

# 2023 YOUTH MINISTRY PLANNING GUIDE





GOD  
GAVE YOU  
FINGERPRINTS  
THAT NO ONE  
ELSE HAS,  
SO YOU CAN  
LEAVE AN  
IMPRINT THAT  
NO ONE  
ELSE CAN.

- Unknown





## Youth Ministry

At White Memorial, we have a goal to bring young people together in a life of faith, action and fellowship, and address spiritual, emotional, and social needs unique to youth. We want to create a safe and nurturing space for teenagers to gather together and share their joys and concerns with each other and with caring adults. Our desire is that everyone involved with this ministry might encounter Christ so that all of us may grow in fellowship together and in discipleship to God.

## Youth Ministry Values

**Welcoming** - Practicing radical hospitality to engage youth in relationships.

**Relevant** - Meeting youth where they are in their lives, in their language, modeling Christian living.

### Integrated into the Life of the Church -

Youth are visible, excited participants alongside their church family in a lifelong journey of faith.

FINGERPRINTS OF FAITH





YET, O LORD,  
YOU ARE OUR  
FATHER.  
WE ARE  
THE CLAY,  
YOU ARE  
THE POTTER;  
WE ARE ALL  
THE WORKS OF  
YOUR HAND.

- Isaiah 64:8





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WHAT'S A  
SMALL ACT  
FOR YOU,  
MAY VERY  
WELL BE THE  
ANSWER TO  
SOMEONE  
ELSE'S  
PRAYER.

- Jennifer Ueckert





# YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAMS

WMPC Youth strives to balance programs that include both big and small group gatherings. From games and recreation to reflection and contemplation, we know that everyone connects to God differently. All students are invited to come and explore their faith with us!

## Youth Group



Our Sunday Night Youth Group program is for both middle and high school students. We begin with dinner, \$6 each, and spend time playing on purpose as we grow in our faith and discipleship. You can expect a fun night that balances big group time, smaller breakout groups, discussions and contemplative time with music. Youth Group nights are designed to start off your week energized in your faith! Friends are always welcome!

## Campfire Theology



Grab your camping chair and blanket and join us in the Dover parking lot for a laid back and casual evening around the campfire. From life application to current events, we discuss the intersection of our faith and our lives. The chill atmosphere makes this an easy event for high schoolers to show up as they are. Plus, this year we've added pizza!

## Middle School Small Groups



Once a month our middle school leadership team, in tandem with adult leaders, lead small groups in relevant discussions, group activities and some hilarious games. The adult leaders assign small groups, but are always ready to add new folks. These small groups are one of the best ways to get plugged in as a middle schooler! This year we will be serving pizza at each small group gathering- so don't forget to invite your friends!

## Coffee and Spirituality



This beloved and relaxed event is for both middle and high schoolers to come and discuss their faith questions with a coffee-house type setting. We serve coffee (DECAF) and hot chocolate and write down our faith questions to be discussed by the group. All questions and questioners are welcome because this is the place where mystery and doubt have a prominent seat at the metaphorical table.





GOD DOES  
NOT NEED  
YOUR  
GOOD WORKS,  
BUT YOUR  
NEIGHBOR  
DOES.

- Martin Luther





# Youth Ministry Program - Leadership Teams

## Middle School Leadership Team



The “MLT” is a team of 7th and 8th grade students who want to deepen their faith and discipleship by brainstorming ideas, creating programming, and become small group leaders for the middle school youth of White Memorial. This team applies in the fall and then meets weekly

## High School Leadership Team



The High School Leadership Team (HSLT) is a team of 9th-12th graders who meet weekly on Zoom to plan youth group events, youth retreats, learn leadership skills and help facilitate youth events. Our HSLT focuses on leadership development in the areas of public speaking, writing prayers or liturgy, programming, empowering the gifts of others and practicing radical hospitality.

## Adult Youth Advisors



Adult leaders are the backbone of any healthy youth ministry. Being a youth adviser for WMPC Youth not only involves large group program assistance, leading small groups and facilitating discussions, but also playing a vital role in welcoming students and loving them exactly where they are. Youth Advisers are equipped by the youth staff through fall training and weekly meetings. All of our youth advisers go through Safe Sanctuary training and background checks. We are so thankful for the time, energy and passion that these faithful adults play in the lives of teenagers in our church.



I'VE COME TO  
BELIEVE THAT  
EACH OF US  
HAS A PERSONAL  
CALLING THAT'S  
AS UNIQUE  
AS A  
FINGERPRINT.

