

Dear Parents,

It was mentioned in one of the last weekly youth newsletters to keep an eye out for an email about a parents group (and this is it). Thanks to all of you for your support for youth formation at St. David's. Each one of you has already done so much in a myriad of ways. Thank you!

While you all have me and so many wonderful youth leaders already, I preach that many hands make light work and is necessary as we build and live in community as Christians. In building onto this already sustainable ministry, this parent group will help support a robust program and enable growth as necessary. As you all know, the youth need help from time to time from snacks, to chaperones, supplies, and more. With this parent group, we aim to have a central, organized group from which support can be requested in specific ways. For example, if we have an activity next month that needs chaperones, we will ask this parent group for volunteers (and we will aim to have events posted well in advance).

Katherine Goodwin has graciously volunteered to help organize this parent resource group, so she will be the one helping to communicate and organize. You will be hearing from her shortly about possible requests for the youth group and an upcoming meeting.

Did he just say meeting? I did write that above but I hope to create regular (but not too frequent) events which will help you all, the parents, as youth ministers. These events will have discussions and speakers on topics of interest to you; the people who now have teenagers in your home! I

foresee speakers on such serious topics as substance abuse or sexuality. There could also be topics on how to communicate with my teenager and talking with my teenager (period). While each of these speakers or events would be grounded in our Baptismal Covenant, all would be welcome to attend so friends and neighbors are more than welcome.

This is the beginning of the parents group which we hope will take off to help support the youth and for the church to support parents as the primary youth ministers. It may grow and evolve over time as we learn how it will function but please do participate and feel free to ask questions. You are always welcome to email me and I thank you for your support and ministry.

Faithfully yours,

The Rev. Will Packard