

# Evangel

**YOUTH**

**MANUAL**

**LIVE  
WIRE**

**PULSE**  
 **YOUTH**

# Note From Pastor

Hello Parents and Guardians,

I trust that this manual will find you well and be helpful for answering questions that you may have about the policies and practices of our Group. My goal as your youth's pastor is NOT to parent. My goal is to come alongside and help guide them into positive decisions in their life. I hope to connect with you and learn more about how I can be an aid to you. I never wish to go against the parents' wishes and look for a route to help the student live a healthy life with God.

Through teaching, retreats, and weekly events, we hope to expose your students to a model of healthy living that we believe is a lifestyle designed by our creator.

Blessings,

Pastor Wes

## Contact Information

### **Website**

<http://www.evangelck.com/>

Go to Evangel Youth,

### **Pastor Wes Contact**

Email: [wnelson@evangelck.com](mailto:wnelson@evangelck.com)

Cell: 226-626-4235 (call/text)

### **Youth Social Media**

Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/evangel\\_youth\\_insta/](https://www.instagram.com/evangel_youth_insta/)

For all Information regarding events at Evangel Community Church, contact the office to receive our weekly newsletter!

## **Evangel's Youth Philosophy**

### **What do we believe about students?**

- Every student is created and loved by God. John 3:16.
- Every student has unique gifts and is created with purpose. Ephesians 1.
- Every student makes decisions every day that affect the rest of their life. 1 Peter 1.
- Every student needs a group of friends who care about their future. Acts 2.

### **Why do we have youth groups?**

Life can be a challenge for many youth. It's a big development time for our kids where they are learning who they are, where they belong and what their purpose is.

Our groups are designed to give students strong biblical teaching and a safe environment where they can work through and explore the call on their lives.

We strive to fulfill our role in the Great Commission (Mark 16:15) and the Great Commandment (Luke 10:27) by having these 5 purposes in our programs:

- Engaging. (Fellowship) You are called to be a part of this community!
- Empowering. (Discipleship) You are called to grow deeper in a relationship with Jesus!
- Experiencing (Worship) You are called to celebrate God's presence!
- Enlightening (Evangelism) You are called to share God's love with all people!
- Equipping (Ministry) You are called to help change the world!

### **Our goals for our students:**

- Have a basic knowledge of the Bible.
- Experience expression in worship.
- Become involved in ministry and discover and use their spiritual gifts.
- Give out of the finances when giving opportunities arise.
- Develop a committed relationship with a church body.
- Are baptized in water and by the Holy Spirit.
- Develop a growing desire to share their faith.
- Strive to grow spiritually.
- Allow their beliefs about the Bible to continually guide their actions.

### **Our programs:**

- For Parents:
  - We strive to connect, encourage and equip parents of adolescents to complete the goals listed above.
  - Encourage openness between parents and student leaders to provide insight about their students.
- For Students:
  - Tuesday Night Program 7-9:00 pm
    - Sr High Program (Pulse Youth) for Grades 9-12
    - Friday Night Socials or Special Events (When Scheduled)
  - Wednesday Night Program 7-8:15pm
    - Jr High Program (Live Wire) for Grades 6-8
  - Sunday Morning Program 10:40-11:20am (2nd and 4th Sunday of the month)
    - Jr High Program (Live Wire) for Grades 6-8
  - Annual Events
    - Retreats, Conventions, Camps, Mission Trips, Leadership Conferences

### **Our Values:**

- Biblically true and culturally interesting talks and discussions.
- Evidence of the Holy Spirit in students' and leaders' lives.
- Spiritually accountable relationships.
- Great social student atmosphere.
- Students are able to think and process on their own.
- Fun environment.
- An atmosphere where students feel welcomed and included.

### **Signs of success:**

- Strong, committed leadership team of adults: regular meetings for accountability, encouragement, evaluation, proper communication, teaching and support.
- Students who have developed strong relationships with each other and spend time together outside of the program.
- Students reach out to newcomers and develop relationships that keep them accountable.
- Spiritual growth in students, beginning with a relationship with Jesus Christ and being water and Spirit baptized, discovering and using their spiritual gifts and a desire to share their faith.

**Signs of success Cont.:**

- Students are given the opportunity to go on a short-term mission trip while in High School.
- Students learn to give sacrificially in both time and money.
- Be better known in the community through acts of service, community events and promotion.