- Oprah Winfrey





# Youth Ministry Retreats and Big Events

## High School Beach Retreat



**September 24- 25, 2022**  
**Cost: \$155.00**  
**Grade: 9th - 12th**

Come get away with us for a weekend of Sabbath as the school year kicks into high gear. Being in high school can get stressful and sometimes you need time away to just be a teenager. This weekend trip has a long and rich history at White Memorial. Join us as we head down to Pine Knolls Shores on the Crystal Coast to stay at the Trinity Center, spend time on the beach and end the trip with a dreamy Sunday catamaran ride. We return back to church on Sunday late afternoon rested, recharged, renewed and ready for whatever comes next.

## Middle School Fall Retreat



**October 7 - 9, 2022**  
**Cost: \$155.00**  
**Grade: 6th - 8th**

Calling all middle schoolers! Join us for the best two nights and two days of fun, fellowship, friendships and great food! We will head to camp Chestnut Ridge to grow in faith, meet new and old friends in our youth group as we learn and play together. If you love campfires, archery, canoeing, Gaga ball and field games, this is the retreat for you! You'll hear us talk about the ways to get plugged into youth ministry at WMPC are to give us a few weeks and a retreat- well, this one is customized with middle schoolers in mind! Please contact Genevieve Brooks if you have any questions or concerns. We have a seat on the bus waiting for you!

## High School Mountain Retreat



**November 4 - 6, 2022**  
**Cost \$160.00**  
**Grade: 9th - 12th**

The mountains are calling and so we must answer. All high school students are invited to join us for two nights and three days of growing in our faith through spiritual practices and intentional community. This year we will be staying in Black Mountain in the Blue Ridge Assembly. From worship to afternoon hikes, workshops to an epic game night, this retreat is the idyllic fall getaway. We hope you'll join us for this second annual spiritual retreat.





EACH OF US  
BEARS THE  
IMPRINT  
OF A FRIEND  
MET ALONG  
THE WAY;  
IN EACH  
THE TRACE  
OF EACH.  
FOR GOOD  
OR EVIL  
IN WISDOM  
OR IN FOLLY  
EVERYONE  
STAMPED  
BY EVERYONE.

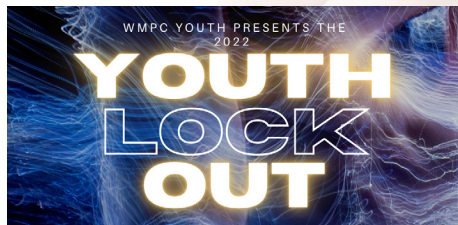
- Primo Levi





# Youth Ministry Programs

## The Lockout



January 13, 2023

Cost: \$78.00

Grade: 6th - 12th

Friends invited, but seats on the buses are limited

All middle and high school youth are invited to register for this all-night extravaganza! We meet at the church at 7pm on Friday night to check-in before we load up on the charter buses and church vans for the most epic 12 hours of your year (thus far). This year's activities will be announced through the weekly email newsletter. Past trips have included bowling, laser tag, trampoline parks, roller skating and more! You don't want to miss this wild night! P.S.- We are always looking for adult chaperones, so if this sounds fun to you-please contact Genevieve or Bailey ASAP!

## Asheville Middle School Mission Weekend



February 17 - 19, 2023

Cost: \$TBD

Grade: 6th - 8th

For this weekend, we partner with Youth Mission Co. and stay at First Presbyterian Church, Asheville for a wonderful weekend of service. This is a great trip that introduces middle schoolers to varying types of mission work from construction to gardening to the ministry of presence. Spaces are limited for this bite-sized weekend of discipleship.

## Joint Spring Retreat



March 10 - 12, 2023

Cost: MS - \$165.00; HS - \$155.00

Grades: MS- 6th and 7th ; and HS - 9th - 12th

This is our middle school retreat that is led by our high schoolers. Every high schooler that registers is given a leadership role on this powerful and fun weekend at the coast. We'll hear faith stories from our high school seniors, experience small groups, enjoy camp activities like sailing and Gaga Ball, and some extra fun surprises planned by the high school leadership team! You do not want to miss this amazing weekend. **8th graders will be on their Confirmation Retreat this same weekend.**





DO NOT PASS  
BY A MAN  
IN NEED,  
FOR YOU MAY  
BE THE HAND  
OF GOD  
TO HIM.

- Proverbs 3:27





# Youth Ministry Programs

## Confirmation Retreat



**March 11 - 12, 2023**  
**Cost: \$0.00 - included in Confirmation fees**  
**8th graders and Confirmation Mentors**  
**Registration Opens**

Each year our 8th grade confirmation class heads up to Lillington for a one-night overnight stay at Camp Willow Run. We stay in their train cars that have been converted to comfy cabins as we get away to discern our faith statements and our confirmation journeys. This retreat is an integral part of the confirmation experience. If you are not able to attend this retreat, please contact Chip Pope at your earliest convenience.

