

# Youth

NEWS  
FEBRUARY 2012

Austin has butter on his face.



## The Ten Commandments of the Lock-In

### Here are the Ten Commandments of the Lock-In, reproduced for posterity:

I. Thou shalt not destroy, deface, defile, or otherwise compromise anything. At all.

II. Thou shalt not venture into the sanctuary, robing rooms, elevator (unless you have a valid medical reason to do so), any mechanical rooms, any offices, the bathrooms of the opposite gender, or outside.

III. Thou shalt not engage in PDA (public displays of affection). It makes the rest of us feel somewhere between awkward and icky. Also, thou shalt not engage in private displays of affection either.

IV. Thou shalt keep the same cup all night. Thou shalt write thy name upon it, and it shall be thine until the ages of ages. Thou shalt drink only water. Possibly with ice.

V. Thou shalt clean up any messes you make, for thy youth director and thy youth mentors are neither thy mother nor thy father.

VI. Thou shalt return any items you get out of their usual spots.

VII. Thou shalt not ride in the wheelchairs, or children's riding toys, or kitchen carts, or on any wheeled thing.

VIII. Thou shalt not take food out of Plymouth Hall or the Loft.

IX. Thou shalt do as your youth director and youth mentors tell you to do.

X. Anything not expressly forbidden in these commandments, but which you would

not do in front of your grandmother, is forbidden anyway.

So now you know! See you Sunday!  
Eric.

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### Highlights of January



# 2012

water slides....swimming....the lock-in....grog....messy games....trinity "winning" the ice cream eating contest....staying up late....junk food all night long....portraits with pudding....

## Frequently Asked Questions:

### Stuff you want to know:

What time to we meet?

We meet from 6:15 to 8:30 on Sunday nights, unless a special event or project means we need to start earlier. Watch your email for time changes!

Where do we meet?

We typically start in Plymouth Hall, and then proceed to who-knows-where.

Who can come?

Anyone in grades 6-12!

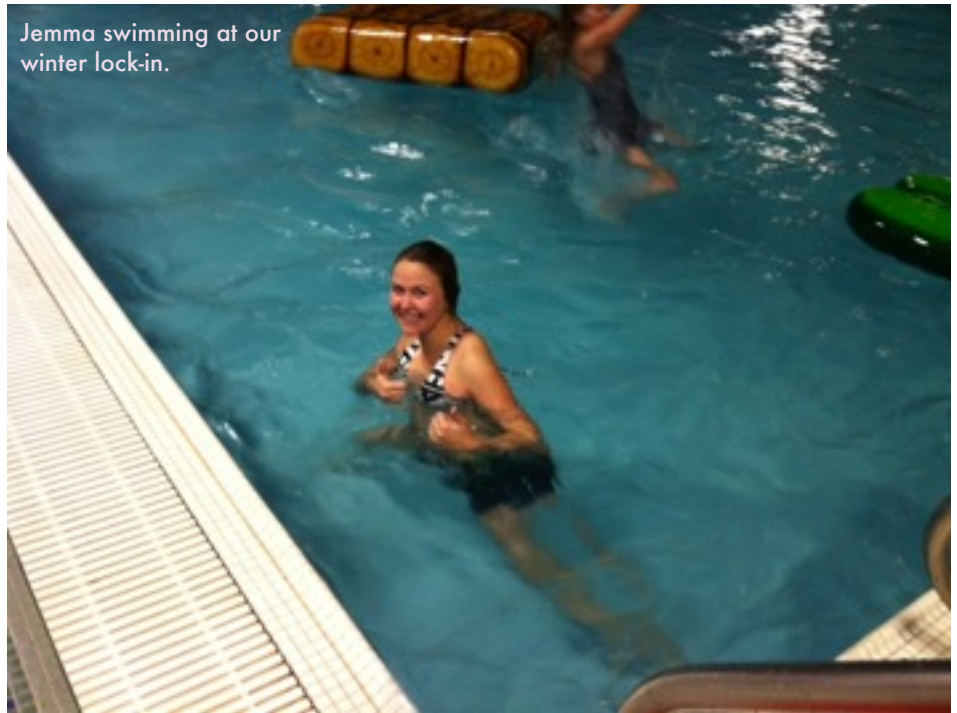
How much does it cost?

