

YOUTH MINISTRY

Everyone in Grades 6-12 welcome!

Doylestown Presbyterian Church

Youth Group - Bells & Choir - Confirmation -
Retreats - Mission - Events



Stay Connected!

GroupMe App:

Element Youth
Group Parents!



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Grownups & Youth Welcome!
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Fall Newsletter



Youth Ministry at Doylestown Presbyterian Church

DPC is full of youth engaging in ministry:

- Summer mission trips
- Youth choirs
- Community meal/food drive
- Mission activities like Code Blue
- Youth Elders and Deacons
- Lay leaders, sound board, Nursery help
- Confirmation
- Sunday School classes
- Bible study
- Summer Camp (VBS) leaders
- Christmas caroling
- Supporting each other in extracurricular activities
- Regularly praying for each other
- Regular youth group gatherings

Inside you will find:

Fall Schedule

Sunday Mornings

Confirmation

Meet our leaders!

How to:

Sign Up

Contact

Stay Connected

Youth Ministry at DPC is youth engaged in the life of the congregation. Join us in this vibrant ministry!

Becca

Becca Bateman, Associate Pastor
BeccaB@dtownpc.org

Jamie

Jamie Neal, Seminarian for Youth Ministry
JamieN@dtownpc.org

Andy

Andy Benson, Youth Comm Moderator
whycreate@gmail.com

A note from Jamie!

As we embark on the youth ministry year under the theme “Worship As A Living, Creative Journey”, we’ll discover how worship flows through our church gatherings and into the rhythms of our daily lives. I’m excited to lead and learn alongside our dedicated Youth Leaders, whose years of faithful service have laid a strong foundation for us. Together, we’ll build relationships, deepen fellowship, and center every aspect of our journey on worshipping God. This will be an unforgettable year! See you soon!



A true story told by Becca from the 2024 Fall Retreat...

At first, it looked like we had three different groups of friends, girls who didn't always mix much back at church. Seven of them, 8th through 10th grade, each quietly wondering if they'd fit in or if they'd end up on the outside of the circle.

But something happened that weekend. Out on the ropes course at Johnsonburg Retreat Center, they couldn't succeed unless they trusted each other. Balancing on wires, holding each other's arms, giving encouragement when someone wanted to give up, suddenly the cliques didn't matter. They cheered for one another, not just their “usual” friends.

In the evenings, they huddled up together, laughing, sharing snacks (So many snacks), and even asking deeper questions about faith. Some of the girls who couldn't come on the trip were still included too, sent texts and messages that said, “we miss you, you're still part of us.” And you know what? They felt it. They said later that they did feel welcome, even though they weren't physically there.

It wasn't perfect, but it was a start. The walls began to fall. I hope those girls remember that weekend when friendship felt bigger than a clique. I hope they'll keep trusting that developing relationships with each other here at church is worth it. Because when God opens a door to connection, we never quite go back to the way things were before.

Fall Schedule

August/September

Dates & times
subject to change

- September 14** 4:30-5:45 pm Extended Youth Choir
5:45-7:30 pm Youth Group Kickoff! Grown-ups invited!
At least one grown-up of each youth is encouraged to attend tonight!
- September 21** Youth Choir sings in 10:30 am worship, NO evening Youth Choir
5:45-7:30 pm Youth Group
- September 28** 4:30-5:45 pm Extended Youth Choir, 5:45-7:30 pm Youth Group

October

- October 5** Youth Choir sings in 10:30 am worship, International Festival following 10:30 worship, EVERYONE INVITED!
NO evening choir or Youth Group
- October 12** 5-5:45 pm Youth Choir, 5:45-7:30 pm Youth Group
- October 19** NO evening choir or Youth Group
- October 26** Depart from DPC 1:30 pm Princeton Choir Festival, NO Youth Group

November

- November 2** 5-5:45 pm Youth Choir, 5:45-7:30 pm Youth Group
- November 9** 5-5:45 pm Youth Choir, 5:45-7:30 pm Youth Group
- November 16** Youth Choir sings in 10:30 am worship, NO evening rehearsal
5:45-7:30 pm Youth Group
- November 23** LET'S GET CORNY! Cornhole Tournament - More details to come!
- November 30** NO Youth Choir/NO Youth Group

