

St. Michael Parish Youth Ministry

Summer 2010 Catalog



A PARISH GUIDE FOR TEENS AND THEIR FAMILIES

What will you find inside?

- Adults will learn what Youth Ministry is all about and how they can get involved.
- Scheduled activities for June–August for our middle school, high school and collegiate parishioners.

St. Michael Youth Ministry
317 W. Willow Ave.
Wheaton, IL 60187

Return Service Requested

WHAT IS YOUTH MINISTRY?

Most adults think of the youth group they were part of when they were kids. That could be great or really bad, depending on the experience! Teens think it's Bible study and a lot of prayer. However, the idea of "Youth Ministry" has been going through a remodel of sorts over the last twenty years. Fifteen years ago Pope John Paul II stated that the Church was called to become the "traveling companion of young people," much like Jesus with the teens on that road to Emmaus.

The teens of today are worldly beyond their years, stressed and over-scheduled, lonely despite the ability for instant contact via technology. Teens need, want and desire to be part of something bigger, something that has truth and substance, something that reaches out to them and gives them meaning, purpose and understanding. In short, they long for God.

Youth Ministry is a comprehensive variety of programming and events where teens can experience the rich love of Christ. It is a place where they feel valued for their gifts and connected to their community. It is where they are the Body of Christ.

WANT TO KNOW MORE???

Visit our parish website: www.stmichaelcommunity.org

For questions concerning the
Middle School B.L.A.S.T. contact

Mrs. Cathy Swanson

630-462-5044

cathy@stmichaelcommunity.org

For questions concerning
Youth United or Junction contact

Leslie Stopka

630-462-5047

stmccyu@yahoo.com

ADULT HELP NEEDED!

Dear Friend,

Mother Teresa said, "The best gift we can give to any child is to make that child feel WANTED, LOVED, and CARED FOR because that child is the greatest gift of God." Speaking for those of us who already spend our time with parish teens we can tell you it is the most necessary and rewarding experience you will ever have in your life. As parents, we can tell you that it is far easier to mentor someone else's child than to parent our own, and sometimes we rely on other adults in the program to minister to our own children's needs. It's how we are Christ for one another and we cannot do it without your help. Please consider gifting us with your time.

Thank you,

Leslie and Cathy

I am interested in helping with the following age group:

- Middle School BLAST
- Youth United
- The Junction

Specifically, I can be available for:

- Some of the weekly meetings
- Chaperoning / driving to events
- Providing hospitality for the iGuana BBQ
- Put me on your email list! I'm never sure what I can do but I like to be asked!

NAME _____

PHONE _____ CELL _____

EMAIL _____

THE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

June 25 –27, 2010

Lewis University, Romeoville

“THY WILL BE DONE”

Summer’s Big Event for Youth Ministry for the Diocese of Joliet! Every parish is represented! Amazing keynote speakers, workshops, grade level break out sessions and much, much more for our parish high school youth.

There are special young adult sessions for high school graduates and collegiates! Share your faith and learn how to stay connected to Church when you are out on your own.

Middle schoolers can get an “X-Treme Taste of Faith” on Saturday June 27. Have some fun and get some ideas why it’s cool to be Catholic!

Registration deadline is May 31st

WHAT WILL YOU DO THIS SUMMER?

Summer is a great time to relax, hang out with friends and spend time outside. You probably have a little more time on your hands and perhaps some of you will find that you are a little bored ... well, we have some ideas you might like! This catalog is full of places to serve, things to learn, or ways to have fun that came to us directly from your friends. Your church community is a big group of people, so we are sure there are new friends and good times right around the corner. All you have to do is turn the page!

Our new middle school youth group is called **The BLAST!** [Big Loud Awesome Spiritual Time] Anyone entering 6th, 7th, or 8th grade in the fall of 2010 is invited to any and all of our **BLAST** events this summer. We are planning something for everyone. It doesn’t matter what school you attend, and actually, it doesn’t matter whether you attend St. Michael Church either — we welcome all middle school students who are interested. We’ll have a **BLAST!**

At **Youth United**, high school people continue to meet on Sunday nights, but from **June 6–September 5** we will meet at Kelly Park, near Edison Middle School. We also experience a small time change (because of sunsets and mosquitoes) and meet from 6:30–8:30. “YU in the Park” is a relaxed and casual atmosphere and has a little something for everyone.

