

August 27, 2008

Dear Senior High Youth and Parents:

For those of you who are returning and those of you who are new to our ministry, welcome to a new year of Fourth Church Youth! I hope you have had a relaxing and enjoyable summer. As you prepare to go back to school, I hope you are also thinking about the return of our full schedule of youth ministry at Fourth Presbyterian Church. We have had an incredibly busy summer. Between WorkCamps and other events, we have been hard at work planning a new and exciting year for you at Fourth Church Youth.

Senior Highs is the youth group for high school students at Fourth Church. The core of Senior Highs happens on Sunday mornings. As always, we encourage you to worship with your families or with each other at the 9:30 worship service. You could also consider participating in the Youth Choir during this time (for more information, please contact Beverly Escuder at 312.981.3595). After worship, we will **gather in the Crow's Nest around 10:30 or so for fellowship** with bagels and juice. Our gathering will **officially begin at 11:00**, so if you can't be there right at 10:30, don't worry (but you'll miss out on some good catching up time with your friends). During this year we will continue to deepen our faith, talk about topics that matter to you as a teenager, and explore important issues like teen homelessness, racial reconciliation, and violence.

In addition to this core, there are several other ways to participate in Senior Highs. Once a month we will have a big fellowship or service opportunity on a Friday evening or during the day on Saturday. This year we will also experiment with monthly fellowship or service activities on Sunday afternoons after our regular gathering. Our first big event is the **Senior High Fall Retreat, September 5-7**. You will find the registration packet for this retreat included with this letter. Also, we will continue our monthly **Youth and Families Lunches** which are for youth of all ages and their families to gather together in the Dining Room to share a meal in community.

The full year calendar for Senior Highs is still being finalized, but here is what to look forward to in September:

September 5	U2charist
September 5-7	Senior High Fall Retreat
September 7	Children and Youth Kick-Off
September 14	Regular Gathering
September 21	Regular Gathering
September 28	Regular Gathering

Please turn the page for more important information...

To help us get ready for the year, please fill out and return to us the included **Senior High Youth Registration Form** and **Emergency Contact and Medical Information Form**. We need a new one of these each year to keep our records up to date. Please return these as soon as possible.

Start of the year with our second annual **U2charist** from 7:00 to 8:30 pm on **Friday, September 5**. The U2charist is a communion worship service with live U2 music performed by the renowned U2 tribute band Elevation. You won't want to miss this unique worship experience...*all ages are welcome!!!*

Right after the U2charist we will load up the vans and head out to our **Senior High Fall Retreat**. Information about this retreat is included with this letter. We will return from the retreat by 10:30 on Sunday morning, in time for our **first regular Senior High gathering**, followed by the Children and Youth Kick-Off.

The **Children and Youth Kick-Off on Sunday, September 7** is for all youth, parents, and families of those involved in Fourth Church Youth. After our first regular Fourth Church Youth gatherings of the year, *everyone* should come to an **informational and celebratory lunch in Anderson Hall** beginning at noon. **At least one parent** should attend this lunch with their child to receive important information about Senior Highs and Fourth Church Youth. In addition to lunch and brief presentations about our children and youth ministries, there will be music and entertainment for children of all ages. Come celebrate a new year of Fourth Church Youth and learn all about what we have to offer.

If you have any questions during the next few weeks, please don't hesitate to be in touch. See you soon!

John W. Vest
Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry

Fourth Church Youth Staff

John Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry
jvest@fourthchurch.org, 312.981.4037

Kurt Esslinger, Youth Ministry Associate
kesslinger@fourthchurch.org, 312.981.4035

Anita Bright, Administrative Assistant
abright@fourthchurch.org, 312.573.3364

Parent or Guardian Information
(At least one set of information is required)

Mother's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Member of Fourth Presbyterian Church? YES NO

Father's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Member of Fourth Presbyterian Church? YES NO

Please return this form, along with the *Emergency Contact and
Medical Information Form*, to:

Anita Bright
Administrative Assistant for Youth Ministry
Fourth Presbyterian Church
126 E. Chestnut Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611
abright@fourthchurch.org
Fax: 312.787.4584

For more information, please contact:
John Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry
312.981.4037 (jvest@fourthchurch.org)
Kurt Esslinger, Youth Ministry Associate
312.981.4035 (kessinger@fourthchurch.org)
Anita Bright, Administrative Assistant for Youth Ministry
312.573.3364 (abright@fourthchurch.org)



Senior High Fall Retreat

September 5-7, 2008

Is the beginning of school getting you down?
Start off the new year with a Senior High Retreat
before life gets too crazy!
Reconnect with old friends and make some new ones.

