

Yewwt News



A Newsletter for da Yewts and Parents of Grace United Methodist Church - Decatur, IL

October 2005

We're Moving!



We are in the process of moving all of our youth activities into the annex. The annex is the building formerly occupied by Head Start to the south of our main church building.

The walls have been painted, the floors have been polished. There is still a little more work to be done, for example the GRUBS are going to build us a stage for our worship space; but we are finally to a point where we can start moving in!

There is plenty of parking space at this building as well. After we have moved in and are meeting there on a regular basis, it would be a good idea for parents to drop off and pick up their youth there instead of having them walk in the dark back to the main church parking lot.

Jr. High YAR

Nine youth and two adult chaperones will be attending Jr. High YAR (Youth Annual Retreat) this year which will be held at the Decatur Holiday Inn from Friday, November 4th, to Sunday November 6th.

The theme this year is "Who Am I?" and will feature Pastor Bob Freeman from Geneseo First United Methodist Church as well as Odyssey, a praise and worship band from Eureka.

The youth attending will be: Chrissy Harmon, Lizzy Isbell, Alex Lutz, Kinzie Sellers, Dylan Sturgell, Tyler Sturgell, Angela Tallent, Melissa Tallent, and Calleen Wrigley. They will be accompanied by Ryan Neaveill and Danielle Lash.

Keep these folks in your prayers as they prepare for and attend YAR, that they would be blessed during this time of retreat and grow closer to God.

It's All About Relationships

We are more connected than ever in this world through amazing inventions such as the internet and cell phones; yet somehow, more than ever, many people feel unconnected to God and others. Maybe this is because the most important things in our lives are not our gadgets, but our relationships.

During our Sunday evening "God Time" we've been talking about some of the relationships in our lives. We have looked at our relationships with teachers, siblings and neighbors as we have read and studied stories in scripture that deal with these types of relationships.

As we continue to explore why "it's all about relationships," here are a couple of scriptures for you to ponder: John 13:34 (love one another); Matthew 5:43-48 (love your enemies).

Confirmation Classes

All eighth graders need to go through confirmation before they become members of Grace. Confirmation classes will begin Sunday, November 13th at 4:00 p.m.

When this occurs, we will modify our Sunday evening schedule to look something like this:

- 4:00 - Confirmation
- 5:00 - Jr. High "God Time"
- 6:00 - Dinner & Worship
- 7:00 - Sr. High "God Time"

If you have questions about confirmation, contact Pastor Sara at the church 429-5374.

Important Dates:

- October 2, 2:00, CROP Walk at Fairview Park. Registration at 1:30.
- October 28-29, Thirty-Hour Famine.
- November 4-6, Middle School YAR (Youth Annual Retreat), Decatur Holiday Inn.
- November 13, 4:00 p.m. Confirmation classes begin.
- November 18, Box City.

Weekly Schedule:

Thursday Evening, 6-8 p.m. "People Time"

Thursday evening is primarily a time of fellowship or "People Time." We meet at 6:00 for WAM (Worship Arts Ministry) which includes youth praise band and singers as well as computer techies to work on our powerpoint slides. Around 6:45 we have a pizza party followed by a recreation activity.

Sunday Evening, 6-8 p.m. "God Time"

We meet on Sundays at 6:00 for "God Time" which begins with upbeat praise and worship (where we incorporate what we worked on during Thursday WAM time). We then walk through a story from scripture in a different sort of way, such as through drama. We then break into small groups to discuss the scripture, followed by a more intimate, reflective worship time.

Check Out These Websites:

<http://www.methodx.net/thelife/test.asp>
Answer the 15 multiple-choice questions to find out your spiritual type (are you a sage, prophet, lover, or mystic?) at this website for older youth and young adults sponsored by the Upper Room.



<http://www.upperroom.org/devozine/>
This is an online devotional magazine for teens from the Upper Room (you can also subscribe to the print version, but the online version is free). It deals with issues relevant to teens.

<http://www.decatargrace.org/youth/>
Don't forget about our own website! Austin Hummert has added a new message board. There is also a new photo album. Check it out!