



VILLAGE CHURCH

Youth Ministry

VILLAGE YOUTH

23-24

MISSION CAMPUS



note to parents	4
communication	5
ministry programs	6
special events	7
middle school	8
high school	11
confirmation	12
capstone	13
village voices	14
youth band	15
winter ski retreats	16
dominican republic	17
summer	18
summer trips	19
volunteer	20
about village church	22

welcome to youth ministry at village

Life in middle school and high school is a busy time. Figuring out friends, family, school, activities, and yourself is a complicated, joyous, overwhelming, and ever-changing endeavor. We strive for Village to be a space where students can be themselves and talk openly about life.

No matter who you are, no matter where you have been or where you are now, it is our goal to foster a feeling of safety and home here. We believe God loves all of us without qualifications, and God wants us to lift each other up as we create community and understand one another. We need one another, and seek to love each other as God loves us.

Come and see what is going on in Youth Ministries at Village Church!

note to parents

hello parents!

Research from the National Study of Youth and Religion tells us that the single most important influence on the religious and spiritual lives of adolescents is their parents. We're here to support you in that. This year we'd like to connect better with you. But, we need your help.

stop by & introduce yourself

We love getting to know the families of the students we spend time with weekly, and it helps us know and care for your student better. If we haven't met in person, stop by sometime! Our office hours vary, so email or call us to make sure we'll be here.

We love getting to know our students better over coffee or food (on us)! Same goes for parents. Let us know if you'd like to meet for a cup of joe or a bite to eat. We'd love to chat with you about your student, about life, about who we are as an organization, and what opportunities we can offer your student and your family.

volunteer

Throughout the year, we often rely on parents and adults to help us make Youth Ministry a reality, whether that's helping us put on our annual fundraiser, helping drive students to an event located off-campus, or simply being an extra set of hands on deck. If you're interested in volunteering, whether it's regularly or for a one-time event, we'd love to have you! Check out pages 20-21 in this booklet for a few ways you can help.

Our goal is to be an advocate for the relationship between you and your student. Whatever we can do to partner with you in that, please let us know.



– ZACH & ANGEL
Pastor and Associate Director
of Youth Ministries



villagepresyouth.org

Go to our website for more info about anything in this booklet: contact info, trip details and registration, and up-to-date calendars for all youth events. You can also sign up to join Capstone or Confirmation, Youth Band or Village Voices choir, see our Instagram, view the monthly newsletter, and see our latest YouTube videos. When in doubt, check the website!

youth@villagepres.org

Email is the primary way that VPC youth staff will communicate directly with parents. Additionally, if your child is involved in Youth Ministry at VPC we will add parents' email addresses to our mailing list. Don't worry about spam—we're committed to sending limited emails that include only important updates and upcoming events! You can email us, including requests to be added to our communication list, at **youth@villagepres.org**.

monthly newsletter

Each month, we email out a youth newsletter (and post it to the youth website) with specific details, reminders, and deadlines about upcoming events. We also include fun anecdotes and additional links for both information and entertainment. The newsletter contains information regarding weekly programming and any new events added throughout the school year.

social media

Follow us on social media! We post frequently on these youth accounts (see below) to publicize and recap events, so it is a great way to stay informed, especially in the event of last-minute changes. We post all of our special events on Instagram so you know when and where to go. Don't have Instagram or YouTube? You can view both feeds on the Youth website!



INSTAGRAM
@VILLAGEPCYOUTH



YOUTUBE
VILLAGEPCYOUTH



FACEBOOK
@VILLAGEPCYOUTH

ministry programs

Sundays

sunday brunch

9-10 a.m. • Grades 7-12

confirmation

10:30 a.m.-noon • Grade 9 (and up)

capstone

noon-2 p.m. • Grade 12

village voices youth choir

5-6:30 p.m. • Grades 7-12

snl (sunday night live)

6:30-8:30 p.m. • Grades 9-12

Youth Band meets at 6 p.m. to rehearse.

Weekdays

lofternoons

Tuesdays • 4-5:30 p.m.

Grades 7-8

gps (growing personally & spiritually)

Wednesday • 6:30-8 p.m.

Grades 7-8

Youth Band meets at 6 p.m. to rehearse.

special events

August	27	Youth Sunday: 9, 11 a.m. & 5 p.m. services
---------------	----	--

September	5-10	Kickoff Week (see pgs. 8 & 11)
------------------	------	--------------------------------

October	12	MS Emerald City, 9 p.m.
	13	HS Topgolf, 10 a.m.
	28	Trunk or Treat, 4:30 p.m.