## Youth Ministry Finale @ Camp Kanata



**April 30, 2023**  
**Cost: Free!**  
**All Youth Families**

All youth families are invited to join us at Camp Kanata to celebrate the end of the year with field games, a BYO- Picnic Dinner down by the lake, and a youth led closing worship. This year's finale will include a hilarious family challenge! We hope you will make plans to join us for this picturesque evening at camp, only 20 miles north of WMPC!

I AM THE FINGERPRINT OF GOD  
CREATED IN GOD'S IMAGE  
FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE  
THE APPLE OF GOD'S EYE.  
I AM THE FINGERPRINT OF GOD.







FINGERPRINTS OF

FAITH





WHAT YOU  
DO MAKES A  
DIFFERENCE,  
AND YOU  
HAVE TO DECIDE  
WHAT KIND OF  
DIFFERENCE  
YOU WANT  
TO MAKE.

- Jane Goodall





## Conferences

As a part of our ministry yearly rhythm, we attend conferences for youth and their leaders gather to worship, play and grow together in faith. These are fun trips where groups return with inside jokes, stories and memories that last a lifetime! Conferences provide emotionally, spiritually and physically safe spaces to think through theology, to challenge our current thinking and opinions, to find inspiration, and to learn and grow together as a church family.

### Montreat Worship and Music Conference



**June 25 - July 1, 2023**  
**Cost: \$550, \$150 deposit**  
**Completed 6th - 12th grade**

The Presbyterian Association of Musicians (PAM) works in cooperation with the Montreat Conference Center to offer this amazing worship and music conference each summer. Guided by the principles of reformed worship, conferees explore opportunities for vital worship experiences and enriching the liturgical life of the local church. Organized and led by the WMPC Music Ministry Team, our church has a wonderful history of sending a group of adults and youth to this awesome conference!

### Middle School Massanetta Springs Youth



**July 13 - July 16, 2023**  
**Cost: \$350, \$150 deposit**  
**Completed 6th - 8th grade**

This middle school conference is the perfect blend of faith-filled, hands-on experiences designed specifically for middle school youth. This conference is a chance to meet other young Presbyterians from across the country and, foster a deeper understanding of the broader church. Massanetta's unique conference includes keynotes, music, recreation, workshops and small groups—led by high school, ministry-minded "Advocates".

Note: Any registration after April 16, 2023, will incur a \$40.00 late fee.

Required Trip Meeting (for the student participating and one parent): (12:15 p.m.) May 21, 2023

### High School Montreat Youth Conference



**July 16 - July 22, 2023**  
**Cost: \$580 per person, \$150 deposit Completed**  
**8th - 12th grade**

The Montreat Youth Conference is a gathering of high school students and their adult leaders from all over the country for a week of study, worship and recreation. Activities include morning energizers, music, keynote speakers, small group meetings, afternoon recreation activities and evening worship. 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 in our world.





GOD HAS  
NO HANDS  
OR FEET  
OR VOICE  
EXCEPT OURS  
AND THROUGH  
THESE  
HE WORKS.

- Teresa of Avila





## Service Learning Trips

These unique trips for youth offer opportunities to put our call to service into action. Through challenging and rewarding mission trips we will complete projects such as repairing and renovating homes for families in need, building mission and ministry facilities, leading children's vacation Bible School programs, or working with our neighbors in need, both locally or internationally.

### Appalachia Service Project (ASP)



**June 11 - 17, 2023**

**Cost: \$400, \$150 deposit  
Completed 9th - 12th grade**

Appalachian Service Project (ASP), has a rich history with White Memorial! We've been sending mission teams with ASP for 30 years! This amazing mission trip provides one of the most rewarding structured service opportunities in the nation, bringing thousands of volunteers from around the country to rural Central Appalachia to repair homes for low-income families.

*Required Trip Meeting - Tool Training (for every participant): (10:00 a.m.) June 10, 2023.*

### Chiapas Mexico International Mission Trip



**July 01 - 09, 2023**

**Cost: \$950, \$150 deposit  
Completed 10th - 12th grade**

We will spend eight nights in the Chiapas region of Mexico working with a faith-based humanitarian nonprofit organization, Hebron USA, Hebrón de Desarrollo Tzeltal. The trip will include construction projects, cultural engagement opportunities, providing Vacation Bible School and time to experience Mexico as a tourist. This short-term, international trip is an incredible experience for those who want to get their hands dirty serving and partnering with God's people in Chiapas. No experience or training necessary – just an open heart and a willing spirit!

