

PARENTS! PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT HILLSIDE
PEAK GROUPS!!!!

Thanks Parents for supporting your teenager and getting them out to Hillside @ Church of the Cross on Wednesdays! This letter is to inform you of an exciting addition to our growing ministry. For some time now, the leaders have been prayerfully developing a way to give our teenagers small group time. If you attend Church of the Cross, hopefully you are aware of what our growth groups are (if not, come check it out!!!). What we have come up with are HILLSIDE PEAK GROUPS



If you check out our HILLSIDE LOGO, you can see three distinguished peaks. These follow the 3 points of the COTC mission statement that we too live out at HILLSIDE. Our mission is Loving God, connecting with others, and serving in Jesus name. At Hillside, we choose to LOVE, CONNECT, and SERVE. What we have done is set up 3 student led groups containing 10 teenagers each. Each group is designated by one of the three peaks of our ministry (Group *LOVE*, Group *CONNECT*, and Group *SERVE*). These groups are mixed ages of teenagers and consist of guys and girls. Here is some more insight about PEAK GROUPS. Last week we asked them the following question, “If you were part of a small group, what would it look like?”

There were many common responses.

- ~they are looking to get deeper studying God’s word and praying together
- ~they want to challenge and encourage each other, outside of what’s done at church
- ~they would have shared responsibility to lead and teach
- ~there wouldn’t be adults there, which would help them really be open and honest
- ~they would get to know other teenagers than their friends
- ~it would be a way to LOVE CONNECT SERVE

We are really excited for this opportunity for our teenagers. This is a huge step for them to have a desire to help lead their peers, or challenge them in this way. I mentioned earlier that each group is student led. What we are asking each group is to report back to the Youth Director (that’s me) of a date, time and location so that information is available on our monthly newsletter. That information will not be posted online. So if you aren’t signed up yet for the newsletter, please email me at cotcshawn@choiceonemail.com and I’ll get you on the list!

To start off, we are trying to get a meeting time that is approximately an hour long that will meet just once a month. I know that many of you are busy. If you are having a

hard time getting on board with taking your teenager to “yet another thing to do”, please read again the list of their responses above. PEAK Groups will be a real, open, edgy opportunity for our teens to wrestle with faith, to ask the questions, to explore God’s word, to pray for their peers, to enjoy each others company, and forever be changed. PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR TEENS!!! The first meeting date, time and location will be posted in the DECEMBER newsletter.

If you have any expressed concerns, feel free to email me or call me on my cell at 724-967-2726.

ICL,
SHAWN STEINER
COTC YOUTH DIRECTOR
HILLSIDE SERVANT