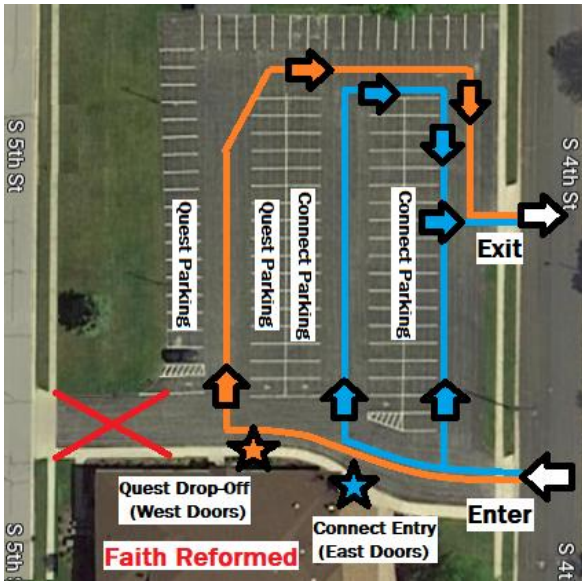
Calvary-Faith Youth Ministry

Hello Parents and Youth,

Calvary OPC and Faith Reformed will partner together for a 9th year to guide the youth of our churches and from the community. We'd like to invite all youth grades 6-12 to join us!

We'll begin the year with **kick-off** events for the middle and high school groups. Incoming 6th-8th graders will gather at the Tarter's (217 S 4th St, Cedar Grove) on Tuesday, August 25th from 6:30-9:00PM for a bonfire, outdoor games & snacks. (Students are free to show up late if they have football practice or leave early if they have school the next day.) Incoming 9th-12th graders will gather for fellowship before the year starts at Faith Reformed Sunday, August 23rd. We'll serve dinner at 6:15PM and we'll have plenty to do both indoors and outdoors.

Connect returns on Wednesday nights beginning September 2nd. Connect is based on the two great commandments (Matthew 22:37-39) and gives students a weekly opportunity to break away from their daily routines to connect with each other and with God. All these things will continue as usual as we begin our fourth year at **Faith Reformed Church** (243 S. 4th St.).



At Connect, students can gather as early as 6:00PM for fellowship and a snack. At 6:20, all students will gather in the sanctuary to worship God through song. After worship, middle schoolers will break into small groups (divided by age and gender) to work through a lesson that applies God's Word to their daily lives, and then will gather together for an activity. High schoolers will hear a large-group Bible lesson before breaking into small groups to continue the discussion. Also, once per month at Connect, we'll hold a special event (often at Calvary OPC) that focuses on themes like service or fellowship so that we can put into action the things that we learn at Connect! **Our first week (Wed 9/2), we'll gather for pizza at 6:00PM**, so come hungry!

(Note that we share the building with our K-5 ministry, *Quest*. We have plenty of building space, but we ask that Connect students park on the east half of the parking lot and enter the east doors to avoid driving where small children will be crossing the parking lot. See the **blue line** on the map above.)

For students looking for another opportunity to study the Bible, **Core** small group Bible studies are held from 6:00-7:00 PM at Faith Reformed Church on Sunday nights beginning September 13th. Groups are usually 5-8 students, are divided by age and gender, and have 1-2 adult leaders. Core groups help youth grow in the core discipline of studying the Bible while developing tight-knit relationships with peers that help them walk through life together while learning from adult mentors.

Finally, mark your calendars for our annual weekend retreats! The middle schoolers are invited to **Silver Birch** Ranch from November 13-15, 2026 while high schoolers will travel to our **FORT** retreat at Crescent Lake Bible Camp from January 8-10, 2027. Everything we do follows our mission statement: "making disciples by Christ's transforming power who are growing in our relationships with God and one another, seeking to be a light to the world." If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Jon Damkot at 920-447-2335. ***(**FALL SCHEDULE ON THE BACK**)***