EGCC Vision: Learning to love God and love others as we follow Jesus together

Vision for the EGCC Youth Group

- <u>Christ-centered</u>. We want to invite kids to learn about Jesus and consider making the decision to follow Him.
- <u>Welcoming.</u> Not closed off to outsiders. Not legalistic. We present Christ and the good news of the gospel and we invite teens to trust in Him.
- <u>Grounded in Scripture.</u> Brings together teenagers to hear and engage the gospel message and the teaching of the Scriptures. We use fun activities, fellowship interaction, adult mentoring relationships, and small group discussions to point kids to Jesus, and a relationship with Him.
- <u>Discipleship</u>. Engages church kids to help them grow in Christ and guide them how to live out the spiritual truths they are learning.
- <u>Evangelism</u>. Enables active teenagers to invite their friends and peers to come and see for themselves what the good news is all about. Guides Christian teens in developing an outreach mindset and teaches them how to love and listen well to their peers.
- <u>Outreach</u>. Reaches out to unchurched teenagers, especially the friends of church kids, as well as whoever the Lord will bring. Responds with the love of Christ for kids wherever they are at in their lives and knowledge of God.
- <u>Relational</u>. Led by adults willing to get to know the teenagers and invest in their lives. The Youth Leaders work to make connections and build relationships with the teenagers in small group times as well as in fellowship activities.

The EGCC Youth Ministry encompasses Thursday Night Youth Group, Sunday morning worship and Christian Ed, as well as special activities and additional Bible studies for students in $6^{th} - 12^{th}$ grade.

Thursday Night Youth Group for many students will be the "front door" of EGCC's ministry to teenagers.

- The YG gatherings would be well-planned with care given for the message, the game, and small group times. These times are designed to be accessible to new students including those unfamiliar with church and faith.
- Extra parent support is needed to maintain this weekly meeting. The "church" parents would support the YLT by serving at the registration table, and "chaos containment" during YG on a rotational basis.

The EGCC Youth Ministry is a ministry of East Glenville Church and not just a separate weeknight group for teenagers. The mission is to engage teenagers with the message of Christ at both Youth Group and through our Sunday morning gatherings.

- Engages with teenagers who come with their parents to Sunday worship and welcomes their participation in YG events. Works to build the faith of students in the church if they are unable to regularly be at the Thursday night gatherings.
- Offers opportunities for deeper engagement with Scripture such as the Sunday 9am class or Wednesday night study.
- Invites and looks for ways to include Youth Group kids whose families do not attend EGCC in church activities and Sunday worship.
- Sets up service or outreach opportunities for teenagers from the church.
- Seeks ways to bring together parents and teenagers for service, growth, or fellowship activities.