**Evangel Youth Promises:**

- All students will come to:
  - An OPEN PLACE: Come as you are; you are welcome here.
  - A SAFE PLACE: You can trust us; you will be safe here.
  - A FUN PLACE: We like to have fun; enjoy the journey.
  - A REAL PLACE: This is real life, and we believe it.

## **Evangel Youth Expectations (Rules)**

### **Program Nights and other Events**

- Unity:
  - Sit together during services.
  - Full participation (be engaged).
  - No wandering around.
  
- Safe Place:
  - Be careful with physical contact with the opposite sex.
  - No talking or teasing with sexual implications.
  - No teasing, swearing, gossiping, or fighting.
  
- Couples stuff:
  - Do not lie down next to each other.
  - Do not be covered by a blanket.
  - Do not sit on each other.
  - Do not straddle each other: Front/Back
  - Do not be outside of the eyesight of someone else: rooms/dark hallways/tents.
  
- Dress code:
  - Modesty is key
  - No underwear showing for guys or girls.
  - No midribs showing for guys or girls.
  - Swimming: Shirts are required for all swimmers (tank tops and t-shirts are acceptable). \*Tell your friends when you bring them to events.
  
- Possessions:
  - No weapons
  - No drugs
  - No alcohol on the property
  - No sexually explicit material. (Magazines, Pictures, etc.)
  - No smoking on the property or at youth sanctioned event.

## **Parents' Role in Evangel Youth**

*“Research continues to show that for better or for worse, a teen’s family represents the most influential network of earthly relationships in his or her life. For this simple reason, we believe that the most effective youth ministry always takes place in the context of the family.”  
(101 ways to be family-Friendly in youth ministry)*

### **What can parents do?**

- Work at having a close relationship with your student and disciple them every day, through prayer, Bible reading, discipleship, discipline, choosing and demonstrating a Godly example. To help with this, I strive to meet with parents at their request for lunch meet-ups or after church. This meeting is set to help you:
  - Stay informed on programming and events.
  - Be a part of the youth community.
  - Learn about the lives of your students.
- Please Pray. We desperately need your prayers over this ministry and intercessory prayer during our programs each week. We are not fighting against things of the flesh but of the things of the spirit, and our greatest victory can be won through prayer. I am expecting each parent to pray during the week for their student and all of the students in the programs they attend.
- Volunteer in the program your student is in. There are many ways to volunteer. Being a leader for the program, bringing in snacks, helping chaperon during retreats, and financially supporting fundraisers. **\*\*Any volunteers directly interacting with youth will need to participate/complete (in our churches' Plan To Protect Training.\*\***
- Help encourage and support your students to get involved and be on time for program events, activities and programs and to pick them up on time.
- Become a mentor to some teens who need extra guidance and spiritual direction.
- Learn. Please do not assume that, as a parent, you know everything about this generation by the conversations over the dinner table.



## **All about Jr High**

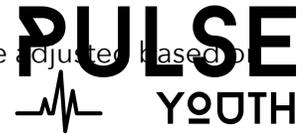
### **Jr High (Live Wire) Wednesday Nights:**

- For students who are 11-13 years old and/or in grades 6,7,8.
- Regularly from 7-815pm on Wednesdays from September through May.
- Meeting at the Church in the Portable. Events are made known in advance.

### **General elements of the program:**

- Small Groups:
  - From time to time, we will split up into groups and discuss a topic in smaller groups to encourage interaction and engagement.
- Message:
  - Each week, Pastor Wes or one of the Leaders will give a 10-15 minute message about a topic assigned by Pastor Wes. The topic is to encourage the student to embrace the call and challenge Christ gives us to lead a selfless, loving, sacrificial life that points people to Jesus.
- Snack:
  - Each week, we try to provide a small snack that the kids can enjoy between games. We make every effort to make sure they are allergen safe and appropriate for our students while also being fun!
- Worship:
  - We have some weeks when we sing songs with a live band and/or video aids. These times are to teach our kids about worship and invite them to communicate with God.
- Games:
  - Each night, we plan one to two games to encourage our students to interact and develop skills to positively interact with each other. Sometimes these are sports or goofy games, and other times we will supplement the game with a craft.

### **Typical Jr High (Live Wire) Night:**



- Most nights follow the formula outlined above. Some nights will be adjusted based on the topic of the message and also themed nights.
- Holiday Parties:
  - Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter are holidays we usually run special events and/or have events outside of our normal program times. These will be advertised through email and our churches' newsletters.

