

Looking Forward to the Spring Semester

Greetings from the Youth Director

Happy New Year, Friends!

This semester in youth ministry is looking very exciting. We have several big events and programs coming up, so I thought it would be best to put them all together in a newsletter for you to reference. Of course, youth ministry is always changing, so there will be things that come up along the way that aren't in this newsletter. That's why it is so important that you sign up for the Remind app (information below) and check your emails often. If you haven't been getting regular emails from me, please let me know and I'll see what needs to be adjusted on my end.

So, what exactly are the exciting things that are coming up? I'm so glad you asked! First, we have Confirmation starting this Sunday. All 7th and 8th graders, and older students who have not been confirmed, are invited to join the group. We will meet most Sundays through May from 12-1:30 for lunch and a lesson. More information is on the next page.

In February we will be hosting a relationship and sexuality seminar for parents and youth. We are still in the early planning stages of this, so keep your eyes out for more information in the coming weeks.

March 2nd brings us to Ash Wednesday. I would like for the youth to attend service together and experience, what I feel is, one of the most important and moving worship experiences in the church year.

Then, in April, we will spend a weekend at Rock Springs Ranch in Junction City for our Spring Awakening Retreat. More information on the retreat is on page 3.

Finally, May brings us to the busy season of Mother's Day and graduations. We will also celebrate Youth Sunday in May where the youth will lead most, if not all, parts of worship, including the sermon.

I can't wait to see what the next few months have in store for youth ministry at Trinity! It is an exciting time, for sure!

Staying in Touch

If you haven't already, please sign up for the Remind app updates by texting @TUMCY2021 to 81010. The @ must be included in the message in order to receive updates. Parents, youth, and volunteers will receive important information through this platform, including opportunities to serve at the coffee bar, Wednesday afternoon teasers, and information on how to connect outside the church.



Inside this issue

What's New in 2022?	2
Confirmation	2
Spring Awakening Retreat	3
Opportunities to Serve	4

Special points of interest

- Youth Group will look different this semester!
- Confirmation 2022 begins January 9.
- Registration for the Spring youth retreat is now open!
- Answer the call to serve with triYOUTH.

What's New in 2022?

2022 has some changes in store for youth group and youth Sunday School. Each month will have a different focus for our Wednesday night gatherings: January—goals, February—relationships, March—diversity, April—environment, and May—mental health. The format of our gatherings will also look different. Each week of the month we will emphasize a specific area of ministry: service, education, worship, or fellowship. My hope is that this is a well-received reconstruction of the Wednesday night program. Small groups and meals will continue!

In Sunday School, the Middle School Class will continue using the lectionary lessons provided by UMC Discipleship. They seemed to connect well with these lessons in the Fall and the leaders enjoyed teaching the curriculum. The High School Class will begin a video series called Nooma. The videos are each around 10 minutes long and I am putting together discussion guides and activities to accompany the videos. Each week will cover a different topic, so if a student misses a week, they don't need to worry about being out of the loop.

These changes are the result of conversations with youth, parents, and volunteers. I am always open to feedback and appreciate all questions, comments, and concerns that I receive. My email is carly@gmail.com.

"My hope is that this is a well-received reconstruction of the Wednesday night program."

Wednesday Night Meals

Youth Group is back for the Spring '22 semester! We appreciate those of you who provided Wednesday night meals in the Fall and those of you who have already signed up to provide meals this Spring. If you haven't signed up yet, you can do so at this link <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/veyo3z> or by scanning the QR code below.

Thanks in advance!

Penny Thompson, Meal Coordinator

Carly Tallon, Youth Director



Confirmation

The first Confirmation Class since COVID begins this Sunday! We have a group of 7th and 8th graders who are already registered, but we do have space for more. If your youth is in 7th grade or older and wants to participate, please let me know ASAP so I can order them a book and pair them up with a Confirmation Mentor.

Each student will receive their own Confirmation Student Guide to use as a workbook during our Sunday sessions. Parents will receive a Confirmation Parent Guide, and mentors will receive, you guessed it, a Confirmation Mentor Guide. Our weekly lessons will include lunch, activities, videos, and discussion. We will also take a few field trips during the coming months to explore other faiths and experience how they worship. Confirmation culminates with a ceremony in the Fall, on All Saints Sunday, where the youth will join the church. If student's haven't been baptized yet, they will have the opportunity to do so along the way.

Curious about the importance of Confirmation? It is a time when youth commit themselves to discipleship and when the Holy Spirit strengthens them to live as faithful disciples. Baptism is required for Confirmation and Confirmation classes help prepare youth to be baptized. Each student is paired with a mentor from the congregation who will guide confirmands, pray for them, and help with any questions the student has. They will also stand with the confirmands on Confirmation Sunday as they join the United Methodist Church.

