

**Kingdom Builder's
Parent Meeting
August 21, 2011 – 5:00 p.m.
in the Youth Building**

Purpose: Provide Information and communicate the direction and tone of the ministry of the youth department.

Objectives of the ministry: To teach and disciple our youth and provide them with opportunities and activities for fellowship and spiritual growth.

Characteristics that we seek to develop in our youth:

1. **Salvation** – knows why he is saved based on scripture and knows how to share the gospel with others
2. **Service** – Strives to be a giver of himself to meet the needs of others
3. **Surrendered** to the Lordship of Christ – He is yielded to Jesus in all areas of his life
4. **Spiritual Gifts** – Knows his spiritual gifts and remains available to be used at any time within the body
5. **Separation** – Lives a life separate from the world, and to Christ
6. **Single-minded worship** – His private and public worship is centered completely on Jesus Christ
7. **Sound view of the future** – He has an eternal perspective rather than simply living for the moment

Agenda for this meeting and General Youth Policies:

1. **Medical Release Forms 2011-2012**

All students desiring to participate in any activities within the youth ministry of Morningside Baptist Church, must have a Medical Release Form signed by a parent/or guardian and notarized. The Medical Release Form will cover all activities that occur between August 2011 and July 2012.

2. **Information on events** is communicated through the following media: mail, Sunday School announcements, the weekly "Vision" newsletter, and announcements during Wednesday youth service. We will seek to communicate through emails more this year. If you would like to receive announcements by e-mail, please put your e-mail address on the list by the door. Emails for both parents may be listed if desired.

3. **2011-2012 Calendar** - All dates are subject to change.

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- A. All students participating in the Wednesday evening youth service should purchase this book.
 - B. The books are \$10.00 and initially will contain daily devotions for September through November. Each quarter (for no additional charge) we will add new pages which coordinate with the Sunday School lessons. The book will contain quiet time daily devotions, a prayer journal, pages for sermon notes, and a calendar for marking youth events.
 - C. Your student's Quiet Time book will be checked during the Wednesday Night Youth Service. If they complete the daily devotions (and other activities) they may earn points towards \$5.00 gift cards which may be used to pay for youth trips and events during the year. Please encourage your student to complete their QT book. You will both benefit!

5. **Wednesday Night Youth Services** will continue on Wednesdays unless the church has a revival service or special activity scheduled.

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- Black polo shirt** (to be ordered through the church at the cost of \$7.00. See "Miss" Tammy Tew to order one.
 - Black (dark) shoes**
 - Boys: khaki pants** (shirts tucked in with belt)
 - Girls: khaki skirt** (below the knee)

Most of the youth have these outfits from last year.

7. **General Information:**

- A. **\$5.00 gift cards** are earned by completing their Quiet Time books weekly and attending the Wednesday Night Youth Services, Sunday School, and Youth Choir rehearsals. The cards may also be earned through participating in service projects and missionary book reports submitted during the year. These gift cards may be used for youth trips, mission trips and local activities throughout the year. They will be good through the Memories and Dreams Banquet scheduled for the end of the summer. **IT IS REQUIRED THAT THE STUDENTS BRING THEIR BIBLE AND QUIET TIME BOOK TO THE WEDNESDAY YOUTH SERVICE EACH WEEK OR THEY DO NOT RECEIVE ANY POINTS THAT WEEK.** The gift cards are intended to reward each student's participation in the youth ministry. They are not to be used to pay for their sibling's or parents' cost of events.

