



Holy Spirit Lutheran Youth

A WELCOMING CHRIST-CENTRED COMMUNITY

Youth and Family Ministry

**Sarah Rudd – Youth Director, Elaine Crawford – Youth & Family Council Representative,
Gaylene Manuel – Children’s Ministry Council Representative**

Dear Parents / Guardians and youth,

Thank you for taking the time to look through this package. It has been prepared for you by your brothers and sisters in ministry. We have included our goals for the youth program so that you can see our hopes for the next year – to put us all on the “same page.” We have included youth and parent / guardian responsibility sheets. This is not to legislate behaviour, but rather to ask for a commitment from all of us, and to remind us of our purpose in ministry.

On the inside cover of this folder you will find information sheets to be filled out by both youth and parents / guardians, and returned to the office. Please review them and contact us with any outstanding questions.

The policy manual you are holding is a tool to help all of us as we journey together in Christ. Contained in it are expectations, responsibilities and hopes for our youth program. This is your program, your ministry and by working together we will achieve through Christ all that He plans for us. We are the body and as each member does its part we achieve something greater than we could as individuals. The sections of this manual are as follows:

1. Welcome and introduction
2. Visioning Statement
3. Policy Page

Separate documents that complete the manual are

1. HSLC youth activity and medical permission form
2. HSLC youth covenant and parent responsibility form
3. HSLC volunteer ministry covenant

Be sure to return your forms to the office or into Sarah’s mailbox. If you have any questions, please call or email Sarah in the office or speak with one of us directly. Blessings,

Sarah

Elaine

Gaylene

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Visioning Statement – ‘Spirit Led’

Telos (uttermost)

Every one who believes that Jesus is the Christ is a child of God. (1John 5:1)

Fan into flames the Spiritual gifts God gave you. (2 Timothy 1:6a)

Vision for 2011–2012

To build up a Christ-centred youth community at Holy Spirit Lutheran

To become “spirit led” in worship and community as brothers and sisters in Christ

Youth Program Goals

1. Connect with youth in the church community
 - form relationships with youth
 - connect with the youth who may be separated from life in the church
2. Form relationships to strengthen and build up youth
 - Strengthen youth in faith and belief in themselves
 - Build up youth to feel confident to take action as God directs
3. Form bridges between the generations in our church community
4. Dialogue faith from a youth/young adult perspective

Program criteria to achieve goals

- hold monthly events for each age group
- operate a committee of parents and interested congregational members to involve youth ministry in the life of the church
- create and integrate a Youth and Family Ministry Policy Manual in order to outline church and family responsibilities
- participate as a youth community in church events
- regular contact with family
 - up to date events calendar available for 2 month of activity
 - announcements in bulletin and newsletter
 - phone tree used by youth to remind families of events
 - regular emails to youth and parents one week prior to events
- leaders regular contact with youth
 - 2 youth called every week
 - form and operate an executive group of youth to help plan and lead events for all age group



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Policy and Safety Page

The ELCIC (Evangelical Lutheran Church In Canada) revised its Policy on Protection of Children, Youth and Other Vulnerable People in 2004, now available for full reading on our national website (at <http://www.elcic.ca/docs/protect/04protectintro.html>). This package is our attempt to work within the spirit of that policy while finding a balance that works for the families here at Holy Spirit. These are the standards which we will strive as a program to meet.

Contact

- ✦ Email from youth office to parent and youth once a month with upcoming event information
 - ❖ 2 week email reminder to youth on event
- ✦ Activate phone tree info one week before event

Consent

- ✦ General consents on youth activity permission form:
 - ❖ asking permission for youth to attend regularly scheduled events
 - ❖ asking permission for youth leader and parent driving for regularly scheduled events
 - ❖ asking permission for pictures to be posted on youth board
 - ❖ asking permission for pictures to be posted on members only webpage
 - ❖ asking permission for youth to attend 1 on 1 coffee afternoons with YL with an email sent out 1 week before event
- ✦ If Consent is not given to any or all of these items the Youth and Family Director will contact the family directly and work out a amicable solution

Safety

- ✦ Youth will not leave church property at youth events without adult supervision
- ✦ Youth (under 18) are not allowed to smoke at youth events without explicit parent permission
- ✦ Unless otherwise directed there will be 1 adult to a maximum ration of 9 youth at youth events