



Welcome to the 2009-2010 St. Ephrem Youth Group

The Youth Group is a component of the Youth Ministry program at St. Ephrem whose goal is to develop the spiritual, service, and social interests of all 6th, 7th and 8th grade parishioners currently enrolled in St. Ephrem School or PREP.

To that end, we encourage our membership to participate in our many fun social events, as well as to contribute your time and talents to our service events. Each Youth Group member is asked to volunteer to assist at least one event run by the Youth Group for our younger parishioners, such as the Halloween Party, Lunch with Santa, or Lunch with the Easter Bunny. Volunteer opportunities include set-up or clean-up of the event, as well as working the games and crafts during the event. If you would like a leadership role, you may also volunteer to be one of our Student Event Coordinators.

The purpose of this service requirement is twofold:

- (1) To stress the service dimension of being a Youth Group member and**
- (2) to gain the financial subsidy for the Hershey Park trip.**

All those Youth Group members who volunteer for at least one event during the year will get a reduced price on the cost of the bus fee.

On the following pages you will find all the information you need to have a great year as a St. Ephrem Youth Group Member. Thank you for joining us, and may God bless your efforts!

Event Calendar
(as of September 2009)

YG Sign-ups/Pizza Party (for 6 th , 7 th , 8 th -graders)	Sun, Sept 13 6-8 PM
Halloween Party (for K-3 rd & younger siblings)	Fri, Oct 16, 6:30-8:30 PM
Hayride (for YG members)	Fri, Oct 23 (rain date Sat Oct 24)
Halloween Dance (for YG members & up to 2 guests)	Fri, Oct 30, 7-10PM
Lunch with Santa (for K-3 rd & younger siblings)	Sat, Dec 5, 11:30AM-2 PM
Ski Trip Sign-ups (for YG members & their families)	Tues, Dec 15 & Thurs Dec 17, 7-8:30
Ski Trip (for YG members & their families)	Sat, Jan 23
Movie Night (for 4 th & 5 th -graders)	Fri, Jan 29 7-9PM
Valentine's Dance (for YG members & up to 2 guests)	Fri, Feb 5, 7-10PM
Lunch with the Easter Bunny (for K- 3 rd & younger siblings)	Sat, March 13, 11:30-2PM
Gym Night (for YG members)	Fri, March 19, 7-10 PM
Hershey Park Sign-ups	Through school, no sign-ups. Date \$ & forms due TBA
Father/Daughter Dance (for 4 th -8 th grades)	Fri, April 16 7-10 PM
Mother/Son Dance (for 4 th -8 th grades)	Sat, April 17, 7-10 PM
Hello/Goodbye Dance (for 5 th graders & YG members)	Fri, May 21, 7-10 PM
Hershey Park Trip	TBD, per school calendar (We usually schedule during the June clerical day.)

Dates are subject to change. Please check the St. Ephrem School Communication Link periodically for changes, additions, and announcements.

Dress Code and Conduct Guidelines

Whether you are participating in a social or service event, Youth Group members are required to abide by particular rules and guidelines for all Youth Group activities.

1. Inappropriate behavior, whether on behalf of a member or directed at another participant or adult, will not be tolerated. Any Youth Group member asked to leave a dance or event because of inappropriate behavior will not be permitted to participate in any upcoming event(s) for the remainder of the school year.

Inappropriate behavior includes, but is not limited to:

- fighting
- using foul language
- harassing other members, participants, or adults
- damaging parish or others' property
- throwing food
- talking disrespectfully to other participants or adults.

2. Youth Group members are NOT permitted to leave the parish hall to use their cell phones during dances or events. They will, however, be allowed to use their phones towards the end of the dance, if needed.
3. Youth Group members are asked to respect and abide by the following dress code:

BOYS:

- No baseball caps in the parish hall.
- No obscene or inappropriate images or words on clothing.
- No overly loose or hanging pants.

GIRLS:

- No spaghetti straps.
- No mini-skirts, low-cut tops, or short shorts.
- No bare bellies or bare shoulders.
- No obscene or inappropriate images or words on clothing.

The dress code will be strictly enforced at all dances and events. Anyone who violates the dress code at a dance will be asked to leave the dance.

4. **PARENTS** --While YG members may sign themselves into a dance, for the safety of our children a parent, guardian or responsible adult is required to sign out any YG member who is leaving a dance. Please see GUEST POLICY below for additional parental guidelines.

Guest Policy

Youth Group members are permitted to bring up to two (2) guests to the Halloween Dance, the Valentine Dance, and the Hello/Goodbye Dance. **Guests must be in grades 6-8 and must be accompanied to the dance by a current Youth Group member.** Guests are required to abide by the same rules and guidelines as are Youth Group members. Youth Group members are asked to review those expectations with their guests. Violations will result in the Youth Group member and the guest(s) being asked to leave the dance.

PARENTS – If your child would like to bring guests to a dance, you are required to register guests at the sign-in table. You must provide emergency contact information for each guest and agree to be responsible for him or her. This requirement is for the safety of all of our children, as well as to ensure everyone enjoys the dance.

Youth Group Board Members & Contact Information

Information about upcoming Youth Group events is published in the weekly bulletin and online through the St. Ephrem School Communication Link. The Communication Link is accessible to both school and PREP students through the St. Ephrem Church website. Just click on *St. Ephrem School* on the left side of the website, then *Communication*, then search by the *month*.

You may also contact a Youth Group Board member at stephremyg@gmail.com.

Msgr. Kenneth McAteer.....Youth Group Moderator

Lisa Birnbaum.....Gym Night Coordinator

Patrice Breen.....Lunch with the Easter Bunny Coordinator

Jackie EyrePublicist

Liz Gold.....Mother/Son-Father/Daughter Dance Coordinator

Katie Henry.....Dance Coordinator, Lunch with Santa Coordinator

Jackie Janzer.....Halloween Party Coordinator

Lisa Liney.....Volunteer Coordinator

Eileen Murphy.....Lunch with Santa Coordinator

Maria ShurdichTreasurer & Gym Night Coordinator

Michele Reisinger.....President & Hayride Coordinator

Diane Rowan.....Ski Trip Coordinator, Hershey Park Coordinator

Maggie Velek.....Dance Coordinator

Sharon Webster.....Halloween Party Coordinator

Sue Zarzatian.....Volunteer Coordinator, M/Son-F/Daughter Dance Coordinator

