



Youth Ministry Weekly Programming for January

Middle School

Sunday Gathering | 9:30-10:15am | start in service
1/11, 1/18, 1/25

Basic @ Wednesdays at West Side | 6-7:30pm
1/14, 1/21, 1/28

High School

Sunday Gathering | 9:30-10:15am | start in service
1/11, 1/18, 1/25

MERGE | 6-9pm
1/18 - dinner and movie
10019 W 9th Pl, Kennewick

Alpha Youth | Wednesdays 6-7:30pm | HS Room
1/14, 1/21, 1/28

Mark Your Calendars: January



Deputation Interviews
1/18/26 10:30am HS Room

Bring your completed deputation application to the church on Sunday, January 18th for a time of Q&A as well as discussing why you want to go on the trip. We look forward to seeing you there!



MERGE Movie Night
1/18/26 6-9pm Ben's House

There's no school on Monday, so join us from 6-9pm for dinner and a movie. Please bring \$5 for pizza. Students, you can vote ahead of time on which movie you would like to watch. To do so, click the above picture or click [HERE](#).



Basic Black Light Games
1/28/26 6-7:30pm

Middle schoolers, join us on Wednesday, January 28th for our annual black light night. Play games, enjoy snacks, and even learn about God under the glow of black lights

Parents, feel free to check out the Parent Common Sense Review for the movies being chosen from for the high school movie night:

[Wake Up Dead Man](#)
[KPop Demon Hunters](#)
[Predator: Badlands](#)
[Wicked: For Good](#)





Color Wars

Parents,

We are kicking something new off for our high school students this semester. We are calling it Color Wars. The basic idea is that when kids come to any of our programs (Sunday school,

MERGE, Alpha Youth, etc.) they get placed on a team. There will be three teams each represented by a color. Team members will get a wristband designating what team they are on.

Throughout the semester, there will be ways for the teams to accumulate points and compete with the other teams. We will culminate the semester with a special event to be held on Sunday morning, May 17th. Then we will hand out awards at that evenings MERGE. There will be a large trophy that will have the team members name on it, and from year to year new teams who win can get their names on it. Then there will be individual awards given out to team members.

The major goal of this endeavor is to create a sense of belonging as well as excitement and synergy across our different programs. We hope you will share this with your student and encourage them to participate.

For a complete list of the rules, you can scan the QR code in the image or simply click on the image for a PDF version of the rules.

Resource of the Month: Brick

Parents,

Mandy and I just purchased one of these for ourselves. One of my middle school leaders, Rosie Alexander (who is out right now after having a baby at the end of December), first told me about Brick. After discussion with Mandy, and recognizing many of the unhealthy habits we often fall back into with our phones, we decided to purchase Brick.

If all goes well, I think it might be something we purchase in the youth ministry and encourage our students to make use of with the free app. For a little more information about what Brick is and the story behind it, I have included a message from the creators of it: Life is better when our phones help us do more of what matters, instead of constantly distracting us with things that don't. Our smartphones are our greatest tools and our most crippling distractions.

They can help us connect with those across the world, but in doing so can hinder our connection with those across the room. They can help us supercharge our productivity, and they can constantly distract us from our meaningful work. As two recent college graduates who've grown up with smartphones, we realized that more often than not, the distracting features win out. Whether at the library, the office, or dinner with family, these devices are constantly pulling us away from what matters.

While the simplest solution we found was to simply stop taking our phones with us everywhere or switch to a flip phone, we quickly realized how important smartphones have become. We use them to hail a ride, document our days with pictures and notes, get directions, and countless other things that truly enhance our daily lives. By giving up our smartphones, we would be forced to give up these luxuries we so take for granted. Faced with this problem, we decided to build our own solution: Brick.

Now you can decide which tools you'd like to keep with you, and then tap your Brick to ditch the rest for a bit. Because it's a physical device, you'll have no temptation to use the distractions until you come back to the Brick (whether that means across the room or across the city).

We use Brick to allow us to listen to a podcast on a long walk, Venmo a friend when out to dinner, and keep track of notes when working at a coffee shop - all without any distracting Twitter notifications or temptations to open up Instagram and scroll for awhile. We hope you can find some benefit, too.



HIGH SCHOOL

WINTER/SPRING 2026

CALENDAR

ALPHA YOUTH

1/14	3/11
1/21	3/18
1/28	3/25
2/4	4/22
2/11	4/29
2/18	5/6
2/25	5/13
3/4	5/20

MERGE

1/18 - 6-9PM
2/1 - 4-7PM
2/15 - 4-7PM
3/15 - 4-7PM
3/29 - 4-7PM
4/19 - 4-7PM
5/17 - 4-7PM

SPECIAL EVENTS

1/18 - MOVIE & PIZZA NIGHT 6-9PM
2/27-3/1 ALPHA YOUTH RETREAT
3/29 - BRUSH WITH BOB PAINTING NIGHT 4-7PM
4/25 - SABBATH SATURDAY 12-7PM
5/17 - COLOR WARS FINALE 9AM-12PM
5/20 - FAST FOOD FORMAL 5:30-7:30PM

MORE INFO @ WESTSIDECHURCHRICHLAND.ORG/YOUTH