

Core Value and Beliefs

First United Methodist Church of Allen – Youth Group

*At our very core, we believe in being Disciples of Jesus Christ.
It is through that call to discipleship that . . .*

1. Youth Ministry is Youth and Family based

Youth ministry focuses on the youth and their families. We must listen with sensitivity to the needs of both YOUTH and FAMILY and must work to support / strengthen them in every way possible. We reach out to all youth and families as we minister to them in faith and with GRACE.

2. Youth Ministry is Congregational

After the Youth and Family, the responsibility for Youth Ministry resides with the Congregation as a whole. The church cannot delegate the responsibility for Youth Ministry entirely to the professional staff and volunteer team. Every time a child is baptized in to the United Methodist church, **the congregation pledges to raise the child in a community of faith.** Youth Ministry seeks to mobilize the resources of the congregation to share in the spiritual parenting of Youth. Youth ministry cannot be separate or cut off from the Congregation as a whole; rather it must seek to involve youth in the life of the church and the church in the life of the youth.

3. Youth Ministry is Bible based.

The Bible is the primary source for information about God, Jesus and the main resource of the Christian Faith. The Bible (scripture) is continually referenced as a primary resource along with tradition, reason and experience as we seek biblical answers to our question about life.

4. Youth Ministry is Discipling.

We seek to bring Youth and their Families into a meaningful relationship with Jesus in a way that they are challenged to make a personal, life changing commitment. By being faithful disciples we share the good news of Jesus Christ, We Joyfully WORSHIP GOD in WORD and ACTION and we reach out to meet the spiritual and physical needs of others.

5. Youth Ministry is Relational.

Youth Ministry encourages Youth to develop a personal relationship with Christ and each other. We strive to build a community of faith by nurturing one another **in love and fellowship.**

6. Youth Ministry is Invitational

Our goal is to be inclusive of all youth and their families. We wish for each person to feel welcome, to find a sense of belonging, and to feel included in all youth activities. Our goal is to be inclusive, respectful and sensitive to the needs of all youth. We encourage and invite to join the youth group at any point during the year. In addition to weekly “entry points” of Sunday school and UMYF we will have several “entry points” during the year in which youth can find out more information about or be invited to participate in youth activities.

7. Youth Ministry is Missions

Mission outreach is an important component of contemporary youth ministry. It is an opportunity for youth to experience and tend to the many needs of God’s people; by reaching out to meet the physical needs of others within their church, community and the world.

8. Youth Ministry Encourages and Develops Youth as Leaders.

Our goal is to create, train and empower the youth to become leaders in not only the youth group but to take an active role in Worship (as opportunities arise) and to participate in the administration of the various committees of the church.

9. Youth Ministry Utilizes a Team Approach.

We are in ministry together as adults and with the youth; guiding and growing as we learn together. We recognize that we are role models for our youth and they need a multi level / varied approach in ministering to their many needs within the Risk Management policy.

Youth Mission Statement

We, the members of the First United Methodist Church of Allen Youth group, devote ourselves to the future of the youth ministry and the care of the Church and its congregation by being actively involved in its ongoing ministries. We strive to spiritually enrich the lives of all youth and adults involved, so that they too may fully experience God’s love, mercy, and grace.