

# EDGE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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## **What are large groups?**

EDGE impacts your middle schooler through two avenues: large group and small group gatherings. The large group gatherings are held in the Life Teen Cafe, where students first meet to interact in games and vibrant worship, as well as learn from an inspirational speaker. The goal of large group is to set up fun and meaningful discussions that take place in small group gatherings.

## **What are small groups?**

Small groups provide the fuel that drives students to make good choices during the week. Usually, each small group is led by an adult leader and a high school leader. Each small group allows the opportunity to develop a group of Christian friends close to home, which leads to further encouragement and accountability. Our goal is that each small group remains together for the whole school year. With this in mind, small groups are assigned after registration is completed.

## **How do I volunteer to become a part of EDGE?**

Becoming a small group leader is a fun and exciting way to stay engaged with your own middle school student. We absolutely encourage parents to become small group leaders—and, with our rapidly expanding student ranks, we need you—but we do not permit parents to lead their own children during EDGE. Some students need more space than others and are far more likely to be candid in small group discussions when parents are not present. We'll help find the best fit for you, as well as the right place to maximize your student's experience in EDGE.

## **How is my child's small group leader chosen?**

Small group leaders volunteer to participate and then go through an interview/approval process before being selected to lead students. This process includes completion of the Archdiocesan

"Safe Environment Training" and a background check every five years.

Your child will be assigned to the small group of one of our volunteers after completion of registration.

**How can I be involved without being a small group leader?**

We're glad you asked! There are a lot of ways to participate in the fun as you experience your own spiritual growth through serving. We are always in need of people to be our "Life Support." This includes things like providing snacks for our nights, praying for our teens, chaperoning trips, and even doing some office work. If you're interested in helping in one of these ways for our middle school students, please email Tiffany Topel at [ttopel@stcharleshartland.org](mailto:ttopel@stcharleshartland.org).