



Upcoming Fall Events!

Summer has wound down and students have gone back to school, which means our Fall programs have kicked off in Mt. Carmel Youth Ministries. We are excited about all the upcoming events for students this school year. Check out your calendar for a monthly schedule, but here are some details about upcoming events:

- No youth group on September 5th due to Labor Day. Enjoy the holiday weekend with your family!
- Fall kick-off at the church is Sunday

September 12. This is the first day of Sunday School for middle school and high school students, starting at 9:45am in the youth house. The worship service also returns to 11:00am starting September 12.

- “High School Hang-Out” will be held every other Thursday (see article on page 2 of this newsletter)
- Plans are underway for our Fall retreats! Tentative dates have been set for the two retreats. (They are

tentative because I have not yet heard from those who run the retreats about whether we will get our first choice of dates.) These dates are November 5-7 for middle school students and December 3-5 for high school students.

- Friday September 17 is a movie night just for middle school students. We will be at the youth house from 6-8pm for a movie, snacks, and games. Come join us and invite a friend!

Sunday Youth Group Times:

6th-8th Grade @ 5:00pm
9th-12th Grade @ 7:00pm

Youth Leader: Jessie Patouillet

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What's Up with Youth Culture?: MTV Documents Real Lives of Teens and Their Real Struggles

Reality television seems to be getting less and less “real” every time we change the channel. But lately, MTV has been taking a different approach by providing an all too real look into youth culture.

Tuesday nights on MTV include new episodes of *Teen Mom* and *If You Really Knew Me*, two documentary-type shows chronicling the struggles that many teens have today. Many of these issues and struggles are ones that are uncomfortable or taboo.

As a youth leader, I have been very interested in both of these shows, and have actually learned more about teenagers by watching them.

As a Christian community, part of our job is to encourage teens in purity and abstinence. Teen pregnancy is unfortunately a growing problem in our country, and is even glamorized in the media sometimes. *Teen Mom* follows four young women who got pregnant in high school and fortunately made the choice to give birth. One of the four made

the decision to give their child for adoption, while the other three are living lives as teen moms. The show follows these girls through the ups and downs, difficulties and struggles of balancing being a teenager and also being a mom.

I think this show gives teenagers a dose of reality in its portrayal of teen parenthood. It provides a great opportunity for parents and their teens to connect and have open conversations about some of the issues presented in the show, and also about their own decisions regarding sexual purity.

The newer of the two series, called *If You Really Knew Me* is an inspiring look into the cliques, conflicts,

and home situations that teenagers face on a daily basis. The show follows an organization called *Challenge Day* as they travel to various high schools and put on their program. Throughout the series, victims face their bullies, students open up about broken relationships, and cliques begin to realize the pain they have caused to fellow students.

The idea behind the program is to put aside outward appearances and begin to think about the idea of really knowing each other, the good, the bad, and the ugly and meeting one another where they are.

The real life testimonies of students are truly powerful and eye opening. This is another show that could spark very good conversations between students and their parents. I strongly encourage you to check out these shows on Tuesday evenings or read about them online. You may just learn some very profound things about teen culture, or even about the teen living in your house!



“High School Hang-Out”: Thursdays this Fall

Sunday School, retreats, and youth groups are all essential elements of our youth ministry program here at Mt. Carmel Church, but we also value just spending time together and having a safe place to “hang out” with one another. This fall, we will have several times for high schoolers to get together with one another and just hang out. We will first try this at

the Panera Bread location in Monaca after school on Thursdays (3:00pm). This is a great opportunity to invite your friends!

Please come join us for the first week of “High School Hang-Out” on September 9th! We will try and do this every other week after that!



See You at the Pole: September 22, 2010

See You At The Pole (SYATP) is an event in which students around the nations gather together before classes to pray for their school, community, and for one another. It is an exciting thing to see students coming together to make a statement about their faith. This is a student-led event and one which draws students of



all different walks of life and denominations together. Each year, there is a theme and a Scripture pas-

sage to go along. This year's theme is *Reveal* and the passage is Matthew 6:9-13. If you are a student, or work in the schools, I encourage you to participate in this event on **September 22!** Everyone else, I encourage you to pray for and during this event that God would use it to draw young people to Himself! For more information on SYATP visit: www.syatp.org

Fall Kick-Off: Sunday September 12



Mt. Carmel will be returning to our Fall Schedule Sunday September 12. This means that Sunday School will be held for all students in grades 6-12 at the Youth House next to the church from 9:45-10:45am. Our worship times will also change to 11:00am in the church sanctuary.

Youth group will remain at its normal times, Middle School (grades 6-8) from 5:00-6:30pm and High School (grades 9-12) at 7:00pm in youth house next to the church! See you there! Please contact Jessie if you have any questions!

Moving Up!

We are very excited to welcome a new group of 6th graders into the youth ministry program here at Mt. Carmel. This means that all 6th graders can now join us for middle school youth group, retreats, and other activities! Middle School youth group will continue to meet from 5:00-6:30pm on Sunday evenings.

To make sure our students have a smooth transition into the youth ministries program, some upcoming 6th



graders participated in our move up day a few weeks ago. We went to paint pottery together and out to ice cream!

Upcoming 9th graders are now invited to join us for high school youth group and other high school programs at 7:00pm each Sunday evening.

**Mt. Carmel
Church Youth
Ministries**

September 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5 No youth group due to Labor Day!	6	7	8	9 "High School Hang-Out" @ 3pm	10	11
1 2 Fall Kick-Off! Sunday School @ 9:45am Youth Group	1 3	1 4	1 5	1 6	1 7 Middle School Movie Night 6-8pm	1 8
1 9 Mt. Carmel Road Rally! (no youth group)	2 0	2 1	2 2	2 3 "High School Hang-Out" @ 3pm	2 4	2 5
2 6 Youth Group!	2 7	2 8	2 9	3 0 Chris Tomlin Concert		

Sunday Youth Group

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6th-8th Grade 5:00-6:30pm

9th-12th Grade 7:00pm

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