November	19-25	Thanksgiving Break
-----------------	-------	--------------------

December	3	DR Info Meeting (online), 4 p.m.
	10	Confirmation Info Meeting (online), noon
	20-31	Winter Break

January	1-6	Winter Break
	12-16	HS Winter Park Ski Retreat
	21	Confirmation Begins, 10:30 a.m.

February	11	All Youth Superbowl Party, 5 p.m.
	17-21	MS Winter Park Ski Retreat

March	8-16	HS Dominican Republic Mission Trip (Spring Break)
--------------	------	--

April	22	Graduating Senior Dinner, 6 p.m.
	30	Graduating Senior Sunday, 5 p.m. service

May	6	Confirmation Dinner, 6 p.m.
	19	Confirmation Sunday, 11 a.m. service

June	5-6	Youth Week
	16-22	Boundary Waters

July	6-14	HS Montreat Conference
	26-30	MS Mission Trip: Omaha

All event details will be listed on the web & in the monthly newsletter.

middle school

sunday brunch

Sundays • 9-10 a.m. • Youth Loft

On Sunday mornings, we invite middle schoolers to come hang out, enjoy some food, and explore and engage with the Bible and its stories in imaginative ways. This is also a chance to ask difficult questions in an accepting space, and is a meaningful time with thoughtful teachers and encouraging community. On the first Sunday of each month we attend the 9 a.m. worship together in the balcony.

lofternoons

Tuesdays • 4-5:30 p.m. • Youth Loft

Lofternoons is our weekly after-school program for middle schoolers. Our time together is unstructured and students can do anything from dodgeball to hanging out to homework. Many students walk over to the church together from nearby schools. If the weather is bad, we'll pick students up from Indian Hills in the church van (you can find out if we are coming to pick up on Instagram @villagepcyouth). Students from all schools are invited, and bringing friends is encouraged! Snacks are always provided.

gps (growing personally & spiritually)

Wednesdays • 6:30-8 p.m. • Youth Loft

GPS is our weekly youth program for middle schoolers. Each evening includes large group games, singing, worship, a message, and ends with small groups. We strive to make GPS a place where students can engage with each other and share their joys, concerns, and everyday struggles in an environment that is accepting and meaningful for all. Students can also join us for Wednesday Night Dinner beforehand at 5:30 if they'd like (cost for dinner is \$5 per student).

Looking for summer activities?	Page 18
Want to go on a trip?	Page 19
Want to get involved in music?	Page 14-15





sunday brunch

Sundays • 9-10 a.m. • Youth Loft

On Sunday mornings, we invite high schoolers to come hang out, enjoy some food, and explore and engage with the Bible and its stories in imaginative ways. This is also a chance to ask difficult questions in an accepting space, and is a meaningful time with thoughtful teachers and encouraging community. On the first Sunday of each month we attend the 9 a.m. worship together in the balcony.

snl (sunday night live)

Sundays • 6:30-8:30 p.m. • Youth Loft

SNL is our weekly evening gathering for high school students. On Sunday nights we connect with each other through music, discussion, games, and small groups. We cover a wide range of topics throughout the year, focusing on navigating the sometimes confusing and challenging world of high school. Trying to figure out your own identity, let alone what it means to follow Christ in the midst of it, takes good friends and community. You will find both of them here!

confirmation classes

Confirmation is the process by which new high schoolers learn what it means to be in a relationship with Jesus Christ as a member of the church. Turn to page 12 for more information about Confirmation!

capstone classes

This class is for high school seniors, and we'll discuss what faith looks like in the next chapter of life as you head off to college (or wherever the road takes you). Turn to page 13 for more information about Capstone!

Looking for summer activities? Page 18

Want to go on a trip? Page 19

Want to get involved in music? Page 14-15

confirmation

Sundays, Jan. 21-May 19 • 10:30 a.m.-noon • Room 232/233

Confirmation is the process by which our youth learn what it means to be in a relationship with Jesus Christ as a member of the church. The class is open to 9th graders, as well as older students who have not yet taken it. We welcome everyone, no matter what your past experience is with church, faith, or God. Confirmation begins in January and goes through the beginning of May. We send out information and details about Confirmation to families of 9th graders in early November, and post information on the youth website as well. At the end of the class, students have the opportunity to join VPC as members, and we host a Confirmation Dinner to celebrate their graduation from the class.

