

Joint Youth Ministry Vision Statement

The Joint Youth Ministry exists to create a safe place for young people to grow in their knowledge of who they are and who God is. Our desire is that they cultivate a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and that their spiritual gifts are encouraged, affirmed and celebrated in their youth group family. We seek to equip youth with the tools necessary to continue on a lifelong journey within the body of Christ.

All Joint Youth Ministry programming is based on this vision for our students. Every year we revisit whether or not the programs we have planned are meeting the needs of our current students and families. We heard from students consistently that they love supportive adults in their lives, camps/mission trips, serving others and unprogrammed time to build relationships. Some of our new scheduling reflects that. We also want to focus on encouraging you to build communication and faith as a family. We will continue to have family service projects, parent discussion groups and we will bring back Family Matters (every other month, youth group for the entire family.) This year in particular we have an extremely large junior high youth group with a significant amount of new families. Additionally we have a lot of people from Lisa's bootcamp who have become and are becoming part of the JYM family and whose students are involved. We are excited to fully integrate you into the JYM and introduce you to families who have gone before you in the "teenage years". Please note that we rotate churches on an every two month basis. This year our schedule is

August/September- Willow Glen UMC- 1420 Newport Ave San Jose CA 95125

October/November- Almaden Hills UMC- 1200 Blossom Hill Rd San Jose CA 95118

December/January- Cambrian Park UMC- 1919 Gunston Way San Jose CA 95124

February/March- WGUMC

April/May- AHUMC

June/July- CPUMC

The best way to find out what is happening in the Joint Youth Ministry:

- *Ask to be added to our weekly email list. Emails with pictures, plans and updates go out every Tuesday.**
- *Read the calendar on the website- www.jointyouthgroup.com**
- *Check out our www.instagram.com/jymrocks**
- *Call our JYM phone for the weekly updated outgoing message-408-966-0293**
- *Join the Joint Youth Ministry Facebook Page which will also have a weekly link to our email.**
- *Ask to be on the reminder text list for activities!**
- *Read the flyers and paperwork we send home.**
- *Email the staff or ask another JYM parent if you can't find the answer to your questions**

Description of our regular weekly/monthly events

Sunday Night programming-

A. Youth Group is our main event, best attended and main teaching time of the week. On Sunday evenings we have lots of games, team building activities, speakers, discussions in small groups with volunteer leaders and much more. Sunday nights are a perfect time for newcomers to check out our community of faith!

Junior High Youth Group- 5:00pm-7:00pm

High School Youth Group-5:00pm-7:00pm

Worship Arts- 7:00pm-8:00pm- Hip Hop dance team and Creative Art Time

B. Sunday Switch up- Daytreats, Family Matters, Service- Once or twice a month we will be doing something different on a Sunday instead of regular youth group programming. Some times that includes an all day girls day/guys day, sometimes that might be a combined family event and sometimes its a daytime service project. We believe students learn all sorts of ways including speakers, small groups, leading, games as we do regularly on Sundays but also in day trips to places of interest, volunteering at local non-profits, intergenerational family events and deeper conversations with more intimate groups of people.

Weekday night programming-

6:30pm-8:30pm Weekday nights are our intentional spiritual development nights! We often eat dinner together (except at Girls Night/Guys Night) and then break into age groups for Bible Study, activities and discussion. These evenings are more low-key than Sunday nights and they help students ask tough questions, make deeper friendships and evaluate their spiritual journeys in a more intimate setting.

1st Wednesday night of the month- Feed the Need-6th-12th graders. The JYM will be starting a new skill/ministry program called "Feed the Need" We will be teaching students how to cook a different meal every time we meet. We will cook in bulk, eat together and then separate and package the food to deliver to families and individuals from our three churches who sign up for meal delivery. We have a great group of adult volunteers who love cooking and are excited to walk alongside your student as they make something new!

2nd Wednesday night of the month- Guys night/Girls night- 6th-12th graders. Guys and Girls meet on their own with their own leaders and do activities, bible studies, discussion and prayer. This is one of our students favorites event every single month.

3rd Wednesday night of the month- Dig Deeper Bible Study and dinner- 6th-12th graders. We'll eat a home-cooked dinner together first and then split up into junior and senior high small groups Bible studies. Please bring your Bible and \$3.00 each time for dinner.

4th Wednesday/Thursday or some Sunday afternoons- Joint Youth Student Leadership team- 7th-12th graders, application based. This group is for students who want to learn leadership skills, help point the JYM in a Godly and relevant direction and want to serve their peers and community. The dates/times for our meeting will largely depend on the students picked to be on the team and their schedule. Applications can be picked up at YG on Sundays or Wednesdays.

Additional JYM Programs

“Hole-y” Club- Every other Tuesday morning before school Katrina and Lisa meet with high school students for food, prayer and hang time. We have been meeting at Pioneer high school parking lot for years as that was the earliest school start time, but because of a scheduling change we will now meet at McDonalds/Starbucks at 7:10am. We bring donut holes and bagels (hence Hole-y club) and buy drinks for the students as well. If students don’t drive we drive them to their respective schools on time for class to start!

On Campus Visits- We think it’s important to come to your school and see where you hang out all the time, since you come to us so often. Katrina and Lisa will bring pizza and drinks to your school for you and your friends at lunch time! It helps us see you in your element as well as get to know your friends. It’s free and fun! We do lunch visits every other Tuesday!

Family Matters: We believe that families are crucial to spiritual formation and self-esteem building in teenagers. We want to equip, support and encourage healthy families. Every couple of months we have a “Family Matters” event. We do family competitions, small groups for parents, youth and siblings and often share a meal together. This is for all kinds of families—everyone is welcome.

Service Projects: Serving others is an integral part of our faith. Hands-on experiential learning about the issues of injustice & oppression is extremely important to us. We provide teenagers with eye opening experiences that challenge their world view and faith. We participate in service projects at least once a month. ranging from donation drives, work projects at the church, serving in food banks, homeless shelters and more.

The Journey: Small group for seniors in high school. We seek to equip seniors for the next step in their faith, career and academic life. We learn life skills, discuss hot topic issues that affect 17-18 year olds and pray for one another. We meet every 8-10 weeks

Mentoring: The JYM has committed to find adult mentors for any teen in the youth program who wants one. The mentor and student meet once a month to go through a book study or discussion questions. The mentor provides a much needed listening ear for a teen who needs someone to support, advocate for and pray for them. If you are interested in being paired with a mentor, fill out the “Pair me up” form that you’ll find at youth group and online and we will be sure to find you one based on your gender, needs and

Fundraisers: Not only do the fundraisers raise money for our teens in need of scholarships for mission trips and camps, but we seek to focus on community building as we fundraising. The **Walk-a-thon** in the fall seeks to raise funds and build community and camaraderie in the youth program by competing for prizes, walking for hours together and raising money for a common cause. The **Dinner, Auction and Show** in the spring seeks to build fellowship within our three churches by inviting members and families of all three churches to dine together and support our teenagers. Our quarterly fundraiser is an **“I need a break” babysitting night** for kids in our congregation/neighborhood to build excitement about the JYM with the younger families and kids in our churches.

We also have sleepovers, retreats, snow trips, summer camps, mission trips, dances and discipleship groups, confirmation and more!