

# Parent Info

We really love your kids and we will do anything to see them thrive and live the abundant life that Jesus came to offer! We are a youth ministry that is run out of Willow Park Church, a multi-site church with communities in the Mission, Rutland, Glenmore, and Lake Country.

## Connecting your youth

Our youth ministry is based 100% on relationships! Although our ministry is very big, the focus of everything we do is relational.

So, each of our students are in care groups with their friends and two or three leaders. They will be called every two weeks and emailed all the time! These leaders are trained to love their students, disciple them, and make sure that they are well connected. So, everything we do is based on these relationships, to the care group sleep-over's at Rush, to the care group Olympics that happen during our youth nights.

A huge key connecting point are the fall retreats. The Senior High students are doing a missions trip to Osoyoos called Osoyoo-sauce. The Junior High retreats are also at the Ark this fall... however, there is a retreat for each grade to make sure that they connect really well. These retreats are extremely in-expensive (\$40) and are designed to build community. Our youth are amazing, and so we love to celebrate them and spend tons of time with them!

So, with all that said, we will do anything to help your youth succeed! Please call us anytime if we can tailor our program to help your youth connect.

## Care Groups

Our junior high students meet every second week in care groups (also called Booster Juice Groups). Their leaders will call them and explain where they are meeting and what they are doing. These nights are designed to connect with their youth and build relationship, and also to pray for their students and share from the bible. Each of our leaders really love Jesus and the youth in the care groups and have been trained to be a great leader. They all have agreed to very high standards of integrity and to live a life that is exemplary to our youth.

Our senior high students meet every third week in care groups (also called Glow Groups)

### *Satellite Communities*

Kids love our youth group because of the strong relationships with each other and their leaders. These groups are the driving force behind everything we do. So, students in each of the four communities always meet every week with those same leaders.

In the mission (Willow Park South) the Senior High students meet at the south campus every Wednesday at 7:00. They will often shuttle and meet as an entire youth group in the youth building on Highway 33 for a time of community building, worship and teaching. Every third week they will still meet there for their care groups. The junior students meet there every Thursday at 6:30!

In Lake Country the times are the same, with the Senior High students meeting at George Elliot at 7:00 and the Junior High students meeting at 6:30.

Our Glenmore students meet the Abby on Wednesdays at 7:00 and Thursday at 6:30, and our Westside students meet the Mac's at the same times.

### *Safety*

We love and protect our youth like they are our own children! We recognize that with so many students there is always the potential for greater risk, so we are very cautious. We have nurses on staff and provide certified first aid attendants at every event and retreat.

### *Important Events*

We strategically place important weekends and events throughout the year to help our students stay grounded and they mature spiritually. Our fall retreats are designed to connect our youth and disciple them. Many new students enter our program after coming on the Ark Bible Cruise.

We are planning a mini-conference for our own youth called "Encounter" on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. This conference will be a worship and prayer weekend designed to get their roots down deep. We have guest speaker Tony Campolo coming to speak that weekend!

The Rush Youth Conference is on February 17-19. Our students are often feeling tired and a bit discouraged this time of year, so, we plan Rush to build them up and get them excited about life with Christ! On the Friday

night you can drop your youth off at KSS at 7:30, they will then be driven to their care group sleepovers. After a full day of activity, they can be picked up that Saturday night at 11:00 at KSS.

We also have missions trips that take place. The Junior High students can go to Salt Spring Island for a week of serving that community and run a VBS, while the Senior High students go to LA to work at the Dream Center, or go to Watson Lake Yukon to staff Hidden Lakes Bible Camp.

*Please feel free to contact us at any time. You only get one chance to raise a great child, and we are here to help in any way possible!*