If you are an adult interested in leading a small group, let us know. We'd love to have you!



Confirmation Sunday 2023



Capstone Class of 2023

When you leave high school, a lot of changes are in your near future: living more independently, meeting a wide variety of people from different backgrounds, and growing as a person. You change a lot in and after high school, and your faith journey is no different. This class for high school seniors is where we discuss what life and faith look like in the next chapter of life, and how to approach it thoughtfully and intentionally.

Class will meet five times over the school year. At the end of the class, we will take a trip to a regional city to celebrate our seniors' upcoming graduation from high school and journey into the next chapter of life.

CAPSTONE MEETING DATES

Sundays, noon-2 p.m.

Sept. 17 • Oct. 22 • Dec. 10 • Jan. 28 • Feb. 25

village voices

Sundays, 5-6:30 p.m. • Room 14 • Grades 7-12

Village Voices takes music and performance seriously, but not at the cost of building community and having a lot of fun. The youth choir is open to middle and high schoolers (grades 7-12) of all skill levels: no experience necessary, and no audition required!

The 2023-2024 year is going to be great with plenty of amazing music and fellowship including lock-ins, bowling, a cider mill trip, recording project, alumni reception, and a summer tour! Now is a great time to join and be a part of this community! Contact Josh to learn more.



Dr. Josh Maize, director
josh.maize@villagepres.org



Our Mission

Village Voices seeks to provide a unique musical opportunity for middle and high school students at Village Church. Singing helps us connect with our faith and with a community of singers. We form strong bonds both with each other and with the church.



Senior Sunday 2022

The Youth Band is open to any middle and high schoolers who play an instrument: drums, guitars, keyboards, violins, cellos, saxophones, trumpets, trombones, singers, rappers, songwriters, and sound technicians. You name it, we'll work with it - all are welcome! The band performs on Wednesdays at GPS (for middle schoolers) and Sundays at SNL (for high schoolers). Former band members have become nurses, scientists, musicians, engineers, baristas, mountain climbers, administrative assistants, and parents, but the one thing they all had in common was a passion for music.

Rehearsals are typically at 6 p.m. on Wednesdays before GPS (for middle schoolers) and 6pm on Sundays before SNL (for high schoolers). Interested in joining? Contact Zach!

Zach Walker

Zach.Walker@villagepres.org

winter park ski retreats

High School Trip

Jan. 12-16 • Grades 9-12

\$700 base cost (not incl. rental equipment or ski/board lesson)

Middle School Trip

Feb. 17-21 • Grades 7-8

\$700 base cost (not incl. rental equipment or ski/board lesson)

Come out for a fun weekend on the slopes at Winter Park Resort! All abilities and experience levels are welcome. Lessons are required for all first time skiers or snowboarders. We stay at nearby Snow Mountain Ranch (YMCA of the Rockies) and the weekend includes discussion time and worship in the evenings after we're finished skiing. Registration opens September 6.



dominican republic mission trip

March 8-16 • Grades 9-12

\$1,200 (incl. airfare, lodging, food, & transportation)

Each year during Spring Break we travel to the Dominican Republic for a week of service. We work a lot. We learn a lot. We laugh a lot. It's an amazing opportunity for all who attend. Join us as we do construction work, teach English (through music and art) in a classroom setting, and head out to rural villages to assist a local Dominican nonprofit in health education programs. Not only do we grow as a community, but we impact the lives of those we encounter, finding ourselves changed in the process.



Can't make it to the Spring Break trip, but still want to go to the DR? Village Church Mission Department is hosting an all-ages mission trip to the Dominican Republic in November 2023. For more information, contact Lora Garrison: (913) 671-2390 or lora.garrison@villagepres.org.

summer



In the summer we take a break from regular programming and offer different weekly activities for each age group. The detailed summer schedule is released in late April/early May!

summer interns

Are you a college student (or do you know a college student) who wants to have a summer full of fun while gaining practical ministry experience and training? Be one of our Youth Interns for the summer of 2023! Find application instructions and learn more about the position at villagepresyouth.org/summer-internships. Open to students sophomore year and up.

