

First Plymouth Youth News

MARCH 2011



Emily won with four dice.

Looking forward:

A few random things....

- According to last month's informal survey, approximately 12 people read the youth newsletter. Is that enough to keep doing it? Yeah, probably.
- Interestingly, about 5 of those who read it neither are youth nor have youth in the program. They're just interested in what we're doing.
- Did you know that March 6th is Youth Sunday? True story! More details in this newsletter.

- By the time you read this newsletter, there will only be 11 more youth group meetings left in the year! That means you should come to the ones you can!
- Seniors! Pay attention to the calendar; the Senior Banquet is coming soon!
- Do yourself a favor and go look up Billy Jonas videos on YouTube. That way, you'll be familiar with his songs when he visits youth group on May 1st!

As always... See you Sunday!

Eric.

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a few highlights of last month's youth group:

February

Super Bowl...Q-tip wars...a minute to win it...cheesy poofs!...Kirk's hair...Youth Sunday planning..."be yourself"..."be who God created you to be"...



How's it hanging, Reece? The Confirmation class spent a day on the ropes course at La Foret.

Conference Retreats (Various Dates)

The Rocky Mountain Conference holds retreats for the entire conference twice a year for middle schoolers and three times a year for high schoolers. The winter high school retreat and the spring middle school and high school retreats are coming up (dates are in the calendar section on the last page).

While we can't guarantee it, we do try to help with scholarship money for people who wouldn't otherwise be able to attend. If you're interested in the retreats or in scholarship opportunities, contact Eric.

Youth Sunday (March 6)

Youth Sunday is March 6th! This is the Sunday when the youth take over the Sunday service (10:00 a.m.) and make it their own! We'll start planning for this important day in January, so be sure to come to youth group so you get a voice!

And start thinking now about what you'd like to contribute. We need speakers, readers, ushers, servers, musicians, and behind-the-scenes logistics people. There's a spot for you!



Brian caught some sleep at the Lock-in.

Frequently Asked Questions

Five questions about youth group logistics:

What time is youth group?

We usually start at 6:15, and finish at 8:30. Some special events may require different times, which will be announced ahead of time, over email.

Who is youth group for?

All youth grades 6-12 are invited, whether they and/or their families are members of First Plymouth or not.

What do we do there?

We do lots of fun stuff, some serious stuff, some spiritual stuff, and quite a bit of random stuff. We've been known to make giant messes, spend time praying, roll up our sleeves and work, and accidentally fall asleep while pretending to listen.

What does it cost?

Our goal is always to make youth group free. Occasionally, because of special events or budget limitations, we have to ask participants to bring \$5 or \$10. This is *always optional*, however, and if you don't have it, we'll cover you.

Is it true that Eric is good at foosball?

I'm in my fourth year and have been beaten 3 or 4 times. So if you want to be a hero, bring it.

Bonus Trivia:

We're still thinking about a camping trip. Who's in?



More FAQ:

Here are some more frequently asked questions about youth group:

What if I like to sing?

Then Youth Choir is for you! Youth Choir meets Sunday evenings just before youth group, from 5:00 to 6:00, in the Odeon. You need not be an awesome singer to join.

How much do youth mentors get paid? Nada. They're here because they like hanging out with you. Seriously.

Why should I participate in conference retreats?

Once upon a time, First Plymouth sent **huge** groups to these things. These days, it's more like one or two people. We can do better than that! You should go because they're a lot of fun...it's a weekend in the woods with people from all over the conference, having fun, sharing, learning some things, and eating camp food. If you want more information, ask!

I like to hang out and do cool stuff and do good things for the world, but I don't know how I feel about God/Jesus/spirituality/whatever. That's not a question either. But don't sweat it. Youth Group is open to anyone and everyone, regardless of where you might be on your journey.

Did you know?

These icons that keep appearing? I'm starting to take them as a sign. A sign that we need to do a youth group camping trip sometime. Hmmm. Bonus Did you know: Somewhere, Aaron Bugh is nodding vigorously while reading his youth newsletter.



Nicole will paperwhack you!



High School Mission Trip 2011: Venezuela!

(August 3-10 2011)

FINAL NOTICE! We have two spots left on the trip. Please let Eric know by the end of March if you want to go. First come, first served.

Next summer, we'll be traveling to Venezuela to work with the Rocky Mountain Conference's ecumenical partner, the Evangelical United Pentecostal Church of Venezuela (EUPV). The Conference has a long and deep relationship with the EUPV, and we look forward to joining that relationship next summer. The dates for the trip are August 3-10 2011, and the trip is limited to 24 youth participants.

The total cost of the trip is \$1,500, which includes airfare and all meal and transportation expenses. We hope to finance the trip this way:

1/3: Grants, church budget, etc.

1/3: Fundraising

1/3: Youth/parent support

That means that the cost to you is 1/3 of the total, or \$500, PLUS a lot of elbow grease in fundraising.

Registration is now open, and will continue until the trip is full or we need to buy airfare, whichever comes first. (Air will need to be purchased by mid-spring). The first deposit is \$100; the second deposits of \$200 each are due in March and May.

If you have more questions about the trip, about Venezuela and the EUPV, about the long relationship with Venezuela, or about financing the trip, please see Eric soon! It promises to be a fantastic trip, and it's one you won't want to miss.

Calendars

March and April

March 6: YOUTH SUNDAY

March 6: Youth Group

March 13: Youth Group

March 18-20: Conference High School Retreat

March 20: Youth Group

March 27: Youth Group

April 3: Youth Group

April 8-10: Conference Middle School Spring Retreat

April 10: Youth Group

April 17: Youth Group

April 24: NO YOUTH GROUP (Easter)

May and Beyond

May 1: Billy Jonas concert at Youth Group!

May 15: Senior Banquet

May 22: Last Youth Group of the year!

August 3-10 2011: High School mission trip to Venezuela

October 31-November 10, 2011: Italy trip (see Eric for details)

Leftovers

Grocery Cards

Don't forget about our King Soopers grocery cards. This is a major source of funding for our activities, and we need your vigilance. Reload those cards!

Volunteers



If you are not a youth parent or grandparent, we could use your help as a youth mentor! Let Eric know if you're interested. All mentors

must be background checked and go through the First Plymouth boundary training program.

Contact Info



You can reach this handsome fellow on the left any time day or night at the contact info below. Please don't hesitate!

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