#### **Fundraisers:**

- From time to time, we like to raise money for large events and trips, primarily for retreats, conventions, mission trips and camps.
- Money will be raised from the church congregation and from the community.
- Some examples of fundraisers we would do are car washes, bake sales, selling coupon books, sports tournaments, and banquets.

#### **Retreats, Conventions and Camps:**

- These trips have significant value in a student's life. We have seen exponential spiritual growth in students who take a whole weekend or week to focus on God and to be with their Christian friends. We believe these events are essential in their walk with Jesus.
- Our Fall Convention Momentum is an event held in Cambridge. It is organized by our denomination and is designed to give our students the opportunity to have a week filled with God and their peers, and many activities. From sessions to games, there is so much to do and enjoy!

#### **Live Wire Church - Sunday Mornings:**

- On the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month, we will have a separate teaching time for our Jr high students on Sunday mornings. These Sundays will be identified. The students will take part in our Sunday worship and then be dismissed to the portable for teaching and activity for their age.

#### **Summer program:**

- Summer events are set by Pastor Wes and emailed out. Please make sure you are on his email list for details.

## **All About Sr. High**

### **Friday Nights:**

- Meets from 7-900pm on Tuesday nights from September through June.
- Doors open at 630pm. (Gym door at the back of the building)

### **General Elements of the Program:**

- Opening Activity:
  - Our nights open with approximately 10 -15 minutes of open games/activities. These are set week to week. This may also be an organized group game.
- Prayer:
  - Opening and closing of the night, including prayer requests and response times.
- Worship:
  - Pastor Wes, with the help of some youth, will sing a few well-known songs.
- Announcements:
  - Instructions and updates on new and upcoming events. Also, a time we update students on our sponsored child.
- Testimonies:
  - The Adult Leaders and students - to see what God is doing in their life, to build faith and to get to know the background of our leaders.
- Small Groups:
  - Groups will be set and adjusted as needed. Some nights will have some time set aside to go and discuss the message or a leader-guided topic assigned by Pastor Wes. These times are to allow and encourage the kids to share and discuss with one another.
- Teaching:
  - Time of sharing, preaching or teaching, which may include drama, music, video or discussion.
- Atmosphere:
  - Christian music will be played during the games and Christian videos may be shown.
- Giving:
  - Collection of money for different projects or our sponsored child throughout the year.
- Response times:
  - May include prayer time, in groups or alone, group discussions, and personal reflection time.

### **Typical Nights at Pulse:**

- Normal Night:
  - This night will have a standard flow of beginning game, worship, message, snack and activity/game.
  - Prayer to open and close nights.
- Service Nights:
  - These nights will be designated for our group to go into our community and serve.
  - Great way for us to give back to our community.

### **Extra Events**

- Some nights may include or be an extra activity.
- May have additional cost.
- Could be trips to bowling, trampoline park, corn maze, concert, etc.
- Parents will know about upcoming events by email and social media.

### **Youth Rally**

- Great event to invite friends and connect with other youth groups in the city and in our section (Windsor).
- Consists of a typical student service: worship, message, games, and fellowship.

### **Retreats, Conventions, Camps, Mission Trips:**

- These trips have significant value in a student's life. We have seen exponential spiritual growth in students who take a whole week to focus on God and to be with their Christian friends. We believe these events are really important in their walk with Jesus.
- The goal would be to have each student go on three trips a year:
  - A retreat in the Summer (Unplugged)
  - A convention in the Spring (Overflow)
- Unplugged is a camping retreat held at Nydam Farms. This Retreat is a two-night camping weekend filled with activities and sessions that bring them closer together and with God. This is a phone-free weekend where we find fun without tech.
- The convention (Overflow) in the spring is an out-of-town trip, typically after Victoria Day weekend. This is a 2 day one night trip where students from many PAOC churches gather to learn about God and enjoy many fun activities.
- Short-term mission trips would be set and announced well in advance for a small group of students to go and experience a mission.

### **Fundraisers:**

- From time to time, we would like to raise money for large events and trips, primarily the retreats, conventions, camps and mission trips.
- Money will be raised from the church congregation and from the community.
- Examples of some fundraisers that we might have are: Silent auctions, Pizza fundraiser, bake sales, car washes, banquets, sport tournaments.

### **Summer program:**

- Summer events are set by Pastor Wes and emailed out. Please make sure you are on his email list for details.