

Westminster Budget Narrative - Youth Program

We support our Youth Program with our financial gifts and our time and talents because we want to “Empower youth to love God, each other, themselves and the world” (Matthew 22:37-38). Our Youth program is led by our Youth Ministry Coordinator and is supported by our Pastor, Christian Education Coordinator and dedicated volunteers. The Youth Group is made up of kids in grades 6 through 12. They meet weekly on Sunday mornings and evenings to learn together, play together and to support each other. The mission statement for our Youth Group (West Pres Youth) is “A Culture of Service, A Community of Christ’s Love” and over the years, they have demonstrated a commitment to mission work, both locally and globally. The past several years they have worked on projects on the Oregon Coast and over the years, high school mission trips outside Oregon have included Nashville, New Orleans, New York, San Francisco, Seattle and Romania. Our Middle School Youth do local mission work during City Camp. Youth volunteers are an important part of our Vacation Bible School program

We support our youth, because they in turn teach us. Their enthusiasm, energy and emphasis on service to others serve as examples and inspiration to those of us who are both younger and older. But perhaps the best reason to support our Youth Program is to hear it’s impact in their own words.

“My days in middle school were very rough and I faced a lot of hate and bullying for who I was, but then I joined the youth. And this program has been like a second home to me because everyone in it is always so welcoming..... Having another support group right beside you makes you believe in the faith in humanity and let’s you see the side of people that are good. And I am eternally grateful for the people and the youth that have entered my life.”

“Going on Mission trips is a very wholesome experience....you get the chance to see how the rest of the world works and operates and get to be part of the change that makes the world a better place..... You see God through others on these trips. If you can leave with a single person’s life being better than when we got there, then our job is done and God has done His best work.”

“It just hit me that this is my seventh and final year participating in Westminster’s Youth Program....The kids in the youth room are some of the best people I have ever met. These kids have the biggest hearts and I am truly blessed to call them my family.”

“Victoria Schaaf and her youth program have changed my life in so many ways and provided me with opportunities I didn’t know existed. I am a different person because of it and am forever grateful to have been here.”

“To everyone who contributes to the youth program, THANK YOU. YOU are the reason so many kids have passed through and come out better on the other side.”