I look forward to working with the confirmands and deepening my relationship with them as we journey through Confirmation together.





2022 SPRING AWAKENING YOUTH RETREAT

Spring Awakening Youth Retreat

Spring Awakening is our Spirit-filled retreat for youth to have fun, grow in their faith, and experience community. Awakening is a weekend of outdoor activities, a campfire and s'mores, small and large group devotionals, and more!

This year's retreat is at Rock Springs Ranch in Junction City the weekend of April 1-3, 2022. Rock Springs Ranch offers opportunities to hike, complete a ropes course, climb a rock wall, and canoe. We will also have times for movies and board/card games. Of course, this wouldn't be a youth group retreat without plenty of time set aside for awakening their faith! Youth will be divided into family groups for the weekend for small group studies and tournament games. As a large group, everyone will participate in Opening Worship on Friday evening, Saturday Morning Devotion, and Closing Worship before returning to Salina on Sunday morning.

Big Picture Schedule for Spring Awakening:

Friday, April 1

5:30—Depart TUMC parking lot
8:15—Opening Worship
9:00—Small Groups
11:30—Bunk time

Saturday, April 2

7:30—Breakfast and Morning Devotion
9:00—Ropes Course
10-12:15—Free time and lunch
12:45—Tournament Games
1:30-3:00—Choice of Activities
5:00—Dinner
6:00—Small Groups
8:30-11:00—Camp fire and Free time

Sunday, April 3

7:30—Breakfast
8:00—Small Groups
9:00—Clean Up
9:45—Closing Worship
10:45—Leave for TUMC
12:00—Parent pick-up at TUMC

If your youth would like to attend Spring Awakening, be aware of the registration schedule below.

February 2—Early Bird Deposit of \$30 due (save \$5 by registering early!)

February 16—Last Call Deposit of \$35 due (if you missed the Early Bird Deposit date)

March 9—Parent Meeting

March 16—Final Payment of \$30 due for all attendees

Coffee Bar money can be used to pay for Spring Awakening. Email Carly at carly@triumc.org to see how much money your youth has available and decide how much of the cost you would like it to cover.

Please register at this link: <https://forms.gle/zieXAqVPqRNXf6wQ6>

Or scan the QR code



Goals

Did you make any New Year's resolutions this year? Do you know if your child(ren) did? This month in Youth Group we are focused on making SMART goals that help our relationships with God and others. Goals that are small and reasonably attainable are more likely to be reached than big, far-stretched goals.

Consider having a family discussion to help determine what goals should be set. Maybe it's doing the dishes without complaining; or, attending church together every Sunday. Work together, be supportive, and hold each other accountable for whatever goals you decide on.

Opportunities to Serve

- I am looking for another adult or two to help facilitate Confirmation lessons each week. Ideally, this would not be a Confirmation parent, but the parent of an older youth who has completed Confirmation, or a member of the congregation interested in serving the youth of Trinity.
- Do you love God? Is helping youth develop their relationship with God important to you? God might just be calling you to volunteer as a Spring Awakening Retreat leader. Your role would be working with a small group, making sure the youth are safe, and, most importantly, HAVING FUN! Answer your calling by registering as a volunteer for the youth retreat the weekend of April 1-3 using the link on the previous page. Current youth volunteers get priority, but all are invited to register if interested.
- The 6th grade small group is looking for a couple to spend time with each week. This could be spouses, a parent and adult child, or friends who want to walk alongside these youth through their middle and high school years. The group meets from 6-6:30 on Wednesday evenings for fun, fellowship, and service. You are also welcome to plan additional activities with the group as you desire. Email me if you are interested in serving this way.

YOUTH MINISTRY CALENDAR SPRING 2022

January—Goals							February—Relationships							March—Diversity							April—Environment							May—Mental Health						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1			1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				
30	31																																	
5—Youth Group Resumes 9—Confirmation Kick-Off							2—Early Bird Retreat Deposit Due (\$30) 16—Last Call Retreat Deposit Due (\$35)							2—Ash Wednesday 9—Retreat Parent Meeting 16—NO YOUTH 16—Final Retreat Payment Due							1—Youth Sunday													

YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

6:00pm: Small Groups (6th–9th Grades)
6:30: Dinner
7:00: Lesson
8:00: Dismissal

Spring Schedule

1st Wednesday: Service Project
2nd Wednesday: Tough Topics
3rd Wednesday: Worship
4th Wednesday: Movie Night
5th Wednesday: Game Night

GET THE APP

Stay connected with all updated Youth information.

Text @tumcy2021

To 81010

Confirmation

Confirmation will be Sunday afternoons from 12-1:30, beginning January 9 through the retreat at the end of May.

We will not meet April 3 or April 17.

CONTACT INFO

Carly Tallon
Director of Youth Ministry
carly@triumc.org
Work: 785-825-5270
Cell: 817-988-8276