Typically, nothing. Sometimes we ask folks to bring \$5 or \$10 for a special event, but even that is negotiable.

What do we do?

We have lots of different kinds of activities—service projects, discussions, films, games, random things, lectures, and outings.

Jemma swimming at our winter lock-in.



## Youth Sunday February 12th

Youth Sunday is February 12th. That's the day when the youth take the reins of the 10:00 worship service and make it our own! We'll be leading the music, prayers, litanies, sermons, reflections, and rituals of the day.

Youth! Have you ever sat in a worship service (at First Plymouth or somewhere else) and wondered why they do it this way? Have you ever sat, bored, and wondered why worship couldn't be more exciting, more relevant, more interesting? If you have, then Youth Sunday is a great time to try out our ideas, and show the rest of the community how your ideas look in real life.

So start thinking now about how you would like to contribute. Some people are good at speaking in public, some good at music, some at being behind the scenes and some at hospitality. Whatever your gift, we can use it! So think about how you can help, and come to youth group in January and February as we plan!

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## 2012 High School Mission Trip

We're starting our planning for the 2012 mission trip unusually late this year, because the site we're hoping to visit has been in the process of getting its operation up and running, and hasn't been able to accept registrations yet. If all goes well, we should be confirmed by the first of the year and ready to start taking reservations and deposits and doing our fundraising.

We hope to visit Joplin, Missouri, the site of one of the nation's worst tornado outbreaks in memory. In May of 2011, a F5 tornado destroyed about 8,000 homes and took 161 lives as it tore across the city, leaving the city devastated and thousands homeless. The city is just now in the process of rebuilding, and groups like ours will be central to the effort.

If this trip works out, it will have the advantage of being relatively inexpensive, especially compared to last year's Venezuela trip. Pricing is still a ways away, but the cost to families would probably be \$200 or less—and probably less. And it would be a road trip style trip, which we haven't done in a long, long time—and it would be AWESOME!

So keep your eyes peeled for more information on this summer's trip—and don't miss out on it! The trip will be open to all youth who are currently in 8th through 12th grades.

## Community Camp

Don't forget First Plymouth's Community Camp, scheduled for the last full week in July! It's a great week of fun, relaxation, and bonding over squabbles. Stay tuned for information!



# Calendar

Here's the scoop on everything that's coming up. And be sure to stay tuned to email for more scheduling matters!

## February

5, 12, 19, 26

Youth Group as usual!

## February

24-26

Conference Confirmation  
Retreat

## Retreats

February

24-26

Conference Confirmation  
Retreat

March 23-25

Conference High School  
Retreat

April 27-29

Conference Middle School  
Retreat

## Special Dates

February 12

Youth Sunday

May 6

Senior Banquet

May 20

Final Youth Group!

## Senior Stuff!

Seniors and parents of seniors,

It's time! Time to start planning for the end of your HS career, where you're going next, etc.

Here at church, part of that transition out of high school is our annual Senior Banquet. As many of you know, each year we hold a banquet to honor our seniors and say goodbye to them. This year's banquet is scheduled for May 6th at 6:15 p.m. Here's what you need to know:

-Each senior needs to choose one person to speak on their behalf. This can be a teacher, friend, parent, minister, or really whoever they choose. Ideally, this person is asked well ahead of time and their name is given to me.

-Each senior will be given the opportunity to say a few things in response, to everyone in attendance.

-Together, these two "speeches" should be no more than 8-10 minutes.

-Parents, grandparents, cousins, aunts and uncles, etc., are all invited. Just let me know how many will be coming so we can have enough food (provided by the juniors and their parents, of course).



-Please let me know what your plans are post-high school. For instance: are you getting a job? Going to college? Taking a year off to figure it out? Let me know, so I can put it in the program.

-PARENTS: please send me baby pictures! If they are already scanned, I will like you 83% more, but if you must, you can give me prints, and I'll scan them. These should be to me by May 1st, please.

-Additionally, we will have a VERY brief recognition moment in the services sometime in May, probably on the 6th. Stay tuned for details on that one!



Some of the last-remaining awake people at our lock-in, at about 6 a.m.