December

- December 7** NO Youth Choir, 5:45-7:30 pm Youth Group
- December 14** 4-5 pm Youth Choir, 5-6 pm Choir Party (RSVP needed)
5:45-7:30 pm Youth Group
- December 21** Youth Choir participating in Lessons & Carols, NO Youth Group
- December 24** 3:45-4:50 pm Youth & College Choir Rehearsal, participate in 5 pm Christmas Eve service

Program resumes January 11th

- Mid-Year Youth Group Kickoff
- Grown-Ups Invited!
- No Youth Choir this evening

Please note that Youth Group for grades 6-12 happens simultaneously but separately. Everyone is together for dinner but discussion and activities are separated 6th-8th grade and 9th-12th grade.



Confirmation

I know church members have been wondering why we switched our confirmation format this year. Let me tell you about the great conversations students have been sharing about how they want to prioritize creating friendships at church and also that their time is more meaningful if they are able to work on a project or their faith formation for a more significant period of time together. In conversation with families, we will have fewer times we meet but longer times to meet. This is an opportunity for youth in Grade 8 and up to grow in faith and learn about Christian life from historical contemporaries. Youth will also grow their friendships with others their age. Confirmation is the process of becoming a member of the church.

Pastor Becca

Classes will be led by Pastor Becca and an amazing group of talented mentors: Caryn Bowe, Phil Cacossa, Glenn Haas, Kim Keller and Larry King

Class cost \$50*

***Inquire about scholarships**

Includes:

Class supplies

Bonus surprises along the way

Class times/dates:

Unit 1: Worshiping God

Dates: September 21, 4:30-7:30 pm Dinner with Youth Group in the middle.

October 12, 7- 8:30 am Come early to set up Blessing of the Animals Stations

Goal: To encounter who God is and how we respond in worship.

Unit 2: God Sees the Brokenness in this World

Dates: November 16, 4:30-7:30 pm Dinner with Youth Group in the middle.

January 11, 4:30-7:30 pm Dinner with Youth Group in the middle.

(Participate January 19 – MLK Day of Service, 10 am - 12 pm, Monday off from school)

Goal: To understand the brokenness in the world and join God's work of restoration.

Unit 3: Faith for the Whole Self

Date: February 1, 4:30-7:30 pm Dinner with Youth Group in the middle.

Goal: To explore spiritual practices, mental health, and the call of God in their future vocation.

Unit 4: Called and Confirmed

Date: March 1 (Day Retreat 12-6 pm following worship with lunch together, family invited to dinner)

Goal: To discover personal faith and belonging in the church.

Confirmation Sunday March 8th, 10:30 am worship service

Sunday Morning

9:30-10:15 am

Starting September 21

We're excited to announce!

Sunday School for Grades 6-8

Join us as we learn about Characters in Scripture using the "Faces of Our Faith" curriculum then moving on to The 100 Faith Forming Things You Need to Know Before High School.

Meet in the Youth Room (AH-202)

Continuing this Fall!

Bible Study for Grades 9-12

Understanding the prayer Jesus taught us (The Lord's Prayer) unlocks our understanding of Jesus and the New Testament. Using The Lord's Prayer by Adam Hamilton as our guide, we will see how it applies to our daily life. Each week we will spend time getting to know each other and enjoy some tasty treats. By the end you'll be saying this prayer with a whole new perspective and understanding. Come as often as your schedule allows. No need to purchase a book or do any reading ahead of time.

Meet in Room AH-203

A few words from our Youth Leaders...



"I am excited to be able to work with some of the youth, as well as be their voice and advocate for them." Charlie, Youth Elder



"I am excited to lead more fully in church services like lay read and with communion, and get to know our new members at DPC!" Rebecca, Youth Elder



"I am excited to give back to the church because it has given so much to me, and create new connections with people from church, as well as growing old ones." Jane, Youth Deacon



"I'm excited to see the positive impact the deacons can have on the community by doing simple things like gifting flowers or helping to run a service for the elderly." Kyle, Youth Deacon

Meet Our Youth Team



Becca Bateman

As your Pastor, I couldn't be happier. When I'm not at DPC, I love exploring the Doylestown area with my husband and two kids, trying endlessly to find the best Mexican food and coffee shops. I enjoy photography, listening to music and playing with our rescue dog. What I love the most is creating community working together to do the work that God has called them in this world to do.



