

AFFIRM 2022 - UNIT DESCRIPTIONS

GENESIS / completed 6th grade + 7th graders who are first-time Affirm attendees Genesis (a new creation) is a high-energy, fun, "feel good" unit designed to help participants see that they are special and unique children of God who can have fun being Christians. They will be able to see how fellow Christians can work together to share the Good News. They will see themselves as God's work of art, created to live the Good Life through Jesus Christ and the Church. LIMIT / 70 youth

MISSIONARIES / completed 7th grade and are returning + 8th graders ~~Missionaries explore who we are as members of the body of Christ, how service and servanthood are a central part of our faith, and how to recognize our unique gifts and use them to create change. We approach service through a theology of accompaniment, walking alongside each other and all God's people regardless of the barriers that usually divide us. We put our faith into action by going out and doing service projects.~~ LIMIT / 60 youth

JOURNEYS / completed 8th - 9th grade Journeys will provide youth with the opportunity to be led to the intersections where their lives will meet Christ's in a radically new way. The Gospel story will come alive as youth engage in creative communication and small group activities. Youth will leave with a better knowledge of Jesus' journey and what meaning it has for their lives. LIMIT / 40 youth

SHEPHERDS / completed 9th - 10th grades ~~Shepherds is an introduction to Christian Leadership. The Shepherd is the one who tends to and cares for the group. This unit will help individuals identify leadership styles and skills through discussions, games, community outreach, etc. This enables them to develop a greater understanding and confidence in their role as leaders.~~ LIMIT / 60 youth

REVELATIONS / completed 9th - 11th grade Revelations is an experiential lab in daily living. We seek to discover revelations and creative insights to help Senior High youth identify the many forces -- both good and bad-- which influence their lives. The primary objective of this unit is to help the participants experience spiritual and emotional growth in a positive and affirming community of grace. LIMIT / 30 youth

WORSHIPTIVITY / completed 10th - 12th grade Worshiptivity =Worship and Creativity. This unit is designed to help individuals faithfully combine their gifts of music, drama, and art to create the worship experience for the AFFIRM community. Through planning and leading worship during the week, individuals will grow in their own spirituality and gifts. LIMIT / 20 youth

~~**SCIENCE AND FAITH / completed 10th-12th grade** Through the years science and faith have sometimes been friends and sometimes enemies. From outer space to inner demons, this unit takes a look at the questions scientists and theologians today are wrestling with together. This is a unit built on good conversations and some hands on learning. A degree in science isn't required, but a natural curiosity is! LIMIT / 20 youth~~

BRIDGES / completed 11th - 12th grades Too often, we focus on the barriers that separate rather than the invitation to turn those barriers into bridges! In this unit, we address lots of "-isms," such as racism, sexism, classism, and ageism. Rooted in Scripture and our baptismal promises, we will also draw from pop culture and rely on media-rich resources (movies, music, magazine articles, social media, and web resources) to enhance our respectful dialogue and experiential learning that engages heart and mind and body and soul. LIMIT / 12 youth

EXODUS / completed 11th - 12th grade Exodus is "A Journey from Sin and Death to Resurrection and Everlasting Life." Through this journey, participants will see and experience the abundance of God's love and grace given to us through the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The Exodus journey will help the participants grow spiritually and be equipped to daily live the journey of living the faith and the grace God gives to us. LIMIT / 40 youth

YAYMI / completed freshman or sophomore year of college YAYMI is a small group experience for young adults who are called to be youth leaders. This unit uses an internship model whereby young adults will work with mentors and units at AFFIRM to develop their skills in small group leadership, peer ministry, leading games, Lutheran perspectives, creative bible study and discussion, and much more! LIMIT / 15 young adults

REGISTER at sesyouth.org/affirm

NOTE: Units with strikethrough will NOT meet in 2022