

## Audio file

### [Leader Announcements - October 18.mp3](#)

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Hey middle school volunteers. Thanks for checking in to this week's edition of leader announcements. This is for Wednesday, October 18. The theme of the night is pajama night, so you are encouraged but not required to wear pajamas. Everyone is also invited to bring a sleeping bag and a pillow or going for a slumber party slash sleepover vibe. We will have a strobe light pillow fight in the gym and for students who have sensory issues, we will provide a non strobe light pillow fight option and we are not going to set out chairs in the cafe during large group time. That's where we are thinking. People can set out sleeping bags and people can chill on the floor to have more of that chill, sleep over slumber party vibe. Although is there ever a chill vibe with 150 middle schoolers around, I don't know.

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There will also be 6th grade huddles for boys and girls, 6th grade leaders at the end of the night, you'll meet with your coaches to check in with them and everyone will have a prayer exercise that you can do at the beginning of your small group spiritual time. We're going to build in these prayer exercises every few weeks to help make prayer a Priority. Otherwise I know as a small group leader, even for me and my groups, prayer can become an add-on or just something that kind of gets shoved to the end with whatever extra time is available. So we want to give you an opportunity to prioritize prayer every few weeks, so that'll happen this Wednesday night.

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This Wednesday is also the final week of Jesus is we're focusing on the passage where Jesus says I am the vine. You are the branches. Apart from me, you can do nothing and then we are off after this week for a two week break.

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October 25 is great, pumpkin party. There are lots of ways for you to volunteer if you specifically want to be a game room leader and lead one of the game rooms in the lower level where students are working the Carnival games, We need two people to lead those each night, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Great Pumpkin Party. Let me or Jodi know and we can get you added to the game room leader rotation for Great Pumpkin party. Like I said, otherwise there's lots of other opportunities for adults and high schoolers to serve. You can find those online on the Valley Church website.

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And then we're also off on Wednesday, November 1st, Because Valley Church traditionally has taken the week off of programming following Great Pumpkin Party. Since so many people from the church are volunteering, it's just a week to rest and recover, so there's no regular programming. But on Wednesday, November one, that's where you and your Co leaders Are encouraged to plan a small group night with just your small group. Let Jodi or I know if you want to reserve a space at the church building or the Community Center. Otherwise, in the past groups have met at the Jordan Creek Mall or at

someone's house. You will have a \$25 budget to use for your group. Just save the receipt and submit it to us for reimbursement. If there are other costs required for your small group night, I would just have you pass that along to the students and have them bring money and then we'll be back on with regular Wednesday programming On Wednesday, November 8.

So to recap, Wednesday, October 18 is Pajama night, Wednesday, October 25 We are off for great Pumpkin party and Wednesday, November one We are off and there's small group night, which is optional. And then we are back with regular Wednesday nights on Wednesday, November 8th.

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Friday, November 3rd is just about 3 weeks away. If you want to help all night at the Blitz all nighter, go to the middle school events page. There is a sign up link. Let us know that you want to be an all nighter at Blitz. If you want to help with blitz, but you cannot stay up all night if you go to the middle school events page at the very top there is a parent help opportunities button and you can sign up for some Friday evening or Saturday morning blitz volunteer options.

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finally on the How to win as a middle school volunteer document. I want to remind you of our philosophy. There's three parts to our philosophy. There's fun relationships and Jesus. The reason we have fun, the reason why we have pajama night and strobe light, pillow fights and handout baseball cards and give away free tacos is because we want to create a fun atmosphere where students are excited to come and the hope is that when they come and have fun, then they're able to build relationships with each other and with you and it's in the context of those relationships where you have the chance to talk about Jesus, to point students to Jesus and to show them What it looks like to follow Jesus. so fund leads to relationships, which leads to opportunities to point kids to Jesus. That's how we do what we do in middle school ministry.

Thanks for volunteering. Thanks for checking in. We'll see you at Pajama night.