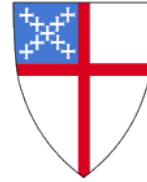


# A Quick Guide to Faith Formation for Youth

## Emmanuel Episcopal Church

### 2011-12



#### What

The learning & practice of **Christian discipleship in the Episcopal/Anglican tradition**, in the context of an intentional, committed community of peers & adult mentors, with close attention to the unique joys and challenges encountered by adolescents & teenagers in today's society

#### Why

Because our young people need a God-focused place & context to be vulnerable & honest, to ask the big questions & seek the best answers; to learn new spiritual practices; of playful refuge from the pressure, pace, and anxiety of everyday life; of building Christian solidarity with their peers; of authenticity & creativity directed toward pursuing God, in community; and of opportunities to reach outside themselves in service to others in the name of Christ.

#### How

- **Journey Groups for grades 6-12**
  - Rite 13 (6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> this year; 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> next year)
  - J2A (8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> this year; 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> next, and including confirmation instruction)
  - YAC (10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> this year; 11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> next)
- **“The Journey Cont’d” - Sunday afternoon outings & events** (per published schedule)
  - “That-thing-formerly-known-as-EYC” ☺
  - Discussions, presentations, contemplative worship, and supper
  - Field trips & fun
  - Mission / service projects
  - Fundraisers!
- **Emmanuel Youth Retreat (6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>) & 2011-12 Kickoff @ Camp Mikell: Sept. 16-18**
- **Diocesan-sponsored youth retreats & events**
  - New Beginnings (middle school): Oct. 7-9 @ Camp Fortson\*
  - Happening (high school): Nov. 18-20 @ Camp Mikell\*
  - Jr. NYC (middle school): Dec. 2-4 @ Camp Mikell
  - Sr. NYC (high school): Jan. 6-8 @ Camp Mikell
  - New Beginnings: Feb. 17-19 @ Camp Mikell\*
  - Happening: Feb. 24-26 @ Camp Mikell\*
  - Hunger Walk/Run: March 2012
  - \*New Beg. & Happening are “one time only” spiritual renewal retreats; though after you’ve been you may apply to return as a volunteer staff member!
- **Rite 13 Celebration & Liturgy** (every-two-yrs event for active members of the R13 journey group); **J2A Pilgrimage** (every-two-years spiritual pilgrimage for active members of the J2A journey group); **Mission/service projects & trips** (both YAC and all ages); other special gatherings to mark the key passages in the life of each group

## Who

- **Every young person 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades, and their friends**, are welcome at all times in our youth community
- All **parents of youth (POY!)** are asked to support the life of this community
- **Rite 13 leaders:** Laura Beckham & another adult TBA
- **J2A leaders:** Jennie Allison & Linda Dodson
- **YAC leader:** Jeff Stephens
- **Outings & events leaders:** UGA Student Interns Julie Tuttle & Emily Wilson; Fr. Edwin Beckham, Matt Humphrey, Jamaica Miller, plus Journey Groups leaders
- **Vestry liaisons for Faith Formation:** Curt Collier & Matt Humphrey
- **The Emmanuel Youth Steering Group:** Katherine Byrne, Curt & Georgia Collier, Sarah Ehlers, Alex Hinson, Matt Humphrey, Cindy Sullivan, Fr. Edwin Beckham
- **The entire Emmanuel parish community**

## When

- **9:25 – 10:15 a.m. Sunday mornings**, Sept. 11, 2011 thru May 13, 2012
  - Yes, please try to arrive on time, 5 min. prior to the official start-time. Our time together Sunday mornings is short and we want to make the most of it. Breakfast snacks will always be available.
  - Any acolytes serving on a given Sunday will be dismissed by 10:10 and walk **together** up to the church
  - Remaining youth and leaders will walk up **together** around 10:15
  - On the weekends of the Emmanuel, Jr. DYC, and Sr. DYC youth retreats, there will be no Journey Group meeting for the relevant age group, as the hope is that most will attend the retreat. There will, however, be adult chaperones available in The Catacombs.
- **4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Sunday afternoons about twice per month** (per published schedule)
- **Other times** as advertised for meals/outings specific to each Journey group and for fundraisers (Super Bowl Chili, Barbeque, etc.)

## Where

- Generally in **The Catacombs**, our dedicated youth space in the thrift plaza (far left storefront entrance). Some afternoon or special events may also make use of the Common Rm. or church.
- YAC members this year are all 16+ and, in consultation with their leader & clergy, may choose to gather elsewhere

