

Hello,

My name is Pastor Andrew Sherman. Whether you (or your students) are new to our group or not, I'm excited to invite you to be a part of a new season of youth ministry at Orchard Park Wesleyan Church! Recombining junior and senior high into one group is not the only change happening in Youth at OPWC, so whether you are new or a veteran family of OPWC Youth please read the whole letter so you're in the loop!

Our mission:

OPWC Youth strives to be a loving, fun, and safe environment where teens are invited to step into the mission of our church and be "Ordinary people seeking and sharing extraordinary life in Christ." We do this by regularly participating in times of prayer, conversational messages, small group discussion, and games. I am also privileged to work alongside a host of wonderful volunteer leaders that have amazing hearts for students. We are all seeking Christ and we are all learning together; I think that's something really special about Youth Ministry at OPWC.

Basic Information:

Regular meetings for all 6-12 grade students will be held at the church from 6-8 pm on Sunday nights, Special events happening this Winter and early Spring that fall outside of regular meeting times are also listed below on this letter. One new thing this year that will start in January will be dinner meetings; these will be more relaxed meetings that will be great opportunities to invite friends! So starting on January 2nd, students should come ready to eat at the first meeting of every month!

The last thing is that 2 events happening in the next couple of months require prior registration (details on schedule side), these are not my deadlines so I cannot be flexible with them. Thank you in advance for your diligence on these.

If you ever have any questions, comments, or concerns about youth ministry at OPWC, please don't hesitate to shoot me an email at andrew@opwc.org. I'm looking forward to what God has in store for our group in this new season. Thank you for being a part of it! I hope you will join me in regularly praying for God's blessing over our group, it's leaders, and individual students.

In Christ,

-Pastor Andrew

Please be mindful of the following deadlines:

January 15th

Winter Retreat Registration Deadline: Have your form + payment in to Pastor Andrew

February 24th

RSVP deadline for Lasertron: I need confirmation from each students' *guardian* that they will be attending

Other significant dates:

December 12th

1st Regular meeting - 6-8 @ OPWC

December 19th

Christmas Spectacular/White Elephant
Bring a \$10 gift (give or take \$2)

December 26th

No meeting

December 28th, 10-11:30 am

Sledding @ Chestnut Ridge
Coat, gloves, and hat required

January 2nd, 6-8pm @ OPWC

First dinner meeting, *bring a friend and come ready to eat!*

January 28th-30th

Winter Retreat: see other handout for details
NO meeting on January 30th

Lasertron

March 11th, 6-8 pm @ 5101 N Bailey Ave, Buffalo, NY
Cost is \$15 per student due by or at the time of event, dinner is included

April 24th

Dodgeball tournament: open to all ages!
Rules and registration for the 2022 tournament forthcoming