

Hello middle school volunteers! These are the announcements for Wednesday December 11, 2024.

The theme for this Wednesday is the ugly sweater party so you are encouraged but not required to wear an ugly sweater or some fun festive Christmas outfit.

There is going to be a different flow to the night this Wednesday, so please check out the agenda so you're familiar with that. It's going to have more of a fun party atmosphere. It's definitely going to be a more wild night than normal. Just want to prepare you all for that.

There will be no regular small group time. You will be doing activities with your small group. You'll be doing games with them, you'll be in the gym with your group, you'll be seated at a table for snack time, but no deep discussion time. So just to prepare you for that.

Next Wednesday, December 18, is our talent show. We hope you can all join us for that. We're going to have a nacho bar for the talent show.

We're off on December 25th and January 1st, and then we'll be back with volunteers only on January 8th for the volunteer kickoff, which will be at the Valley Community Center. Just a time for us to regather, regroup, and prepare for the second semester of our ministry year.

And then we'll kick off with students on January 15th for sunglasses night.

Winter Blast Retreat is January 24 through 26 at Hidden Acres. The RSVP for you is now up on the middle school events page.

And for the leader tip, I want to encourage you to soak up all the moments of joy that you have to experience this Christmas season. There's so much joy, so many opportunities for it. But it's our job to notice the moments of joy and to soak them up and receive them as gifts from God. And I'm going to tell you what I tell our middle school students for my lesson this Wednesday night: Remember that there's no joy in Christmas without Jesus.

You bring a lot of joy to middle school students. Jodi and I are grateful for you. Thank you for serving in middle school as a little thank you, Jodi and I are going to give each of you an individualized Christmas gift. Hopefully that will bring you a little bit of joy. We're going to pass out those gifts during the ugly sweater party.

So Merry Christmas. We love you guys! And it's going to be a great time at the ugly sweater party. Thank you!!!