

Audio file

[Leader Announcements February 7.mp3](#)

00:00:00 Speaker 1

Hello Middle school volunteers. Thank you for checking in to this week's leader announcements this Wednesday, February 7. The theme is bowl Night, B-O-W-L night and yes, that is a fun play on Words given the fact that there is a big football game Coming up this Sunday night.

We are going to start the night with small group social time, but instead of answering get to know you questions as a small group everyone will be together in the gym and we're going to have some fun trivia games. I've got a couple of options. You know the theme is bowl night, so there might be a toilet bowl Trivia game or there's another option of a game called Soup Or Bowl. And there will be different questions where you give an answer between whether the answer is soup or the answer is a bowl. So either one of those games or both of those games will be small group social time.

Then after that, we're going to have everybody work together. We are going to serve and bless night to shine By setting up the carpet squares on the gym floor .night to shine is coming up on Friday this Friday, February 9. by the way, if your students are asking we're we're still looking for kids to serve as dance buddies during night to shine. That's the only opportunity we have available only for middle school students. If kids want to serve in another way, they would have to reach out to the event organizers. Or their parents would have to sign them up and and they would need to serve with their parents. So one way we're going to help is by setting up the carpet squares and thankfully we've got Jackson Baird and Michael Leisher and Owen Wade, And Andrew Mitchell on our volunteer team and they all happen to serve on our facilities, facilities team as well. So they're all going to be super helpful in getting us organized for that this Wednesday night.

We are launching a new series. It's Our series we do every February, it's about love, sex and dating. The title of the series is called Heart to Heart. It will be a five week series.

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Week 1 this Wednesday, we're going to focus on friendship as the foundation of all human relationships. Week 2 will define what is love according to the Bible. Then Week 3 will talk about God's design for sex and Week 4 we'll talk about Gender and will celebrate how God has made men and women to be different, and then week 5, the final week, we will coach

students on how to come alongside their friends who might be struggling with their sexual identity or their gender identity.

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There might be some sensitive conversations coming up this month, so I'm going to ask you to be wise and practice appropriate boundaries in having sexually oriented conversations with students. You should never have a sexually oriented conversation with a student of the opposite gender. But I even think one-on-one conversations with a student of the same gender, I would caution against that unless a student needs to like share something really private with you.

Also, please use discernment as far as what you share from your own life and your own journey. I'm not saying you can't share anything, but please use discretion. Use generalities when needed and when in doubt, talk to Jody or I before you share something.

If students ask you a question, try to share what God's word says and not what you believe in your own opinion.

Speaking of appropriate boundaries, I want to also remind you this would be a good chance just to remind you of appropriate physical boundaries, especially with students of the opposite gender, I think boundaries should be limited to high fives, handshakes or fist pounds with students of the opposite gender. I think hugs with students of the same gender are appropriate, but always please be cautious and mindful of physical interactions with students, we want to make sure we're protecting ourselves and the students in our ministry.

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The last thing I want to do today is encourage you by praying for you. If you're driving or doing something else, you don't need to close your eyes. But if you're able to, I invite you to close your eyes with me as I pray for you in your role.

God, I pray for these middle school volunteers. Whatever they're dealing with this week, may they learn to trust you with it. Would you increase their faith? Increase the intimacy of their relationship with you. And would your power work through them to make an impact in the lives of middle school students and leaders?

I'm just going to allow you 10 seconds of silence to say a prayer of your own. However God is leading you to pray in this moment.

Amen. Thank you for serving middle school students. We'll see you on Wednesday night.