Where?

Camp Manitoqua & Retreat Center, Frankfort, IL

When?

Friday evening, September 5 to Sunday morning, September 7

Accommodations

Two night accommodations: Friday and Saturday, September 5 and 6. You need to bring your own pillow and sleeping bag (or sheets and warm blanket). Cabins sometimes get chilly in the evenings.

Meals

Friday: Eat before you arrive at church

Saturday: Breakfast, lunch, dinner

Sunday: Breakfast

Cost

\$200 (includes transportation, accommodations and meals)

If you need scholarship assistance, please contact John or Anita

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Anita Bright, Administrative Assistant for Youth Ministry

At 312-573-3364 or abright@fourthchurch.org



Senior High Fall Retreat

September 5-7, 2008

Camp Manitoqua & Retreat Center
8122 West Sauk Trail
Frankfort, Illinois 60423
815-469-2319

<http://www.manitoqua.org>

Arrival/Departure Times:

September 5

U2charist in Anderson Hall from 7:00 to 8:30 pm

We will leave from the Chestnut Street parking lot after the U2charist at 9:00 pm

September 7

We will return to Fourth Church by 10:30 am, in time for our regular Senior High gathering and the Children and Youth Kick-Off

If you need to reach your child while he/she is at the retreat, please call 815-469-2319 and we will contact you as soon as possible. If you need to contact us while we are on the road, John's cell phone number is 630-728-3523.

What to pack:

Bath Towel

Beach Towel

2 Pairs of Jeans or Sweats

Swimsuit

Raingear

A snack to share with the group (either salty or sweet)

Toiletries

Sleeping Bag (or sheets and a blanket)

Pillow

Casual clothes appropriate for the weather

Flashlight

All medications should be in their original containers and may be given to John at the beginning of the trip. Exceptions may be made for inhalers and epipens.





Senior High Fall Retreat

September 5-7, 2008

Please return this sign-up form along with your checks (made out to Fourth Presbyterian Church, with "Senior High Fall Retreat" on the memo line) to:

Anita Bright
Fourth Presbyterian Church
126 East Chestnut Street
Chicago, IL 60611-2094

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Numbers: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Scholarship Assistance? _____

Amount Requested: \$ _____

We would like to contribute \$ _____ to the Senior High Fall Retreat Scholarship Fund

Any special needs? _____

Special Food? _____

2008-2009 Emergency Contact and Medical Information for a Child

Child's Name	Date of Birth	M	F
		Sex	
Parent's/Guardian's Name	Parent's/Guardian's Name		
()	()	()	()
Home Phone	Work Phone	Home Phone	Work Phone
Address	Address		
City, ST ZIP Code	City, ST ZIP Code		

Alternative Emergency Contacts

Primary Emergency Contact	Secondary Emergency Contact
()	()
Home Phone	Work Phone
()	()
Home Phone	Work Phone
Address	Address
City, ST ZIP Code	City, ST ZIP Code

Medical Information

Hospital/Clinic Preference

Physician's Name	Phone Number
Insurance Company	Policy Number

Allergies/Special Health Considerations

I authorize all medical and surgical treatment, X-ray, laboratory, anesthesia, and other medical and/or hospital procedures as may be performed or prescribed by the attending physician and/or paramedics for my child and waive my right to informed consent of treatment. This waiver applies only in the even that neither parent/guardian can be reached in the case of an emergency.

Parent's/Guardian's Signature	Date
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I give permission for my child to go on field trips. I release Fourth Church and individuals from liability in case off accident during activities related to Fourth Church, as long as normal safety procedures have been taken.

Parent's/Guardian's Signature	Date
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I give Fourth Church permission to include my child in photographs relating to Fourth Church activities (photos used for publicity purposes only).

Parent's/Guardian's Signature	Date
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