

Hello!

I hope all of you are doing well this week before fall break! This semester is flying by. It feels like we only started a few weeks ago and yet, fall break is upon us! I hope all of you have a wonderful break and are safe in any of your travels.

Speaking of fall break, the youth will not meet on Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. We will be back for youth on the 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup> of October, though! On the 25<sup>th</sup>, I invite anyone who wants to wear their Halloween costumes! The only rules are it has to be appropriate and cannot be too scary. I jump scare easily.

Also, for our fun event this month, we are going to a haunted house! On Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, we will go to the haunted woods in Lebanon. As we get closer, I will provide more details on time and cost.

Unfortunately, we are having to make a change to our calendar in November. Originally, we had planned to take a day trip to Dollywood on Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. The park will be closed that week, so we will have to pivot. I will also provide more details to that in the next newsletter.

As always, I want to end with a thank you. Thank you all so much for the many ways you support the youth ministry here at St. Mark's. Every week, I am blown away by the ways you all show your love for the young people of this church. Specifically, I want to thank Laney Marlatt and John McDaniel. I took a vacation last week and, in my absence, the two of them stepped up and lead a great Sunday night youth and Laney taught youth Sunday school. I learned early on in my ministry that this job is not possible without the love and support of the church community, and I am so grateful to be a part of a church who supports their youth and supports their youth director. If you have any questions or would like to be involved in any way, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Blessings and Peace,

David Cowan