

Youth & Children's Voice

Vacation Bible School

Who: Age 3 through 5th Grade

What: "The Miracle Man"

A Journey Through the Life of Jesus

Where: St. John in the Wilderness

When: July 12-16, 10 am – 12:30 pm
(lunch included)

Cost: \$10 /child or maximum \$30/family
Assistance is available.

Registration forms and volunteer opportunities are available at the Activity Table. Forms are also available on St. John's website. We need youth & adult volunteers. Younger youth will be helpers. Older youth will co-lead with adults.

Episcopal Youth Music Camp

Become a supporter! Sponsors needed.

Music camp is an overnight camping experience for youth entering grades 3 - 12 & a leadership development program for young adults age 18 – 22. Camp runs from 3 pm Sunday, 8/8 to 3 pm Saturday, 8/14. The cost is \$525. Twenty St. John's children, youth & adults will participate in Music Camp, an important part of our faith journey. Music Camp, currently Minnesota's only Episcopal youth camp, takes a critical mass of campers & staff to be possible. Camper tuition covering food, lodging, volunteer staff, music & program resources is currently the only funding source. Every year the need for funding grows. The charge per participant will dramatically increase in a year. We've tried to keep the camper cost affordable & competitive with other similar camps but without support this may change. As more and more campers from other churches need assistance, the closer we are to not being able to afford the total cost of camp. We need the camp to continue, and we need individuals to help make it happen: those who have the ability to help raise funds from grants, or individuals to share their gifts. Please contact Sheila Foster if you have gifts you can share in this area. Consider becoming a sponsor.

All are invited to the closing performance at Camp Heartland, Willow River, MN at 1 pm Saturday 8/14. More detailed information is available at www.episcopalyouthmusic.org. The website includes pictures & blogs from past camps and will contain an active blog during camp.

Safeguarding God's Children Training

Saturday, July 17, 9 – Noon

St. John in the Wilderness

Please sign up on the Activity Table. This camp volunteer training is available to all from St. John's who still haven't trained.

Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups' Fall Plans

We're planning now to renew our Jr. & Sr. High evening Youth Group programming and forming a Youth Board to help plan gatherings & events. Meeting dates & times will be announced by e-mail & posted near Sheila's office. It's been 2 years since we've had an evening program focused on community building & faith development. We had suspended the evening youth groups when very few were participating on a regular basis, and those who were felt there wasn't a critical mass of youth with whom to bond. Everyone had good intentions to come but school, work, sports & family obligations were also important. As we move forward with youth groups we'll need a level of adult support & commitment to make it possible. Our requirements include trained & background-checked adult volunteers present at every youth group meeting: 2 each for Jr. & Sr. High. Please contact Sheila Foster ASAP if you can commit to being an adult youth group leader or an adult or youth serving on the Youth Board.



youth & adults preparing T-shirts for the Mission Trip

Wednesday Evening Youth & Children's Programs Update

In May we asked for individuals to commit to the different Wednesday youth arts programs: handbells, youth & children's choirs, and youth & children's drama groups. We had some success but only a few *new* individuals signed up, and numbers didn't grow much. Our intention was to divide age groups between children & youth. Our schedule is still up in the air due to committed numbers per group.

Don't forget these dates

July

12-16 Vacation Bible School

17 Safeguarding God's Children

August 8 – 14

Episcopal Youth Music Camp
1 pm Saturday Final Performance

September

8 COFTA youth drama groups begin

12 Rally Sunday, 10 am Sunday School & Youth Program Registration

19 Bishop's Visit & 1st day of age 3 –

grade 3 & grades 4-12 (Confirmation Prep) faith formation programs; all begin at 10 am.