



10/18/2024

Dear Students and Parents:

At MPC our goal is to help all generations take their next step towards a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. We are excited to invite your student to do this in an intentional way through a program called NEXT! NEXT is an experience for 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders that takes a deep dive into faith, the church, and what it means to be a follower of Jesus.

This year we will offer 3 different segments/experiences, each with a unique focus. Students who would like to become members at MPC will be required to complete all 3 segments (see notes on Confirmation below); students who do not wish to join MPC can choose to participate in as many as they choose.

NEXT will give students opportunities to learn the big story of scripture; study the Bible, develop their understanding of worship, and experience spiritual disciplines. We will hear stories of faith and write our own Statements of Faith as part of our time together!

\*Note: One class day can be missed during each segment.

NEXT 1: Fall

Theme: **God's Big Story**

Spiritual Disciplines: Study

Location: Woodys on the Mandarin Road Campus

At Home: Students will read the book of Mark and complete a Bible Study guide. One guided parent conversation

Nov. 10 (4-6pm) Intro to Mark; How to Study the Bible \*Parents come first 30 minutes

Nov. 17 – (4:30 – 6pm) OT Big Story

Nov. 24 – (4:30 – 6pm) NT Big Story

Dec. 15 – (4:30 – 6pm) The Lord's Prayer Experience

NEXT 2: Winter

Theme: **God's Church**

Spiritual Disciplines: Prayer, Worship

Location: Woodys on the Mandarin Road Campus

At Home: Attend weekly worship service; Prayer Journal; One guided parent conversation

Feb. 2 (4:30 – 6pm) Worship and Prayer Intro; Meet with Mentors

Feb. 9 (4:30 – 6pm) Jesus/Salvation; The Great Commission; Denominations; Meet with Mentors

Feb. 23 (4:30 – 6pm) Sacraments; Meet with Mentors

Feb. 24 (4:30 – 6pm) Serving Others; Meet with Mentors

\*\*Mar. 2 (4:30 – 6pm) The Presbyterian Church **\*\*Only for those who want to join MPC**

NEXT 3: Winter/Spring - **RETREATS**

Theme: Discipleship

Spiritual Disciplines: Worship; Prayer; Study

Location: HS – Awakening @ MPC; MS – NEXT Weekend @ TBD

**Awakening (HS)** – January 18-20. The student version of The Great Banquet, this is a discipleship retreat for High School students. Registration opens in November. Cost is \$150.

**NEXT Weekend (MS)** – April 4-6. This is a new retreat for Middle School students. Info to come.

**STATEMENT OF FAITH NIGHT CELEBRATION!**

Monday, April 28 6:30pm

Fellowship Hall

Students who have completed ALL 3 segments are invited to participate in our Statement of Faith night. This is a time for them to speak about their own faith in front of family and friends.

**CONFIRMATION NOTES:** Confirmation is a traditional name for the process of student membership in a church. NEXT will serve as this process for any students who are wanting to become members at MPC. To join, they must complete all 3 segments, give their Statement of Faith, and be baptized (if they haven't already). The decision to become a member is a meaningful one and needs to be made by each student themselves (not required by parents).

**\*TO REGISTER: Go to the MS OR HS Event pages of our website:  
mandarinpres.com/msevents or mandarinpres.com/hsevents.**

Cost:

All materials will be given to students at no charge: Bible, Mark Study, Prayer Journal, etc. The only cost is for the Retreats. Scholarship money is available for anyone needing assistance!

**I am so excited to venture into what's NEXT with your students! If you have any questions email is the best way to reach me: [jennarnold@mandarinpres.com](mailto:jennarnold@mandarinpres.com)**

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