

Fundraisers & Special Events

Throughout the year, our youth sponsor several fundraisers which help offset the cost of the church's Summer Youth Ministry Program. As an act of faithful stewardship, our youth always donate the tithe (10%) of the profit from each fundraiser to a helping agency.

This year's fundraisers include:

- Fall Youth Brunch - Nov. 1, 2009
- Poinsettia Sale - Nov./Dec. 2009
- Winter Youth Brunch - Feb. 7, 2010
- Car Wash - June 19, 2010
- Youth Spirit Cards for Giant & Weis/King's Grocery Stores - Available for purchase every Sunday morning in the church office.

All members and friends are also invited to attend the following special events, when we will celebrate the many gifts of our youth:

- Youth Talent Show - Feb. 28, 2010
- Youth Sunday Worship Services - March 7, 2010
- Youth Choir Tour Program - April 18, 2010
- Confirmation Sunday - May 16, 2010
- Baccalaureate Worship Service - May 23, 2010

SUNDAY NIGHT ALIVE!

Youth Dinner and Worship
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall and Chapel

October 4, November 1, December 20,
January 10, February 21, March 28, May 2,
June 7 (6:00-7:30 p.m.)



For more information about our Youth Ministry at First Presbyterian Church, please contact us at 610-395-3781.

SAFE SANCTUARIES -

Our Commitment to Provide for the Well-Being of our Children and Youth

We are called by the beliefs of our church and our covenant of baptism to participate in the nurture and guidance of all children of God. One of the Confessions of the Presbyterian Church (USA) makes it clear that we are "to love, pray for and bless (our children)...protecting and providing for them all things necessary for soul and body..." (Westminster Larger Catechism, 7.239).

One of the ways First Presbyterian Church seeks to fulfill this promise is through our Safe Sanctuaries Policy. Adopted by the Session of our church in 2003, the policy provides for:

- Screening of all adult volunteers serving in our Children's and Youth Ministry programs and training them in the intent and practical aspects of the policy.
- A variety of safeguards to minimize the potential risk of any form of child abuse within our programs.
- A Safe Sanctuaries Committee that administers this policy, assuring its implementation throughout Christian Education Ministry programs.

A copy of the complete Safe Sanctuaries Policy is available upon request.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3231 W. Tilghman St.
Allentown, PA 18104

610-395-3781

www.fpcallentown.org

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 2009-2010

YOUTH MINISTRY



TODAY'S YOUTH

are confronted with many competing voices about who they are and where they belong in society, in the world, and in their relationship with God.

Youth Ministry at First Presbyterian Church seeks to:

- Call young people to be disciples of Jesus Christ
- Respond to the needs and interests of young people
- Work together, youth and adults, in partnership
- Be connected to the whole church, community, and the world
- Include all young people, reaching out and inviting them to belong to the community of faith

During the school year, First Presbyterian Church's Youth Ministry programs reach out to 7-12th graders. Completed 6th graders are included in the Summer Youth Ministry program beginning in mid-June.

CHURCH SCHOOL

Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:45 a.m., youth are invited to participate in a youth Church School class to grow in their relationship with God and others. Through Bible study and discussions about current events and issues that confront youth on a daily basis, these classes seek to help young people apply their faith to their lives. Separate classes are available for 7th, 8th, and 9th-12th graders from Sept. 13, 2009, through June 13, 2010.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

All 9th-12th graders who have not yet made a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior are invited to become members of our Confirmation Class. The class meets Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:45 a.m., Sept. 13, 2009, through June 13, 2010. This class seeks to help youth better understand what it means to make a public profession of faith in Christ, the basic beliefs of the church universal, as well as the Presbyterian Church (USA), and what it means to be a faithful member of Christ's church. Members of the class also participate in three class retreats.



YOUTH FELLOWSHIPS

Junior High Fellowship

This group for 7th and 8th graders meets most Sunday evenings from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in Room 120. Through discussions, service projects, worship, and numerous fun events, youth and the Junior High advisors develop a trusting community in the name of Jesus Christ. A Junior High Youth Council, made up of a representative group of youth and advisors, plans the Junior High Fellowship calendar with input from the entire group.

Senior High Fellowship

All students in grades 9-12 are welcome to be part of this community, which meets most Sundays from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in Room 115. The group enjoys praising God through times of singing and prayer, wrestling with real-life issues through discussions and retreats, putting faith into action through service projects, and enjoying one another's friendship through many special events. The Senior High Youth Council meets monthly to plan this group's program.

SUNDAY NIGHT ALIVE!

One Sunday each month during the school year all 7th-12th graders and Youth Ministry leaders gather together for an evening of fellowship, a meal, and a time worship in Fellowship Hall. These evenings are planned by a team of youth and adults and take place from 6:30- 8:00 p.m.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Several opportunities exist for youth to share their musical talents with the family of faith at First Presbyterian Church and the community. Our **Youth Choir** is one of the largest in the Presbyterian Church (USA), and it participates regularly in Sunday morning worship leadership. The Youth Choir rehearses most Sunday evenings from 5:15-6:15 p.m. ***This year's Youth Choir Tour will take place April 22-25, 2010 in New England.***

Our **Youth Handbell Choir** rehearses Thursdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Chancel and rings occasionally in Sunday worship.

Cantata Domino is a small ensemble of youth and adult vocalists, which rehearses and sings several times during the year.

SUMMER YOUTH MINISTRY

During the summer, First Presbyterian Church's Youth Ministry takes on a bit of a different look. Weekly programs include Worship and *Lemonade in the Shade*, Junior and Senior High Fellowships, Junior High After Group, and Junior and Senior High Mission Mornings (local half-day service projects). Special events include: Junior and Senior High Workcamps, Junior High Tubing Trip, Senior High Beach Retreat or Montreat Youth Conference in North Carolina, and an End-of-Summer Celebration. The summer program takes place from June 19 through August 14, 2010. Additional details will be available in the Summer Youth Ministry brochure in June 2010.



YOUTH NEWSLETTER

To help keep people up to date on the latest news of what's going on in our church's Youth Ministry program, a monthly Youth Newsletter is mailed to all families with 7th-12th grade members and friends of First Presbyterian Church associated with Youth Ministry. Each week, in between the publication of the monthly newsletter, an electronic Youth Ministry Weekly reminder is posted on the church's website and emailed to anyone requesting a copy.