youth week

June 2-6 • Completed 6th-Completed 12th grades

Each year we kick off summer youth programming with a week of fun fellowship events for middle school and high school students. This is both the first chance for students to meet our interns and the first time we welcome our graduated 6th graders into the youth department. Youth Week typically includes a variety of activities such as a baseball game, a morning of volunteering at a local nonprofit, Worlds of Fun, hammocking, pickleball, and more. You won't want to miss it!

summer trips

village voices choir tour

June 2024 • Completed 7th-completed 12th grade Village Voices singers

Each year the youth choir heads out for an amazing adventure, and this will be our biggest adventure yet! You must be a member of Village Voices youth choir to go on this trip.

boundary waters trip

June 16-22 • Completed 9th-completed 12th grades

Join us on a week-long canoe and camping adventure in the gorgeous lakes of Boundary Waters, Minnesota (right on the Canadian border!) National Geographic named Boundary Waters as one of their 50 trips of a lifetime. We only take this trip every other year, so now's your chance. No experience is necessary.



Boundary Waters 2022



Montreat Youth Conference 2023



Middle School Mission Trip 2023

high school montreat youth conference

July 6-13 • Completed 9th-completed 12th grades

Each year we take high school students to attend this incredible youth conference located in the Smoky Mountains of North Carolina. We'll hear from keynote speakers, break into small groups for discussion, and return in the evening for worship. You'll get to know students from across the country and deepen relationships with fellow Village youth on this trip!

middle school mission trip: Omaha

July 26-30 • Completed 6th-completed 8th grades

Join us as we collaborate with the people Omaha on different service projects and volunteer efforts! We'll stay in a church and have a blast with programming, worship time, and more.

volunteer

volunteer youth group leader

Commitment: 1 School Year

In addition to our staff, we have several adult volunteers who attend either MS or HS youth group each week. High schoolers (sophomore year and up) are also eligible to be leaders at middle school youth group. Typically this commitment is for one school year, but occasionally leaders roll on or off at the semester.

help out at lofternoons

Commitment: 1 Tuesday after school, as often as you like!

This after-school program has historically been very popular, so we appreciate having additional adults (and high schoolers) simply to have eyes around the room and be able to interact and get to know students. This is a great opportunity for someone who is interested in helping out every once in a while, but isn't able to commit weekly.

lead a confirmation small group

Commitment: 1 Semester (January-early May)

Each Confirmation class is taught by either Zach, Angel, or another departmental pastor/director. But, the class is broken into small discussion groups led by adults like you! Group leaders maintain the same group each class. It's always a rewarding experience helping facilitate students growing in their faith and a great opportunity for adults to learn as well!



Volunteer, Jen Taylor, on Middle School Mission Trip, 2023



GPS Volunteers at Messy Game Night, 2023

support list

Commitment: None!

Get on our support list and we'll call or text you if we ever need an extra set of hands, a driver, help providing food for an event, or other one-time things. Email us at youth@villagepres.org!

go on a trip

Commitment: 1 Trip

We are always in need of additional adults to chaperone our youth trips. Responsibilities generally include ensuring safety of students, assisting directors in any way necessary, and leading small groups. Trip costs for adult leaders vary for each trip, so contact us if you're interested in learning more.

youth committee

Commitment: 1 year (up to 3 consecutive years)

Youth committee is a team of parents, students, and volunteers who meet monthly to discuss and make decisions about our youth ministry and help with our special events. Members are nominated and commit to serve for the duration of a year for a maximum of three years, with summer breaks. Please let us know if you are interested in serving or if you'd like to nominate someone.

about village church

Village Youth is a department of Village Presbyterian Church, a congregation in the PC(USA) denomination. If you don't know much about Village, here's some background!

In the late 1940s, the prairie and farmland just west of Kansas City were rapidly turning into suburban neighborhoods. On February 13, 1949, at Village Church's very first Sunday worship service, 282 charter members filled the chapel. Today, Village Church has over 4,000 members operating out of an 95,000 square foot facility that, though expanded several times over, still seems to burst with activity.

The church also manages a pre-school at the main campus, and the Meneilly Center for Mission at 99th and Mission Road, which includes a Child and Family Development Center and a Food Pantry, serving the surrounding community.

On Feb. 5, 2017, Village Church became one church at two campuses, holding our first worship service at our first satellite campus, Village on Antioch, located at 14895 Antioch Rd. in Overland Park.

