

grace

YOUTH MINISTRY

2023-24 At-A-Glance

WHY OUR YOUTH MINISTRY EXISTS

Our youth ministry is here to invest in students to impact the world for Christ. What this means practically is that we are here to assist you in the spiritual development of your teen. We create environments where students feel loved and appreciated for who they are and challenged to be all that God wants them to be. We believe that parents are God-ordained to be the primary spiritual influencers in their child's life (Deuteronomy 6:4-7; Ephesians 6:4). However, we know that parents are not designed to go it alone. As a church family and as a youth ministry, we are here to partner with you to make lifelong disciples of Christ.

RETREATS AND CONFERENCES



MS BLITZ | Des Moines, IA | November 3, 2023
Cost: \$40 on or before September 10

IMPACT

conference

HS IMPACT | Coralville, IA | January 5-7, 2024
Cost: \$180* on or before December 3



MS WinterBlast | Hidden Acres, Dayton, IA | February 9-11, 2024
Cost: \$125* before January 17

CHALLENGE

A red icon consisting of three overlapping squares forming a larger square shape.

HS CHALLENGE | Kansas City, MO | July 1-5, 2024
Cost: \$350/person* + hotels, gas, etc. (\$100 deposit DUE by February 28)

*Fundraising will offset some of the cost of retreats.

EXTRACURRICULARS

Have a kid in our youth ministry that plays a sport, or is performing in an upcoming musical or play, or perhaps is participating in some other extracurricular activity? Please send Pastor Brandon a copy of their schedule. He and other leaders in our youth ministry would love to come and support them when we can!

COMMUNICATION

Our youth ministry will communicate with parents in a variety of ways. The primary way is through email and the Remind app, followed closely by the Youth Ministry Facebook group, then Instagram. Parents can expect to receive an email and Remind notification every week (usually on Monday) with important details about upcoming events, our current message series, and any other pertinent information. Some of those details may also be shared on social media. Scan the QR codes provided to quickly find our social media presence and follow us!



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REMINDE APP INSTRUCTIONS

Text @grace-hs or @grace-ms to the number 81010

CONTACT PASTOR BRANDON

208-514-8692

pastorbrandon@gracehuxley.com

YOUTH GROUP EXPECTATIONS

1. Respect. We respect God, respect ourselves, respect others, and respect the facilities. We want to create an atmosphere where all students are welcome and respected so that they will want to come back to another youth ministry event and be able to encounter God personally.
2. Be present. Silence your cell phone, soak in the message from God's Word, and interact with your fellow youth group peeps.
3. Participate. When we're at youth group, we're all in.

CELL PHONES/ELECTRONICS POLICY

While we acknowledge cell phones and other electronic devices can be incredibly helpful at times, we also realize that more often than not they are a distraction from being fully present. Therefore, students may use their cell phones before and after youth ministry events and traveling to and from youth ministry events. They may not be used at any other time unless approved by Pastor Brandon. Our Youth Ministry leaders will set the example by also not using their cell phones, except for approved ministry-related tasks such as taking photos and videos at ministry events.

MEETING LOCATION & TIMES

For most of our youth group times, we meet in the youth room—the modular building next to the church. We typically will meet from 6-7:30pm on Wednesdays, both Middle School and High School together. We intend to begin and end on time to respect everyone's time. Therefore, please encourage your kids to show up early (doors officially open 30 minutes before youth group begins). If students wish to stay after and hang out, we would love for them to stay.

FORMS

There are three required forms I will need you to fill out for each child in our youth ministry: a Medical Release Form, a Photo Release Form, and a Parent Partnership Survey. To participate in an off-site activity, we will need to have an up-to-date medical release form on file. The Photo Release Form is so that we can post photos of students on the website, social media, etc., to showcase all the cool things we're doing in youth ministry. The Parent Partnership Survey is helpful in finding ways for us to partner together in the discipleship of your child(ren). These forms will eventually be on our church website, gracehuxley.com.

RESOURCES

I am not a parent myself, but I take seriously my role as a pastor to equip the church, including parents, for the work of training their kids in the Lord (Ephesians 4:12). For this reason, on our website, gracehuxley.com, I have created a one-stop-shop of sorts for helpful websites, books, and other resources that I hope will help you in the discipleship of your child(ren). If there is a resource you think would be helpful for other parents to know about, please reach out to me about the possibility of including it on the website. In addition, if I can be of help to you in the discipleship of your kid(s), please reach out to me!

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO!

Your kids may never acknowledge it, but the work that you do in training your kids in the Lord matters! I and my team look forward to partnering with you in the discipleship of your middle school and/or high school student.

“Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.”

- 1 Corinthians 15:58 NIV -

