

# DH Student Ministries Parent Page



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Parent Newsletter

December 2009

## *Junior High Future Dates*

- ✓ December 21st 5 -10PM  
Laser Tag event
- ✓ December 24th 6:30 &  
11PM Christmas Eve ser-  
vices
- ✓ January 13th Small groups  
start back up
- ✓ February 7th Super Bowl  
Sunday event
- ✓ February 12th & 13th  
Junior High Believe Event
- ✓ February 26th & 27th  
Youth Membership classes  
begin.

## *Senior High Dates*

- ✓ December 21st 5-10PM  
Laser Tag Event
- ✓ December 24th 6:30 &  
11PM Christmas Eve  
services
- ✓ January 31st Online Mis-  
sion trip..
- ✓ February 7th Superbowl  
party

## *Communications*

- ✓ 2010 Youth Mission  
trips: are you interested?  
If so, please contact Jon  
ASAP.. We need to re-  
serve spots
- ✓ [www.dhmc.com/  
youth.html](http://www.dhmc.com/youth.html) is a great  
source for information.

## **YOU ARE THE KEY!**

I recently attended a seminar called Real World Parents.

I learned so much and would like to share some nuggets of truth.

To become spiritually healthy students (kids) need:

1. Strong and clear expectations with boundaries, demands and accountability.
2. Emotional warmth and closeness. We all need to know we are loved.
3. Cognitive autonomy. Creating space to work through their views and opinions.

Christian Smith, a Notre Dame Researcher says, "a parent is the most important pastor a teenager will ever have." I would have to agree with his quote.

I am finding an increasing number of students who really appreciate their families and value the amount of time and safety offered by their parents.

I also understand the world is crashing in on the family unit. But in my training the researchers are seeing a continued value students are placing on family.

I am challenged as a dad and youth worker to maximize the time I spend with my children. Here are a couple of good ideas:

1. Dads take your daughter out on a date. Mc Donald's has a nice dollar menu.
2. Spend time creating some family Christmas traditions.
3. Pray with and for your children
4. Spend time asking open ended questions: what, where, who and how.

## **BRIDGING THE GAP**

The Student Ministries is a great place where the love of Christ and the real world collide. There is a constant tension to bridge the gap between the bible stories of children's church and how that has anything to do with being a teenager.

We are excited to see a significant amount of students attending various activities each month and how God is

able to use those meetings and activities to bridge the gap.

We would like to encourage and challenge you to join us as bridge gapers, people who will invest a couple of hours a month, a few 2 liters of soda and or some much needed prayer.

We would ask you to consider joining our team to help students of the church and community.

Here are a few ways to go about it:

1. Pray and ask God to direct you
2. Check out our calendar and experience one event.
3. Jump in.... Yes test the waters of Student Ministries.

Your help is valued and appreciated. Come build a bridge with us.