*Required Trip Meeting (for the student participating and one parent): (12:15 p.m.) March 26 and May 21, 2023.*

**Chiapas registration will be managed independent from Registration Process page 25.**

**Interested attendees should contact Bailey Morton.**

### Charleston Youth Mission (CYM)



**July 30 - Aug 04, 2023**

**Cost: \$360; \$150 deposit  
Completed 5th - 8th grade**

This urban outreach ministry is in community with Charleston Atlantic Presbytery headquarters and Youth Mission Co. Located in the Park City area of Charleston, Charleston Youth Mission immerses young people in one of the oldest cities of our nation. Participants will learn about the area's rich history as well as the current situation of the city. From slavery to today's racial-economic disparity, at Charleston Youth Mission we will look at the common threads, serve our neighbors, and reflect on God's call for justice and equity for all.

*Required Trip Meeting (for the student participating and one parent): (12:15 p.m.) May 21, 2023.*



IT IS IN  
YOUR HANDS  
TO CREATE A  
BETTER WORLD  
FOR ALL  
WHO LIVE IN IT.

- Nelson Mandela





## Service Learning Opportunities

These unique trips for youth offer opportunities to put our call to service into action. Through challenging and rewarding mission trips we will complete projects such as repairing and renovating homes for families in need, building mission and ministry facilities, leading children's vacation Bible School programs, or working with our neighbors in need, both locally or internationally.

### Vacation Bible School (VBS)



**June 13 - June 17, 2022; 9:00 a.m. - noon**

**Cost: FREE**

**Completed 6th - 12th grade**

Middle and high school student volunteers are vital for a successful VBS! Volunteers can be assigned to individual groups or to help with Bible stories, worship, crafts, music, recreation, or refreshments. This is a fun way to serve our children's ministry, build leadership skills and grow in faith with our White Memorial church family!



FAITH IS LIKE  
AN EMPTY  
OPEN HAND  
STRETCHED OUT  
TOWARDS GOD,  
WITH NOTHING  
TO OFFER AND  
EVERYTHING  
TO RECEIVE.

- John Calvin





# REGISTRATION PROCESS FOR SUMMER TRIPS

## Fall Registration Period - Sept. 12, 2022 to Oct. 10, 2022

- Only active participants or church members may register during the Fall Registration Period.
- This is not first-come, first-served. All who register online between these dates will have equal opportunity of securing a spot.
- Adults will be invited to participate as summer trip leaders during this period.
- The number of spots confirmed will be dependent upon the availability of registrations by the particular ministry site, transportation availability, and the size of the leadership team.

### **What happens if there are more registrants than available spots on a particular trip?**

Preference will be given in the following order: has a family member serving in a leadership role on the trip, youth is in their last year of eligibility for a particular trip, those who are regularly active in the life of WMPC, and then all others. Within those groups, a random drawing will be utilized.

### **Confirmation emails will be sent Monday Oct. 17, 2022.**

The registrant has 10 working days (Friday, October 28, 2022) to submit payment and all appropriate paperwork. Failure to do so will result in loss of a spot and the registrant will have to re-register.

(Registration process continued on the next page)

**Chiapas Mexico International Mission Trip registration process will be managed independently. The registration is an exception to above outlined process. Interested attendees should contact Bailey Morton for more information.**



FAITH BY  
ITSELF,  
IF NOT  
ACCOMPANIED  
BY ACTION  
IS DEAD.

- James 2:17





# REGISTRATION PROCESS FOR SUMMER TRIPS

## Winter Registration Period - Jan. 09, 2023 to Feb. 13, 2023

- There is no guarantee that all trips will have spots available during this registration period.
- Adults will be invited to participate as summer trip leaders during this period.
- Any youth, including guests and visitors may register during the winter registration period.
- Preference will be the same as the Fall Registration Period.

## Open Registration Period - Feb. 27, 2023 until all spots are filled

- Beginning Feb 28, 2023 all remaining spots will be filled on a first come, first served basis.

### Bob Ames Scholarship

Robert G. Ames Youth Ministry Fund was established in 1996 by the estate of Bob Ames, a former director of Youth Ministry, to benefit the youth ministry of White Memorial Presbyterian Church. The funds provide financial assistance to youth active in the church's youth ministry for mission trips, conferences, retreats and other church sponsored events.

One goal of the scholarship supported by this fund is to ensure that no youth is unable to participant in any church function due to financial considerations.

The Bob Ames Scholarship Application can be found on the White Memorial Youth Ministry Forms website. All request to access the fund should be sent to Chip Pope at [cpope@whitememorial.org](mailto:cpope@whitememorial.org).





WMPC  
YOUTH

## - Mother Teresa