

Youth!

MINISTRY GUIDEBOOK
2017-2018



SERVE

GROW

WORSHIP



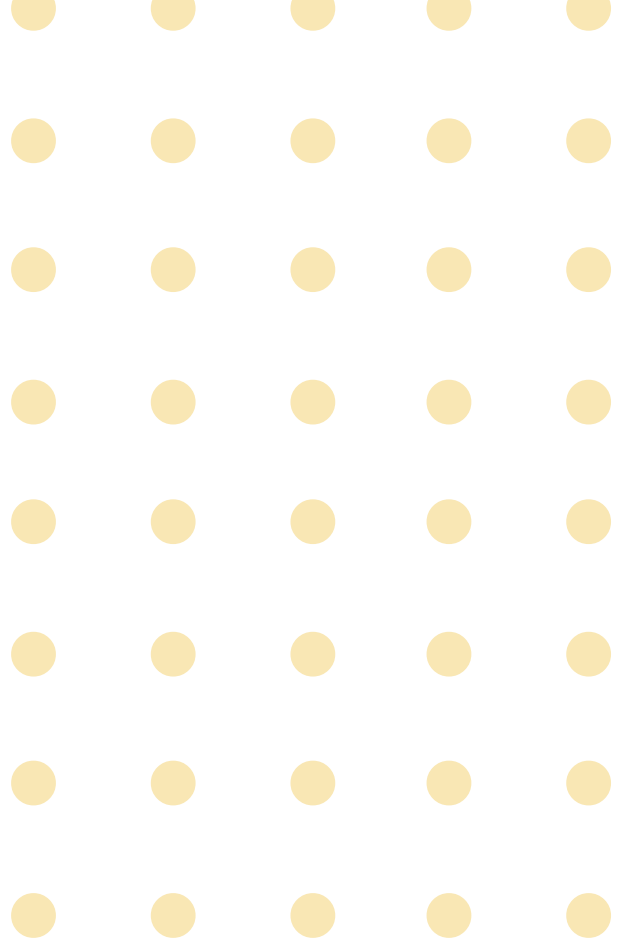
Highland Youth Ministry

The Youth Ministry of Highland Presbyterian Church is a place for middle and high school students to learn, grow, worship, fellowship, and play together. As a ministry of Highland, we hope to create an atmosphere where youth can deepen their faith, ask big questions, and bond together in community.

Mission Statement

As the Youth Group of Highland Presbyterian Church, our ongoing mission is to grow as a community of friends, and as thankful children of God. We do so through creativity and fun, making lasting connections in a peaceful environment as we seek to strengthen our faith, impact our community, and change our lives.





A Message from Courtney

AMAZING YOUTH AND FAMILIES

A new year begins and there is much to look forward to as we serve in ministry together. I am so grateful to you, the youth and families of Highland, who provide so much energy and support for the work that we get to share as we seek to follow Christ and serve in the world.

Last year we remembered our baptism in three fountains, put a few thousand more miles on the buses, prepared meals and served popsicles to our neighbors in need, got locked outside of the church, trampolined late into the night, wrestled with scriptures, asked hard questions, and grew so much.

What does God have in store for us this year? I can't wait to find out! Keep reading to get a glimpse of what is planned and where the Spirit is leading.

Courtney Stevens

Associate Pastor for Youth and Young Adult Ministry

cstevens@highlandpres.org



Get Connected

e411 Weekly Emails

One, weekly comprehensive email of all things Youth Ministry at Highland. See pictures, reminders, and weekly information all in one place. Email Courtney at cstevens@highlandpres.org to be added to the list.

@HighlandPYC Instagram

Follow along with our photosteam and see all the fun.



Text Alerts

Sign up for our Remind text alerts to be notified of any changes or reminders. Text the information below and follow the prompts.

Senior High Youth
Text "@fd9h82" to 81010

Middle School Youth
Text "@middlers2" to 81010

Flickr Photo Sharing

View pictures from youth fellowship, events, and trips all in one place and available to download. Visit [flickr.com/photos/highlandpyc](https://www.flickr.com/photos/highlandpyc)