Andy Benson

My wife and I have 2 sons, Sumner and Chatham. We also have a Springer named Basco (short for Tabasco) and 8 chickens. I studied photography and currently work for an advertising agency based in Philly and NYC. My favorite food is either BBQ or tacos, so I guess BBQ pork tacos would win out. I'm really looking forward to working with the youth at DPC, having fun flexing our creativity and getting some recommendations for new music.



Caryn Bowe

My husband and I have been members of DPC for 20 years. We have two grown kids that are "graduates" of the DPC youth group. We have a dog named Milo who's a little bit crazy and you might see me walking him around town. I am a high school chemistry teacher and a science nerd. I love the Phillies and Wisconsin Badgers and I can recite most of the HP movies by heart. I am the Vice-Moderator of the Youth Committee and Confirmation Mentor.



Mina Choi

I am the Organist and Youth Music Director, and am ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. When I'm not at DPC, I work at Princeton Seminary. I've travelled to over 40 countries, and it's hard to decide on a "few" favorite spots. I LOVE exploring nature more than exploring famous tourist places. I really hope that my work at DPC will include more young students to participate in music ministries, as well as growing in discipleship and faith formation together. Come join the youth choir and festival ringers and share your musical gifts!



Dee Dee Cox

I am a life long member of DPC. As a youth I attended Sunday School, choir and youth fellowship. When my daughter was in Sr High Fellowship I said I would drive supplies and cook meals so they could help serve meals to the homeless in Washington, D.C. After that I continued to lead Jr High Fellowship for 3 years and followed my original 7th graders through 3 years in Sr High Fellowship. It is wonderful to be part of today's youth program.

More of our Youth Team



Megan Craig

I am so excited to be a youth leader for my 4th consecutive year (but 8th or 9th year total!). I am probably most famous for being a mom to many and former 5th grade teacher. I met my husband through the youth group here at DPC, and we have been married for 18 years. I love live theater, all kinds of music, and talking to people to hear their stories and learn all about them.



Glenn Haas

I joined DPC in 1990. My favorite part of DPC is working with the youth. I am a Youth Leader and Confirmation Mentor. I have taught 9th grade Sunday School and served on the Youth Committee. I went to many schools you may recognize...Linden, Lenape and East, graduating from Kutztown University with a BS in Public Administration. I work for the Bucks County Recorder of Deeds. Favorite foods are pizza, pizza flavored Goldfish and BLTs. Favorite movie is Star Wars. Favorite places to vacation are Disney World and Boston.



Honor Hamilton

I am the Assistant Manager of the Doylestown Bookshop. I had such wonderful experiences at Element growing up, and am glad to be able to give back now. I am excited to foster a safe space for everyone to be completely and fully themselves as they walk through their journey of knowing God. My wife and I have an orange cat named Clarence, and a grey cat who goes by many names, but is most affectionately called Zuzu! Favorite family vacations are to Damariscotta, ME where I frequent the bookshop, coffee shop, read constantly, and write to my heart's content. I'm so excited for the year to come and can't wait to see everyone!



Jamie Neal

As Seminarian for Youth Ministry, I am thrilled to walk alongside DPC's teens as they develop their faith and explore their calling. It is a privilege and blessing to take on the sacred task of supporting our youth in discovering God's plan for their lives. I am entering my 3rd year of seminary while training to become a US Naval Chaplain, with the hope of someday supporting service members who face spiritual challenges.



Andy Smith

Life would be drastically different if it weren't for a thriving youth program and leaders that cared for me at DPC throughout my teenage years and beyond. I studied Adventure Recreation at Green Mountain College in VT. I returned to start a family with my wife, Justine. I started a team building and adventure company with Jonathan Craig, both of whom I met in youth group. I operate the business remotely while caring for our three children. I'm excited for the future of the youth program at DPC and hope I can impact someone's life the same way mine has been.