

Attached is the *Refrigerator Calendar* for the spring. It has the dates for middle and high school activities for the remainder of the school year. On the back there are dates for important summer event such as UPBC camp and missions trips. **Color copies are available outside my office door.**

I am also attaching the forms for the High School Winter Retreat, which is February 15-18. **If you are interested in attending but have not turned in these forms, then you need to contact me ASAP!** I need to make arrangements for our transportation, lodging and ski equipment rental... yep, we're going downhill skiing!

THIS WEEK:

MIDDLE SCHOOL DISCIPLESHIP SMALL GROUP (DSG)... Wednesday, February 6th

6:00pm-8:00pm At the start of each new year we change up our meeting format on Wednesday nights for six weeks to focus a bit more on exploring how to live the Christian life. We will begin each meeting with prayer and dinner. **(This week we will be having tater-tot casserole!)** During dinner we hear a story of faith from a guest speaker or practical teaching about applying our faith to our daily lives. **(This week Greg & Kathryn Poulos will be joining us for dinner- Greg is an army and hospice chaplain; Kathryn is physician assistant.)** After dinner we will break into separate guy/girl small groups for discussion and prayer. You are welcome to bring a friend to DSG, just be aware that the format is different from our normal Youth Group meetings which will resume on February 20th.

HIGH SCHOOL DISCIPLESHIP SMALL GROUP... Thursday, February 7th

7:00pm-9:00pm Finish your homework early and then join us for an evening of meaningful worship, challenging conversation, encouraging prayer, and authentic fellowship. Meet at Rick & Kathy Hammond's home (14857 Greenbriar Court, Plymouth). **This is a deviation from our previously published schedule but, since next weekend is our Winter Retreat, it seemed better to have DSG this Thursday rather than next Thursday.**

FATHER/DAUGHTER COOKIE DECORATING NIGHT... Friday, February 8th

7:00pm-8:00pm There's no age limit and you don't have to actually be father and daughter. The cookies and frosting will be provided. Your job is to decorate 10 cookies and then deliver half of them to someone as an encouragement. It could be someone you know or we can give you the name of an elderly person from our church. If you have questions call Pastor Dean at [734-751-2462](tel:734-751-2462).

COMING UP:

SERVICE LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING...Sunday, February 10th

Our new student-led service leadership team will meet again **immediately after Sunday School** on Sunday, February 10th to plan and organize potential group missions projects for the coming months. Keep brainstorming ideas for the meeting... We will try to set at least one event and date at this meeting.

HIGH SCHOOL WINTER RETREAT... Friday, February 15th - Monday, February 18th

You aren't going to want to miss this fantastic weekend in Sutton's Bay... We will be playing in the ice and snow and you will be challenged to ask hard questions about what it means to truly follow Jesus. You will find a tentative schedule attached. If you have any questions, please email or call.

SUMMER MISSIONS TRIP... PUERTO RICO!!!!

This opportunity is for **adults** as well as **high school students (including graduating 8th graders)**. From July 27 to August 2, we will be in Puerto Rico partnering with local churches through an organization called

Praying Pelican Missions (prayingpelicanmissions.org). Tasks may include construction and repair, sports ministry, elder home & orphan ministry, and street evangelism among other things. Puerto Rico is a US territory, which means you will not need passports, and it is primarily Spanish speaking, which create an amazing cross cultural experience. There is an **informational meeting on February 24th. Applications are due on February 28th.** There will be several fund raising opportunities to help with the cost. If you already know that you would like to go, please let me know...

SECRET CODE/CHALLENGE:

It has been quite a while since I included a secret code in these weekly correspondences. I do it from time to time in order to reward those who read all the way to the bottom of my admittedly lengthy emails. This week, in celebration of the birth of Timothy William Graff to our beloved friends, John and Candell, I am asking for **a short note addressed to baby Timothy welcoming him into the world and letting him know how awesome his parents are and how important they have been in your life.** Turn in notes to me and I will give them to John and Candell. As always there will be a reward for those who complete this challenge.

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