Youth Ministry Contacts

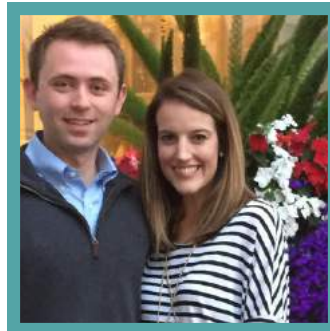
Middle School Sunday School



Chris Gottfried

chriscgottfried@gmail.com
(336)391-6889

Senior High Sunday School



**Richard and
Melinda de la
Vega**

melindagulledge@gmail.com
rdelavega@bbandt.com

Youth Advisors

Elizabeth Bragg

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Mark Queen

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David Neely

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Youth and Young Adult Ministry Committee

**Cheryl Walker (chair), Joyce
Griner, Sarah Mixon, Martha
Neely, Mark Queen, Kelly
Templeton**



Reverse Book Club

Don't read the book! Parents are busy so we have designed a book club to fit your needs. Show up for one of these gatherings throughout the year for conversation on topics like technology, faith formation in the home, and raising resilient youth, and we will provide you with a book to mark up and resource read on your own time.

Right Click: Parenting Your Teenager in a Digital Media World
September 27

Noon-12:45 p.m. or 6:45-7:30 p.m.

Parent Cue App

Sometimes we wonder if we are doing this whole parenting thing right. Are we making the most of our time with our children? What do we even say to help lead them to live good lives? This free app is a helpful resource that offers you weekly cues to help you understand and relate more with your young person. This app aims to connect you with Bible stories and verses to talk to your child about, and cue you with words to say and things to do connected with the naturally occurring times that already happen every day like time in the car or during dinner.



Resources for Families

As the family of faith we walk together as partners in faith formation and supporting families.

Middler Parent Partners

For our youth ministry this year we are looking to our parents to partner with us in new ways. In place of providing a fellowship meal, we will be asking parents to share in a ministry experience with us that allows both the family and youth as a whole to experience this ministry together and see one another as an active part of this faith community. Ways you may consider partnering with us may be through a weekly Youth Fellowship gathering, serving as a transportation provider for a night out, helping with our fundraisers for the year, or serving as a Confirmation mentor. There are lots of ways to get connected to this active and vibrant ministry and share with your young person.





Sunday Mornings

Middle School Youth Sunday School 6th-8th Grades 9:30 a.m. AB3

What's your favorite Bible story? This year with teacher Chris Gotfried our Middlers will explore the New Testament stories through scripture, activities, and conversation.

Senior High Youth Sunday School 9th-12th Grades 9:30 a.m. AB4

New teachers, Richard and Melinda de la Vega are excited to get real with our senior highs sharing glimpses of God and exploring modern day and Biblical contexts and issues that help to strengthen our faith.

Confirmation Information Meeting, January 14 9:30 a.m. in AB1

Kickoff Retreat February 2-3 Confirmation Sunday, May 20

Confirmation classes meet each Sunday, February 4 through May 13. Confirmation is for any youth 8th grade and above ready for the journey. Confirmation is a time set a part for youth to explore what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ as we journey together and ask our questions of faith. Meeting weekly, youth are given the opportunity to study the basics of the Christian faith and life, with emphasis on Bible study, prayer, and discussions of the questions of faith.



Sunday Night Youth Fellowships

Youth Fellowship is for all youth 6th through 12th grades on Sunday nights.

Together we grow in discipleship and share in ministry with a variety of games, themes, and opportunities to serve.

**Middle School Youth
4:00-5:00 p.m. pickup**

**Senior High Youth
5:30-7:00 p.m.**



Middler Fall Youth Fellowship

Sunday Nights 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Parent Partners

Parents play a vital role in the faith formation of young people. As a way of forming new bonds with your youth and all of our youth we are asking parents to join us throughout the year for assigned youth fellowship evenings to participate in discussions and activities. Watch the calendar for your date reminders or to make swaps.

September

- 10 Youth Fellowship Kick Off:
Who Am I?
- 17 Who Are We?
Parent Partners: Barksdales
- 24 One Person's Trash
Parent Partners: Byers

October

- 1 Get Connected
Parent Partner: Nelsons
- 8 Big Games
Parent Partners: Rileys
Who Are We In the World? Guest
Peacemaker from Northern Ireland
Parent Partners: Layman and
Otterbacher
- 22 Girls and Guys Night
- 29 Middler vs Senior High Kickball at
Miller Park
Parent Partners: Scotts and Nelsons

November

- 5 Class Dinners
- 12 All Church Retreat- No Youth
Fellowship
- 19 Community Thanksgiving
Service at Highland 6:00 p.m.
- 26 Thanksgiving Weekend- No
Youth Fellowship

December

- 3 Shopping Night
Parent Partners: Bethels and
Campbells
- 10 Advent Game Night
Parent Partners: Burkes
- 17 Middler Christmas Party

Senior High Fall Youth Fellowship

Sunday Nights 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Senior High Youth Meals

This year we are trying something different. The Senior Highs have asked to continue the tradition of a fellowship meal. The meals are smaller in quantity and should be easier to prepare. The Committee has also put together a helpful recipe list to share. Contact Sarah Mixo, htmixon@gmail.com with any questions or swaps.

