



**ST MICHAEL'S ORTHODOX CHURCH
DIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA
& EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA
512 SUMMER ST
OLD FORGE, PA 18518**



February 1st, 2024
Forefeast of the Meeting

Dear Parish Council and members of St Michaels Orthodox Church,

Greetings in Christ!

As youth volunteers at St. Michael's Orthodox Church, we are pleased to present a plan of youth events for the upcoming calendar year (2024). This plan was presented to Father Michael in an initial stage, and then later to the parish council on 1/21/24. The plan received the blessing of Father Michael and was unanimously approved by the parish council. It should be noted that anyone wanting to volunteer with the youth of St. Michael's must successfully pass the Diocesan background check procedure.

2024 St. Michael's Orthodox Church Youth Event Proposal:

Purpose:

- *Demonstrate the love of Christ to our youth
- *Foster community and camaraderie among the youth of St. Michaels
- *Provide opportunities for fun and learning for our youth
- *Encourage outreach into our community as appropriate
- *Allow our youth to see adults (other than their parents) living out their faith in Christ

Plan:

- *Organize and schedule three events in 2024
- *Two of the events will be smaller, and more generally available to invite friends or other orthodox youth.
- *One of the events will be an overnight trip geared more exclusively for the children of our own parish.

Target Audience:

The youth of St. Michaels are the intended attendees. Due to the current youth attendance at St. Michaels, we will be expanding the age range beyond typical "youth group" ages so as to include as many youth as possible. Each event will have its own age range. Ideally, this will also be a way for our youth to invite their friends and neighbors.

Authority:

All events must abide by any rules/regulations in place - especially as they relate to the care and protection of children - at St. Michaels specifically and OCA more broadly. While I (Jason) will organize, lead, and be present at the events - approval must be sought and received from the appropriate persons (Fr. Michael / Parish Council) within St. Michaels. Any individual wishing to volunteer among our youth must successfully complete our Diocesan background check process.

Proposed Events:

Event #1 Nerf n' Pizza

1. Age Range: Ages 9-16
2. Tentative Date: TBD in Winter (February or March)
3. Location: St. Michael's Gymnasium
4. Food: Pizza, Chips, Drinks
5. Transportation: Personal Vehicles
6. Adults Needed: Minimum of Two

Event #2 Cosmic Bowling

1. Age Range: Ages 9-16
2. Tentative Date: TBD in Summer (June or July)
3. Location: Idle Hours North
4. Food: Snacks Provided
5. Transportation: Personal Vehicles
6. Adults Needed: Minimum of Two

Event #3 Washington D.C. Trip

1. Destinations
 - a. Museum of the Bible
 - b. St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral
2. Date: TBD in Fall (October or November)
3. Tentative Schedule
 - a. Friday: Travel to DC, Tour Cathedral
 - b. Saturday: Tour Museum of the Bible & Attend Vespers
 - c. Sunday: Attend Divine Liturgy & Travel Home
4. Ages: Any age if your own parent/s come as chaperones. Ages 15+ if your own parents do not come.
5. Needs:
 - a. 4 Adult Chaperones (2 male, 2 female)
 - b. Coordination with St. Nicholas

*Please keep our youth in your prayers this upcoming year. That they would be encouraged in their journey towards Christ, and strengthened in their relationships with each other.

*Please consider if you would desire to serve as a volunteer in order to demonstrate the love of Christ to our youth, and model for them a life lived by faith in Christ.

Thank you,

Jason Hart & Maura Elko
Youth Volunteers, St Michaels Orthodox Church

