youth based on faith, play and service.
- * They seek to be significant adult friends to the youth.
- * They demonstrate trustworthiness to the youth by keeping confidences that do not affect the safety of any individual.
- * They promise to seek qualified help with the youth when safety is an issue.

Parents Role

- * Support the program: Your commitment makes this work!
 - Transportation, making it possible for your youth to be here – work with other parents to carpool!
 - Don't use youth group as a punishment/reward
 - Dinner teams
 - Be available to share your skills and talents!
 - Give feedback, to advisors and staff – both positive and constructive.
 - Call/email ahead when your youth is unable to keep a commitment.

- * Provide relevant medical and behavioral information and contact numbers.

- * Support advisors in behavior expectations outlined in youth covenant.
 - Be available to personally intervene at any event should no other means of resolution be available.

- * Ask for financial assistance/Scholarship Aid when needed!
 - Pay what you can, but NEVER let money prevent you from participating.
 - Talk to Aaron or one of the Youth Advisors you are comfortable with. We often charge a little more for an activity so that extra money is available.
 - HELP US MAKE USE OF IT!

Speaking of scholarship money, dinner expenses were a bit more last year than we can maintain with our current fees. Therefore there will be an increase in the fee to participate in dinner. ☹ Dinner teams however will still eat for free with our thanks! ☺

2003 Dinner Fees: \$80 for one youth, \$140 for two youth , \$200 for 3 or more per immediate family.

I know this is considerably more, than previous years, however for one youth, this works out to be only \$3.20 per meal for 25 meals.

This fee can be broken into several payments over the course of the year if need be. We will be flexible!

Youth Ministry at Third Church

Third Presbyterian Church offers a variety of opportunities for youth to be involved in the life and worship of our congregation. Besides the weekly programs listed below, youth serve on committees, volunteer with the Corner Place and Dining Room ministry, and participate in worship leadership as acolytes and lay readers.

Sunday Church School for seventh through ninth graders from 9am to 10am Sunday Mornings in the Youth Lounge on the end of the third floor of the education building. Sandy Gianniny, Katie Orem and Ry Foye and Paul Jonasse will be co-teaching this class.

Children's Ministry Assistants - If you would like to help a teacher with one of the younger Sunday School classes please contact Becky D'Angelo-Veitch at extension 118 at the church.

Worship Leadership – All Jr. and Sr. Highs are invited to help lead worship as **Acolytes** during the 10:30 sanctuary service. Acolytes lead the opening processional and closing recessional of the service by carrying the Bible and candle flame for the chancel candles. We are also seeking those interested in being **Lay Readers** at either service.

Commissioning Class - Youth in grades 9 and up meet Wednesday evenings at 6:00 during the school year for dinner, study, and discussion. Participants explore the Bible and its relationship to their individual faith journeys. The youth develop a personal faith statement, and, in late-spring, are given the opportunity to become members of the church. Aaron Doll, George Gray and Sally Dieterich instructing.

Church Buddies - Get involved with fellow youth in grades 10-12 as we gather Wednesday evenings 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the youth lounge for dinner. Afterwards we meet to discuss a Bible passage brought by someone and then rap wherever the Spirit leads... confidences are held! Adult advisors will be; Ann Sievers, Bob Parrett, and Robert Vietch.

Bells - There are bell groups available for both Junior Highs (7th & 8th grades), directed by Jeanne Fisher, and for High School students (9th – 12th grades) directed by Chris Lenti. Both groups meet on Sundays at 4:00, and ring in worship and at other times during the year.

Youth Musical - You'll be getting a separate mailing in a few days with more details about the musical – but this **IS** a musical year, and we've scheduled it for two performances on Sunday, February 9, 2003!! Which means that we'll be getting started on it early this fall, beginning with an informational meeting at the fall kickoff on September 15th – so plan to be there to find out all about it! Covenant Singers will resume rehearsals and singing in worship **after** the musical.

Sunday Evening Youth Program - Offers a variety of opportunities for youth in grades 7 - 12 to choose among several musical and fellowship activities with their peers. The schedule for the 2002-2003 program year is:

- 4:00 - 5:00 Junior High Bells (Grades 7 - 8)
- 4:00 - 5:00 Covenant Ringers (Grades 9 - 12)
- 5:00 - 6:00 Covenant Singers/Youth Musical (Grades 7 - 12)
- 6:15 – 8 pm Dinner and Fellowship Groups for Jr. and Sr. Highs

<http://www.thirdpresbyterian.org/kidsandteens/index.html>



Sunday Night Program
Parental Release and Consent

We, the undersigned parent(s) of _____ do hereby authorize our son or daughter to join the **Sunday Evening Program at Third Presbyterian Church, for all events held on the property of Third Church and Sibley Park nearby.** It is understood that the designated Staff and Advisors will be in attendance on all evenings and will provide the best reasonable supervision to ensure the health, welfare and comfort of all in attendance.

We (I) hereby release Third Presbyterian Church from any liability for any incident beyond the control of Advisors and Staff using their due diligence and best judgment.

Parent signature

date

Parent signature

date

Youth Covenant

I promise to contribute, to the best of my ability, to a productive, attentive and fun-filled activity. I will be caring and respectful toward others, as well as the property, and will share in the activities which are planned for the event. I will conduct myself in a manner befitting of a Christian and a representative of Third Presbyterian Church. I will not bring or use any alcohol, tobacco or drugs to the event.

Participant signature

date

**THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MEDICAL/PERMISSION FORM**

September 1, 2002 – August 31, 2003

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Sex: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Medication Taken: _____

Allergies/Allergic Reactions: _____

Other Pertinent Health Information: _____

Family Physician: _____ Phone: _____

Medical Insurance Co.: _____ Policy #: _____

Last Dates of Immunizations: Tetanus _____ Polio _____ Measles _____

Parent/Guardian Names: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____

I, the undersigned parent or guardian, hereby authorize emergency medical, dental, health or hospital services be rendered to my child upon consent of a Third Presbyterian Church staff member or designated advisor.

The purpose of this authorization is to permit my child to receive emergency medical attention when needed while involved in activities connected with Third Presbyterian Church's Youth Groups when I or my emergency contact are unavailable to give such consent.

This authorization shall be effective from September 1, 2002 – August 31, 2003.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date