September

- 10 Youth Fellowship Kick Off:
Who Am I?
- 17 Who Are We?
Meal: Templetons
- 24 Penny Swap Challenge
Meal: Griners

October

- 1 Get Connected
Meal: Albrights
- 8 Big Games
Meal: Byers
- 15 Who Are We In the World? Guest
Peacemaker from Northern Ireland
Meal: Mixons
- 22 Girls and Guys Night
Meal: Youth Cook
- 29 Middler vs Senior High Kickball at Miller
Park, Meal: Kummings

November

- 5 Class Dinners
- 12 All Church Retreat- No Youth
Fellowship
- 19 Community Thanksgiving
Service at Highland 6:00 p.m.
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December

- 3 Shopping Night
- 10 Advent Game Night
Meal: Heidtmanns
- 17 Senior High Christmas Party



Youth Music Ministry

**Service + Learning + Fun = Music making
at Highland!**

There are more musical opportunities for you than you may have realized. There are currently **FOUR ENSEMBLES** that accept youth in grades 6-12. You are warmly welcomed to be part of the action – NO previous experience is required. All you need is a great attitude, a willingness to serve others through music, and – well, that's about it!

Chime Choir

Grades 4-8

Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.

Bell Choir

Grades 9-12 with Adults
Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.

Youth Choir

Grades 6-12

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Chancel Choir

Grades 9-12 with Adults if also
singing with Youth Choir
Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m.

Contact Nate Zullinger for more information at nzullinger@highlandpres.org.

Get On The Bus

RETREATS CONFERENCES AND TRIPS

Throughout the year our Youth Ministry sets aside time for rest, recreation and re-connection. Each trip or event is an opportunity to refocus our attention on God's work among us in order for our young people to be empowered to make their faith visible everyday.

Getting out of our every day routines and taking on the challenge of living into our faith in a covenanted community opens us up to be surprised by God at work in new ways. Everything we do- whether it is growing in faith in our education classes, playing hard at Youth Fellowship, traveling to conferences or serving our brothers and sisters in Christ near and far- is in response to the grace of God. We do what we do to grow stronger as the hands and feet of Christ.

Of these varied experiences, youth trips are powerful, immersive experiences that challenge what we know, how we live, and grow our relationships with God and one another.



Have Fun!

This year we have exciting trips and local service opportunities for our youth. Every year I am in awe of how the Spirit moves, transforms, and bonds each group more deeply to their faith and one another in powerful and surprising ways. I hope your family will consider participating in these opportunities.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Enabling youth to have these experiences is a priority of the Session and the Youth and Young Adult Ministry Committee. All conference and service experiences already have scholarship built into the registration cost. Should you need financial assistance for a youth-related experience, please contact Courtney. We want to make sure all youth are able to attend events, no matter their financial situation.



SENIOR HIGH LOCK-OUT

November 17-18
7:00 p.m.-8:00 a.m.
\$30

Register by November 12

Join us for an evening of adventure. We'll gather at the church, and then we're locking the door to go out into our city for a fun night. We will eventually return to the church after a midnight breakfast to play some games, worship, and watch movies until the sun rises!



MIDDLE SCHOOL LATE NIGHTS

We had so much fun going to Airbound last year that we decided we needed to do more throughout the year!

Join your Middler youth friends for some of the best evenings of the year. We'll gather at the church to share dinner and games and then head out to do something fun together. We will play, worship, and snack until a late night pick up. Watch your emails for details.



SENIOR HIGH ROAD RULES

January 19-22
\$199

Register by December 1

Two teams each board a bus and the challenges begin. The buses will stop from time to time along the way to compete in and complete challenges to collect more clues as we move onward towards our final grand destination.

The January trip is always a highlight of the year as we grow as a group encountering new adventures and have space to deepen our relationships with one another. Pack your spirit of adventure and dive in!