Summer also means our college friends will be home! Of course they are excited about coming home and hanging out with Youth United, but they have formed a new group called **The Junction**. This is strictly for people ages 18-21 so they have a place to reconnect with their church and are able to discuss issues that are age appropriate. Join the group on Facebook to know when and where they will be meeting. And please come to anything that interests you on the Youth United pages!

YOUTH UNITED

Sunday YU in the Park

6:30–8:30 PM, Kelly Park

These nights are planned by teens for their high school peers. An evening to have a little fun and relax with friends, they also plan some kind of discussion and meaningful prayer. Friends are welcome here! Incoming freshmen should definitely check this out! Kelly Park is located at the corner of Main and Elm Streets, just south of Roosevelt Road. We meet in the big field. Bring your own water bottle and wear bug spray!

Youth United Junction

Tuesday nights, random locations

NEW! Junction is for **anyone ages 18-21** who would be interested in having small group conversation. This evening has a deeper faith focus and enables people who are home for the summer to reconnect with their church. Join our Facebook group to know the when and where!

Bible Study!

Do you want to know Christ? St. Jerome said, "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ." Break open the Word on Sunday mornings after the 9:00 Mass in the YUC. Breakfast included!

Movie Night!

Learn more about peace and social justice issues through a variety of films. Check the online YU calendar for dates, location and titles.

Teen Mass & iGuana BBQ

The Teen Mass gives our teens the chance to be lay ministers of the Mass.

If you "Guana" share fellowship with the teens & their families join us afterwards for a BBQ outside church, in Memorial Plaza, corner of Wheaton & Willow.

Emmaus Ensemble

Tuesday 6:15-7:00PM

Do you like to sing? Meet our fabulous Music Director in the church to practice selections for the Teen Mass!

Youth United for Life

This Pro-Life teen club meets once or twice a month to learn about a variety of Life issues. Local service trips and a fall retreat will be planned.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BLAST!

7 \$5 Bowling at Wheaton Bowl
1-3 PM

11 Teen Mass & iGuana BBQ

14 \$5 Bowling at Wheaton Bowl
1-3 PM

16 Kane County Cougars game

19 Last day to sign up for the Warren Dunes trip on August 5th

21 \$5 Bowling at Wheaton Bowl
1-3 PM

28 \$5 Bowling at Wheaton Bowl
1-3 PM

AUGUST

3 Adoration

4 \$5 Bowling at Wheaton Bowl
1-3 PM

5 Warren Dunes!

8 Teen Mass & iGuana BBQ

11 \$5 Bowling at Wheaton Bowl
1-3 PM

TEEN MASS & IGUANA BBQ

We invite you to be part of the Teen Mass as Altar Servers, Lectors or Ushers.

Like to sing? Talk to Mr. Chris Orf about joining the Emmaus Ensemble! 630-462-5005

Bring your family to lunch afterwards in Memorial Plaza, corner of Wheaton & Willow.

**BIG LOUD
AWESOME
SPIRITUAL TIME**

Kane County Cougars Game Friday July 16

Mass in the Grass 5:30PM Game time 7:00PM

To reserve your family's spot with our group, stop by the Faith Formation Office. Reserved seats are \$8. Check out the flyer on our website for details.

WARREN DUNES! Thursday, August 5

Sign up by July 19th for this all day trip to the dunes. Pack a lunch, ride the bus and don't forget your sunscreen! Information packets will be available on our website soon! Adult help will be needed!

MIDDLE SCHOOL BLAST!

JUNE

- 1 Adoration
- 7-8 **Feed My Starving Children packing event** [See page 5]
- 13 **Teen Mass & iGuana BBQ**
- 21-25 **Vacation Bible School** [See page 5]
- 23 **\$5 Bowling at Wheaton Bowl**
1-3 PM
- 26 **The X-treme Taste of Faith**
Lewis University, 9:45am—3:45pm
- 30 **\$5 Bowling at Wheaton Bowl**
1-3 PM

JULY

- 3 **Fourth of July Party!** [See page 7]
- 4 **4th of July Parade**
Watch the church bulletin for details on how you can represent St. Michael Parish in our 4th of July parade.
- 6 Adoration

ADORATION

Looking for some quiet time with Jesus? Spend some time today in adoration or come from 7-8 PM for prayer, music, and Benediction.

