



Youth Ministry Updates

The holiday season is a time for gratitude and joy. We look forward to seeing you at Cross Winds as we have a great holiday season together. Included this month are a few ways you can make a difference in this world and celebrate the season. See you at Cross Winds!

November Schedule - Wednesday Night Activities

November 1st – Dinner and Small Group Night

Dinner offered at 5:30pm-6:30pm; small groups meet 6:30-7:30pm

November 8th – Dinner and Small Group Night

Dinner offered at 5:30pm-6:30pm; small groups meet 6:30-7:30pm

November 15th – Thanksgiving Event and Mission Trip Meeting

Dinner served (5:30-6:30pm). Thanksgiving activities (6:30-7:30pm).

Celebrate Thanksgiving at Cross Winds with a homecooked meal and Thanksgiving fun! Thanksgiving activities for all ages afterwards include service projects for CROSS Services and the Feed My Starving Children Christmas Gift Fair. There will also be a 2024 Mission Trip Team meeting (see info below about trip.)

November 22nd – Thanksgiving break (no programming)

November 29th – Advent Event

Dinner served (5:30-6:30pm). Christmas activities (6:30-7:30pm).

Get ready for Christmas with Cross Winds as we enjoy some Christmas cheer. Dinner will be served from 5:30-6:30pm (recommended \$5/person donation) followed by Christmas activities for all ages afterwards include making Christmas nativity scenes for a Christmas Eve drama, helping with a service project for Feed My Starving Children, music opportunities for all ages, and Christmas crafts.



CROSS WINDS UMC SENIOR HIGH

SUMMER MISSION TRIP

JULY 6-12, 2024

STUDENTS IN GRADES 8-12



2024 Senior High Mission Trip to Benton Harbor, MI July 6-12, 2024

Students in grades 8-12 (during the 2023-2024 school year)

Registration is open for the 2024 Senior High Mission Trip to Benton Harbor, MI, through Youth Works. Space is limited to 16 students and 4 adults on a first-come basis. Attend our first team meeting and information session on Wednesday, November 15th (6:30pm-7:30pm). This will be an opportunity to meet team members, ask questions, and get ready for the trip. Register today at crosswindslife.org or contact Pastor Stina for additional information.

Preparing for Winter Middle School Mentor Series

Submit Names by November 15

Our winter mentor series for middle school confirmation begins in December. This year, we ask families to choose adult mentors that they wish to have assigned as spiritual mentors. Mentors provide a space for confirmation students to really wrestle with the questions on their hearts with support and encouragement. As a mentor, you are not expected to have all the answers, but are expected to be a person of faith, hope, and love to encourage the confirmation student in their journey. Information about the mentor program is available online at crosswindslife.org/engage/youth - look for the Mentor Flyer. Please let Pastor Stina (stinakoppes@crosswindsumc.org) who you would like to invite as your student's mentor by November 15th so that she can prepare the mentor (welcoming, orientation, and background checks).

CHRISTMAS MUSIC AND DRAMA OPPORTUNITIES

Christmas Musical

Kick-off November 1st - Performance December 10th

Our winter semester will be taking part in the Adult Choir Christmas Musical. The kickoff meets on Wednesday, November 1st. Rehearsals will be Wednesday evenings at 7:30, allowing for the youth to still take part in the Winter Semester of Middle School and High School Programming. Schedule available online.

Christmas Eve Drama

Performance December 24th at 10:00 am Worship

All students interested in participating in a Christmas Eve drama are invited to contact Lori Lahtinen to sign up. The performance will be during Christmas Eve worship (Dec 24th at 10am). Rehearsals will meet: Sunday, Dec 3rd (9am-9:45am), Dec 17th (9am-9:45am), and Wednesday, Dec 20th (5:30-6:30pm).

Contact Lori Lahtinen, Director of Worship and Music (lorilahtinen@crosswindsumc.org) for more information about worship and music programs.