



# YOUTH GROUP

## 2018 Youth Ministry Update

Since we re-launched the Youth Ministry in April of 2018, we have experienced tremendous growth! We currently have 43 students on the roster, and an average weekly Youth Group attendance of 10-15 students. This is an area in which I am very optimistic as we continue to minister to the needs of these kids as well as help them grow in their understanding of Christ.

### Youth Group

Youth Group has been meeting on Wednesday nights in the Annex (formerly known as the Parsonage). During that time, we play a get-to-know-you memory game, where the kids take turns introducing themselves and sharing some fun details about themselves. Afterwards, we have an organized group game that varies from week to week. Finally, we settle in for a lesson from our current series. Those lesson series to date have included:

Max Lucado's Symphony Series - Topical Study  
The Letter to the Romans - Expository Study  
The Gospel of John - Expository Study  
Francis Chan's Crazy Love Series - Topical Study

We have tried to alternate between expository teaching and topical teaching to engage the students consistently. We've seen a lot of growth in their personal lives as well as their knowledge of scripture, but we still have a long way to go.

### Outreach

As a group, we joined in a few outreach opportunities this year. We prepared and delivered 10 Thanksgiving baskets to those in need around Yoncalla and Drain. We also joined with the church body to go caroling around Yoncalla, spreading the cheer of the holiday. Looking forward, we will be taking advantage of some more opportunities to serve!

### Camps & Events

We had 12 students attend Grove Christian Camp this year! That is a record number from Yoncalla over the past decade! Our students were engaged and excited about camp, and it really showed. This is a great ministry that we as a church should continue to support. We believe that being a prominent part of what's going on at Grove Camp is a vital part of the health and future of Yoncalla Church of Christ's Youth Ministry!

Also, we had a BBQ and game day at Plat 1 Reservoir in Sutherlin, attended a Kutless concert at the Douglas County Fairgrounds in Roseburg, had two Youth Lock-Ins, and did Youth Group in the Park several times this year. All events were well attended and successful.



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## Looking Ahead

Yoncalla has a great opportunity to impact the lives of these students and their young families. Looking towards the future, we need to follow up and engage the parents of these students in a purposeful and active manner. It would be great to see these families in our services. Also, we need to continue to grow in our focus on ministries such as Grove Christian Camp, Boise Bible College, Youth for Christ, and other such mission-minded ministries that are reaching out to today's youth.

Our Youth Ministry needs to be more than just a Wednesday night affair. We've started the ball rolling by getting everyone together for a meal before groups on Wednesday nights. Now we need to ask ourselves how we can do a better job of making our voices heard throughout the community.

Another increased focus of our Youth Ministry will be on community outreach. We are going to be seeking out more opportunities to teach these kids service and love for others.

Again, I really look forward to seeing the roots of this ministry grow and take hold. Our students are the future of the church, and that future has the opportunity to shine very, very bright!

Always In Christ,  
Pastor Anthony