MIDDLE SCHOOL & SENIOR HIGH PRESBYTERY YOUTH RETREAT

March 3-4

Open to Middlers and
Senior Highs

Salem Presbytery's Youth Council is hosting an overnight retreat of fun and faith at Camp Hanes. Expect big games, interactive worship, small group conversations, and energizers for youth from 6th to 12th grade.

More information for this annual event will be coming soon. Mark your calendars!



SENIOR HIGH STUDY TRIP TO NORTHERN IRELAND

June 2018

Interest Meeting September 17
After Worship

Our youth have been faithfully working to discern where and who God is calling us to learn from. We have followed this call to urban centers like Winston Salem, Mobile, Atlanta, and Raleigh seeking to learn more about our neighbors and their struggles from poverty to racial issues. This year, with our deepening conversations surrounding justice and tension in our own country the call is leading us to learn from our members of the wider church who have experienced generations of struggles leading them to seek peace and reconciliation between neighbors.

An interest meeting with details for schedule, participation requirements, and cost will be held Sunday, September 17 after the 11:00 a.m. worship service in AB4.



SENIOR HIGH MONTREAT YOUTH CONFERENCE

July 7-14

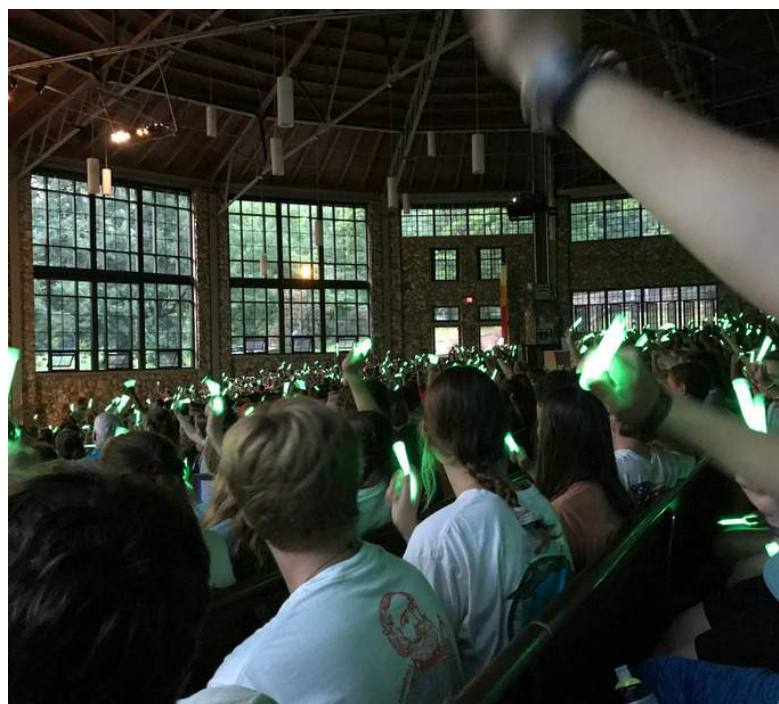
\$325

Register by March 11

CURRENT 9TH-GRADUATED SENIORS

Montreat Youth Conference clears space for encountering God, discovering and deepening a vibrant and durable faith in Jesus Christ, and hearing an invitation to make a personal commitment to embody the love, justice and righteousness of Christ. This conference is a unique gathering of young people from all over the country for a week of study, worship, and recreation. Activities include morning energizers, music, keynote, small group meetings, afternoon recreation activities, and evening worship.

This year we are going up a day before the conference begins to have more time as a group and prepare for the full week of the conference.



MIDDLE SCHOOL SERVICE WEEK

July 30-August 3
\$15 (\$45 with Friday)

Rising 6th through Completed 8th

Middle School Service Week is a fantastic, week-long, half day camp for all middle school youth providing youth with hands-on experiences to learn and respond to the significant needs which exist only miles from their homes. On Friday, we will practice sabbath rest with a day trip to Wet 'n Wild Emerald Point.

Each year we change up the sites we serve, but are all connected and supported by Highland's ministry. Come ready to serve and grow together!

Registration covers supplies for the week, daily snack, and t-shirt. \$45 covers the weeks registration as well as the Friday Wet 'n Wild admission and lunch. As our water park day is part of the week, you must attend the mission week to be able to attend Wet 'n Wild.

Schedule for the Week

Monday, July 30–Thursday, August 2

8:45 a.m. meet at Highland for a devotion and go to our work sites

12:00 p.m. return to Highland for pick up
Friday, August 3

8:45 p.m. meet at Highland and depart for Wet 'n Wild

4:00 p.m. return to Highland for pick up