Village has always existed to be in service to others, which is no less true today than it was when it was founded. If you would like to know more about Village Church or the PC(USA), check out some info on the web, or feel free to contact us directly.

Village Church

6641 Mission Road
Prairie Village, KS 66208

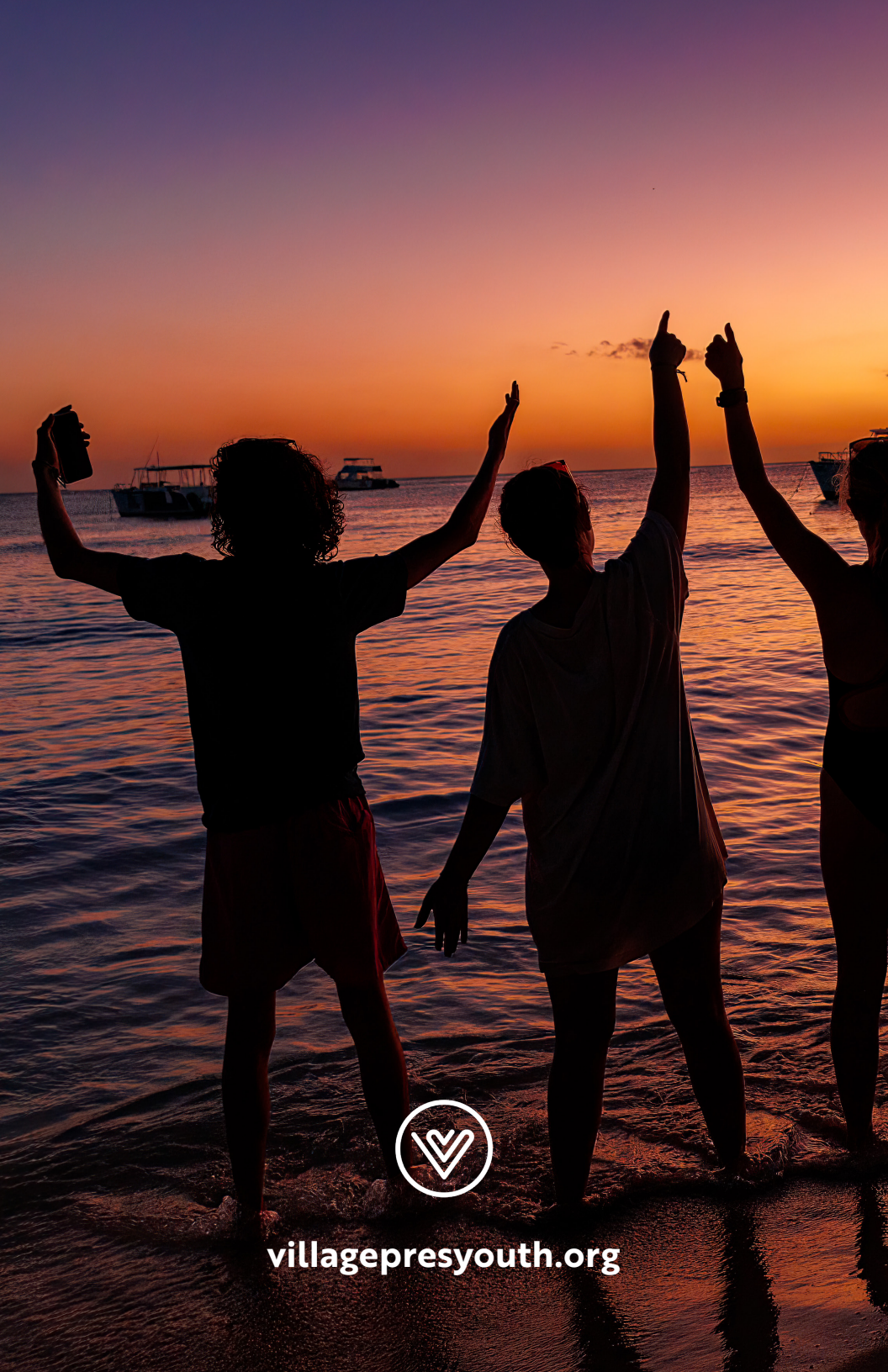
(913) 262-4200
villagepres.org

Youth Ministry

(913) 671-2302
youth@villagepres.org
villagepresyouth.org







villagepresyouth.org