

Dear Columbia Church of Christ Family,

We have had a great kick off into our spring programming! We have officially switched our high school ministry to Sunday afternoons! The switch is going well and community is being built to give us a firm foundation going forward. We hope that this momentum will carry into the ministry come the fall! I am very excited for the direction that our youth ministry is going in, as I feel we are building a foundation that will see strong, healthy growth in the time to come.

Our high school ministry has also been approved to go to Christ in Youth: MOVE this summer! MOVE is a five day conference for high school students where they have the opportunity to get away from everyday distractions and experience an intense encounter with Jesus. I have seen MOVE change people's lives and am so excited to see what God will do in the lives of our high school students. We will be going to Ozark Christian College in Joplin, MO for our week of CIY. We will be leaving early Saturday, May 30th and coming back late Friday, June 4th. I am currently working on an itinerary for the week and, once that is complete, it will be available for the congregation to see. I have four spots available right now but would love to purchase more! If you have a high school student and would like for them to attend this life changing week, please contact me! I am asking for a \$20 deposit to hold their spot and we will be fundraising this spring to raise money for this event!

Throughout the ages of our youth ministry, we have started going through the same material the adults are learning about in service on Sunday mornings. We are doing this for a couple of reasons. The first is so that we, as a church, are on the same page when it comes to what we are learning so that we continue to grow together as a community. The other reason is to encourage conversations about what we have learned at church. I am passionate about students

learning about God and growing in their relationship with Him! However, the fact is that I only have roughly three hours a week with our students, which is not a lot. But, as parents, you have more everyday opportunities. When families are learning the same information, it is much easier to have in depth conversations about the stories of our Bible and our God. My hope is that this will help families to grow closer with one another and God!