



## CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWSLETTER

July 22, 2024

*"Faith does not need to push the river because faith is able to trust that there is a river. The river is flowing. We are in it." - Fr. Richard Rohr*

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We had such a blast at the pool hang last Sunday and look forward to the next one on August 4th!

And before that, we'll gather for ice cream in Decatur at Jeni's on 7/31. It's a real treat to stay connected!

Read on for all that's in the works and **stay tuned later this week** as we make an exciting announcement about a person joining the team this upcoming school year!

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## YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED



We're looking forward to making music again with y'all starting in September! In the meantime, we'd LOVE to gather a little input from our children, youth and families on how we can best meet y'all's musical needs and interests.

Please take a few minutes to **fill out this brief form** as Thom and I continue to plan and program



I would LOVE to connect with children, youth and families as we head into a new year of programming together. Please do what's best for you...

1. You are invited to schedule a virtual hang to talk about your hopes and dreams for your child and youth for the year by **scheduling here.**

together - youth are invited to fill it out for themselves.

2. You can also invite me over for a meal or time to hang and can schedule that option **here as well.**



## GROUP ME(s): PLEASE JOIN

In lieu of many, many text threads, I would like to move us to GroupMe for our children and youth communications. I have created THREE groups and ask that you read carefully about my recommendations on who joins what. **The first step is to download the [GroupMe app](#) and create an account if you don't have one.** Then, use these links to join or help your youth join the below groups:

1. **For youth and youth advisors:** keeping up with one another and sharing information (**most important for YOUTH to join this one**)
2. **For ALL families of children and youth:** sharing information and connecting about events and logistics (**ALL parents of all ages in this one**)
3. **For YOUTH families and advisors:** logistics and keeping up with one another for youth activities (**YOUTH parents in this one, YOUTH optional**)



## YOUTH GROUP THEME & DATES FOR 2024-25

We're excited to announce that the youth group theme has been defined for the upcoming school year! Based on input from the group and advisors, we'll be diving into the theme **Caring Connections: Exploring healthy relationships with self, family and friends.** This umbrella is wide and we'll pull from scripture, life experiences, the headlines and so much more to inform us on what it means to foster healthy relationships with one another and with our Creator. These are the dates for our monthly time together with locations TBD. **All times are 4:30pm - 6:30pm with the exception of 4/27/25.** We can't wait!

IT'S TIME!  
WORSHIP LEADERSHIP



# IN 2024-25



**August 4th is a full and fun day in worship, including Blessing of the Backpacks AND communion.** This is a Sunday to consider participating.

Please take a look at the following dates and roles for all Sundays:

1. Serve as a lector for one of the dates held for a child or youth to read scripture. [Sign-up HERE.](#)
2. Process in with a partner with communion elements on communion Sundays. [Sign- up HERE.](#)
3. Contact [Thom](#) if you're interested in playing a prelude or postlude for worship. We ask for a one month heads up for this!



## PRAYER GROUP UPDATE: HITTING PAUSE

Due to a summer class, I won't be available to host our prayer gathering until August 14th. Be on the lookout as we resume it next month!

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## CALENDAR!

**The new calendar for July 2024 - May 2025 children and youth activities is available for [download HERE.](#)**

**UPDATED SINCE LAST WEEK!**



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