\$5 WEDNESDAYS AT WHEATON BOWL

Join us for a BLAST at Wheaton Bowl on Wednesdays this summer. Pay at the door for 2 games and free shoes starting at 1:00 PM. Bring your friends! (No pre-registration is required.)

THE X-TREME TASTE OF FAITH

Join other middle schoolers from across the Diocese of Joliet at Lewis University. The day will be full with key note speakers, fun & games, music & prayer, time with high school teens, and a picnic lunch with our seminarians. If you want to participate in your faith this is a GREAT way to START! You think your faith is BORING? This will CHANGE your mind! Registration forms can be found online and in the church. **Registration ends May 31.**

Adult chaperones needed.



YOUTH UNITED

Feed My Starving Children June 7 & 8

This packing event is open to the entire parish. If you are interested in signing up contact Mrs. Boyle at aboyle@stmichaelcommunity.org.

The shifts are:
Monday
set up 10-noon
2:00-4:00 packing
6:00-8:00 packing
Tuesday
9:00-11:00 packing
noon—2:00 packing
tear down 2:00-4:00

Vacation Bible School June 21-25, 9AM—noon

We need plenty of volunteers to help lead and have fun with our parish grade school children. Be a leader in your faith and earn 15 service hours!
Call 630-682-3650

Cougars Game “All Faith Night: Catholic Edition” Friday July 16

Mass in the Grass 5:30PM
Gametime 7:00PM
Reserved seats \$8

Catholic Heart Work Camp

We have two mission weeks planned at CHWC sites this summer, and both filled to capacity! A waiting list is being kept.

Toledo, June 13—19 = 50 kids + 10 adults
Dayton, July 25—30 = 12 kids + 3 adults

Mission Weeks in West Virginia

We have 16 people from YU serving the Appalachian community at **Nazareth Farm** (June 20—26) and **Bethlehem Farm** (July 4—10) this summer!

Youth Leadership Conference Lewis University June 25-27

Over 800 teens in our Diocese will be at this Conference! Find information packets in the narthex. **Registration ends May 31.**

A Most Excellent Quest Starved Rock August 13-15

Our summer camping retreat! So much fun and a great chance to make new friends. Sleeping in tents, campfire talks, hiking and kayaking. Get centered on God before school starts.

ADULT MENTORS NEEDED!

Scavenger Hunt for Christ

A good mix of service & fun, we look for Christ everywhere! We usually take the train into Chicago for the day, but it's summer so we may plan a different destination.

YOUTH UNITED

JUNE

6-13-20-27 YU in the Park

8-15-22-29 YU Junction

- 1 Adoration
- 7-8 Feed My Starving Children packing event
- 13 Teen Mass & iGuana BBQ
- 13-19 Catholic Heart Work Camp- Toledo
- 20-26 Nazareth Farm, West Virginia
- 21-25 Vacation Bible School
- 25-27 Youth Leadership Conference

JULY

4-11-18-25 YU in the Park

6-13-20-27 YU Junction

- 3 Fireworks Party
- 4-10 Bethlehem Farm, West Virginia
- 6 Adoration
- 11 Teen Mass & iGuana BBQ
- 16 Kane County Cougars game
- 25-30 Catholic Heart Work Camp- Dayton

AUGUST

1-8-15-22-29 YU in the Park

3-10-17-24 YU Junction

- 3 Adoration
- 8 Teen Mass & iGuana BBQ
- 13-15 A Most Excellent Quest

Things that could happen...

- Ultimate Frisbee or Frisbee golf
- Softball or kickball games
- Nuke 'em
- Ghosts in the Graveyard
- Capture the Flag
- Ninja
- Moose
- Wacky Summer Olympics
- Crosstown Classic with St. Daniel's
- Bigger or Better
- Bonfire at Blackwell
- Band Concert
- Warren Dunes
- Water Park
- Girl's Night Out
- Boy's Night Out
- Drive-In Movie

THE FOURTH OF JULY PARTY

Saturday, July 3rd

7:00pm to 10:00pm

The Scalise Residence and
Jefferson School ball field

2091 Childs Court

Bring soda or a side dish to share.

Get ready to play some kick ball!

Fireworks begin at 9:00pm and
can be seen from the ball field.

RSVP to Mike & Sharon
630.690.8661

This is a multi-generational family event.
All are welcome! Middle school guests are asked to
bring a parent to the party.