- B. **Payments made by check for youth events or trips** – The financial office requests that you write a separate check for each youth event. Please mark your check with student(s) name and the name of the youth event. If paying with cash, please put cash in an envelope with the student's name and event title listed.
- C. **Trip chaperones** – Chaperones must be active church members and they must be cleared by a background check. The number of required chaperones is set by the number of students participating in the trip. Parents are always welcome to attend if seats are available on the bus, but they will be required to pay full price for the trip. We desire to have one chaperone for every 4 or 5 to students on trips. Parents desiring to be chaperones should speak directly to Craig Jenkins regarding regular activities. Chaperones for any Youth Choir trips should speak to Miranda Robertson or Bro. David.
- D. **Trip rules** –
1. Youth must stay in groups of three or more and have an adult with them.
 2. No girls and guys sitting next to each other on the busses or vans.
 3. Dress should always be according to the Morningside Dress Code. A copy of the current dress code is attached.
 4. Youth should always remember they are representing Morningside Baptist Church when they are out in the community or on trips. In recent years, we have had wonderful reports on how well behaved our youth are. They have represented us well!
- E. **Service projects** may be scheduled occasionally.
- F. **Visitation outreach** for youth will be scheduled on a quarterly basis.
- G. **We will utilize chartered busses** for large group-out of town trips.
- H. **Game tables and equipment** are to be used only by the youth department during special events. Any other use of the equipment would need to be approved by the leadership.
- I. **Who's in charge of our youth?**
Craig Jenkins – Youth Activities and Wednesday Night Coordinator (cell 561-4617)
Trevor Shaw – Youth Sunday School Director (cell 460-8671)
David Tew – Youth Ensemble Director and Music Coordinator (cell 563-2390)
Miranda Robertson – Youth Choir Director (cell 560-6901)
Sue Norris – Youth Secretary (cell 561-0094)

Other things to mention:

- Financial hardship cases
- When are friends allowed to go on trips? (local events only with prior approval)
- Behavior – Participating in youth events is a privilege, not a right
- Youth driving personal vehicles on local events is allowed if Bro. Craig is contacted by the parent. The youth must let chaperones know when they are leaving

Policy Statement: Younger Children at Youth Events
Morningside Baptist Church
August 17, 2011

Many of our youth leaders, in Sunday School and other ministries, are themselves parents of youth and younger children. We are extremely thankful for the contribution of these parents to the youth ministry: the ministry would be greatly crippled without their participation and leadership.

The question arises from time to time about the younger children (those younger than 6th grade) of the youth workers attending and participating in youth events. While it is not the intent of the church to work a hardship on youth leaders who have younger children, we must put the safety of the children first – safety is the key issue. Because of this we ask youth leaders and teachers to abide by the following guidelines:

1. **Fellowships:** When the youth have an eating-only fellowship to which spouses of youth leaders are invited, other children may attend under the supervision of their parents. If the fellowship includes games, programs (such as Memories & Dreams), or other activities, children may not attend.
2. **Teaching Sessions:** Younger children are not to attend youth teaching sessions, because the topics covered and the types of learning activities used might not be appropriate for younger children.
3. **Other Activities and Trips:** Younger children may not attend youth trips and other youth activities.

CHURCH DRESS CODE 2011

The Scripture makes it clear, “if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” Christians have been saved out of the lost world and called to present a testimony of the saving grace of Christ to a lost world. In order to be the best possible witness, it is imperative that parameters be established for church activities in the area of how we dress. The rule for every Christian should be **modesty** and **appropriateness**. The Lord gives us His best and we should desire to do our best for Him. This includes the way we dress. We should always dress in good taste and appropriately. The following are the parameters that Morningside Sunday School and church members are expected to follow:

1. **NO SHORTS ARE TO BE WORN TO CHURCH SERVICES.** Please remember that when we come to church for services, we should want to look our best. This includes Sunday AM, Sunday PM, Wednesday PM, Wednesday night Youth service, Chancel Choir practice and any other services such as revivals, concerts, etc. Shorts may be worn to other functions not listed above, but must be no shorter than 2 inches above the knee. Sometimes children’s events on Wednesday night involve outdoor activities, in which modest shorts are appropriate. Also, modest shorts may be worn to musical rehearsals that do not take place during regular church times (Sundays and Wednesdays).
2. Dresses must **not be above** the knee and must have straps **wider** than two (2) inches. No backless dresses are to be worn. Be mindful that skirts and dresses become shorter when you sit. Therefore, be certain they are **not above** the knee when standing. Dresses must **not** be low cut in front or back and should **never show cleavage**.
3. No halter-tops, tank tops, short shirts, etc. may be worn. No beer shirts, rock or country group shirts (including radio stations) or shirts with suggestive sayings on them may be worn.
4. When water sport activities are involved, men’s swimsuits must meet the same criteria as shorts, **no shorter** than 2 inches above the knee.
5. Women’s swimsuits must be of a modest one-piece style (not low cut in front or back, not French cut at the bottom). **NO CLEAVAGE!**
6. Ladies **must** wear cover-ups over swimwear when not in the water.
7. The general rule and minimal test for modesty is . . . **not too tight, not too short, and not too revealing**.

These guidelines are not intended to dictate anyone’s private lifestyle however, as followers of Christ, all believers should be equally concerned about personal modesty when going out in the community. For church activities we need to look like the body of Christ and be sure that we “make no provision for the flesh” (Romans 13:14). When we stand before the Lord, let’s be able to give a good account of our faithfulness to Him as witnesses to a world that desperately needs to see Jesus in us at all times. Thank you for your cooperation.

Youth 2011-2012 Reward Point System

- 1 – **The student must bring BOTH their Bible and Quiet Time book to the Wednesday Night Youth meeting or THEY DO NOT RECEIVE ANY POINTS THAT WEEK.**
- 2 – The student gets a \$5 card for every 10 points they earn. If they go for two weeks without bringing in their Bible and Devotion book, any points earned up to that time are forfeited. (This does not include absences due to illness, etc.)
- 3 – The students get points for each of the following (the number of points awarded is in parenthesis):
 - Doing quiet time each day including doing the Bible reading from the devotion book and writing some of their thoughts, etc. about what they read. (2 points for 5-7 days completed in a week, 1 point for 3-4 days, less than 3 days = 0 points)
 - Having their sermon notes from the prior AM and PM services, plus any Bible Conference, revival meetings, or special services notes. (1 point for each set of sermon notes)
 - Any special Christian services that are NOT a function of Morningside directly (Christian student organizations at school, See You at the Pole, Mission Minded Bible Drill Team, etc.) and are done on a regular basis (when applicable.) This does not include just attending a Christian organization at school, but taking an active part or leadership role. (1 point for each month if the group meets regularly, 1 point for each one-time event such as See You at the Pole)
 - Sunday School, Youth Choir attendance, participation in Youth Visitation (1 point for each day they attended Sunday School, 1 point for each day they attended choir, and 1 point for each time they attended youth visitation – checked on a monthly basis using reports generated from the church’s database)
 - Quoting Bible memory verses either from the devotion book, Bible Drill, or memory work from school (1 point for each verse up to a total of 40 verses per year)
 - Attendance at special groups such as ensemble practice, orchestra practice, etc. (1 point each month they attend ensemble or orchestra at least 3 out of 4 times in the month).
 - Attendance/participation in special church functions such as Fall Festival, Vacation Bible School, Bible Drill, choir trips to other churches, Bible Drill at the Association, Regional, and State levels (1 point for each instance of serving)
 - Christian service activities done with the group such as doing yard work for one of the seniors in the church or an elderly neighbor, fixing a meal for a shut-in or sick member in the church, visiting in the nursing home, etc. (1 point for each instance of serving)
 - Bringing a first-time visitor to the Wednesday Night Youth Service. (1 point each)
 - Participating in/performing for special activities such as Youth Sunday, ensemble solos, ensemble performances, singing in the youth choir in church – 1 point for each solo, group performance, or serving in a leadership role
 - Reading Christian biographies - 40 points for each Christian biography they read when accompanied by a 1-2 page book report on the book. Maximum allowed at 40 points: 5 biographies. All biographies read after that will be awarded 1 point for each 100 pages in the book. Turn in your book reports to “Miss” Sue Norris.