



Randy Newton

Director of First Church Youth Ministry

Since 1993, Randal (Randy) Newton has led the Youth Ministries at First Church as Director. "I felt called to youth ministry as a student at Point Loma Nazarene University, and feel honored to be afforded the opportunity to disciple our young people and their families as they embark on their faith journeys. Middle school and high school are important times in their lives and I love watching our youth as they mature in their faith."

Randy has a BS in Sociology with an emphasis on Adolescence and a Cal Pac Youth Ministry Certification. In 2005, he was awarded Youth Worker of the Year and Camping Staff of the Year from the Cal Pac Conference. Randy is currently pursuing a Masters Degree in Christian Education.

First Church Youth Ministry

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FIRST CHURCH
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Open Hearts · Open Minds · Open Doors

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accept • love • serve • grow

First Church Youth Ministry offers youth from grades six through twelve an environment of acceptance, self respect and love; opportunities to help others; and to grow in relationship with God. Our program is a place where truth through Christ is learned and love abounds. We accomplish this through our many educational, fellowship and service programs.

accept • love • serve • grow
yourself one another others in God

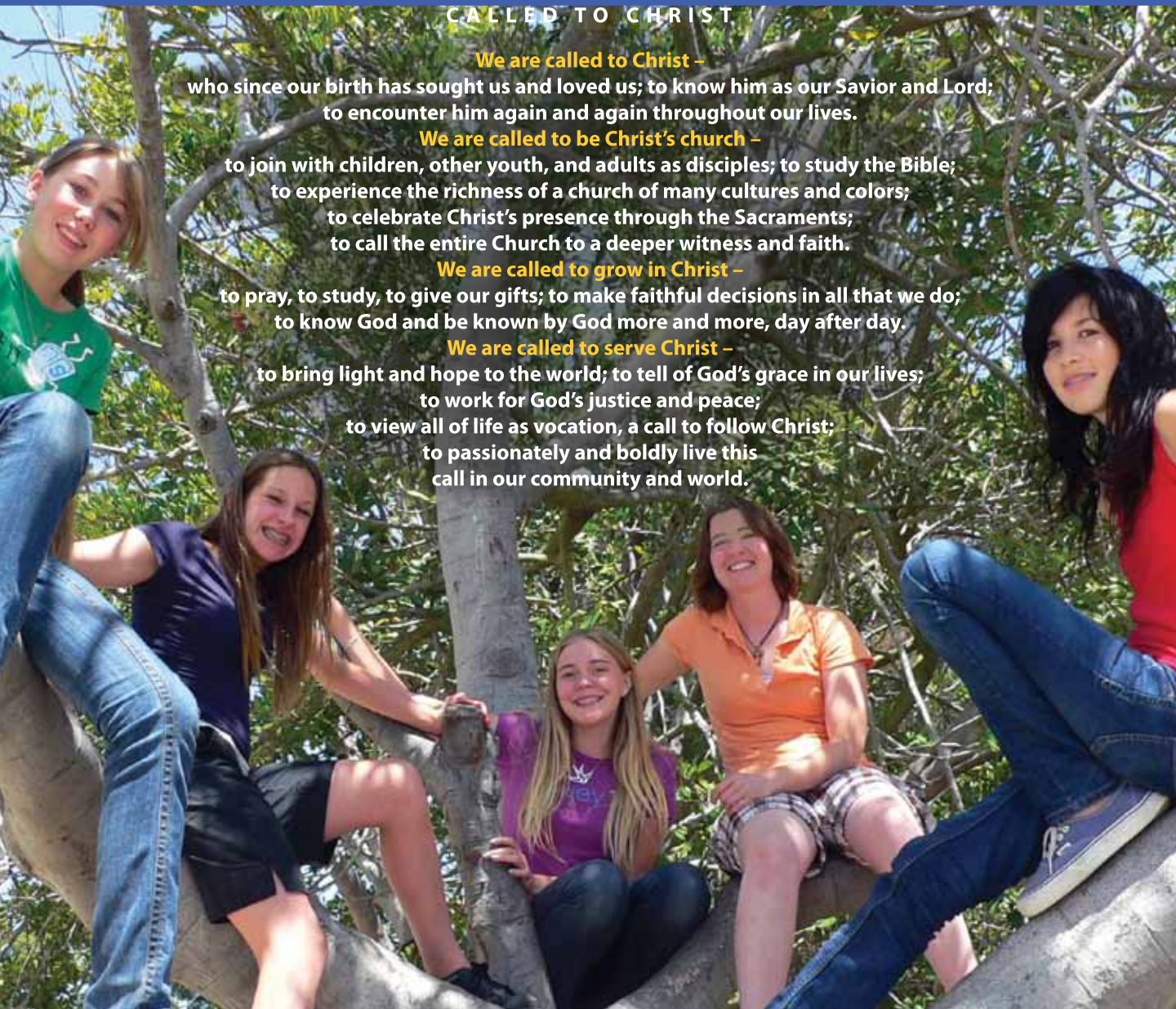
CALLED TO CHRIST

We are called to Christ –
who since our birth has sought us and loved us; to know him as our Savior and Lord; to encounter him again and again throughout our lives.

We are called to be Christ's church –
to join with children, other youth, and adults as disciples; to study the Bible; to experience the richness of a church of many cultures and colors; to celebrate Christ's presence through the Sacraments; to call the entire Church to a deeper witness and faith.

We are called to grow in Christ –
to pray, to study, to give our gifts; to make faithful decisions in all that we do; to know God and be known by God more and more, day after day.

We are called to serve Christ –
to bring light and hope to the world; to tell of God's grace in our lives; to work for God's justice and peace; to view all of life as vocation, a call to follow Christ; to passionately and boldly live this call in our community and world.



education



Middle School Sunday School • Grades 6-8

Sunday Mornings 9:30 - 10:30
Middle School Room, ground floor,
United Methodist Center next to The Cove

During these three formative years, we continue Bible study and learn about the founding of Methodism and its tenants. We explore the meaning of liturgical seasons such as Advent, Lent and Pentecost through our lectionary-based *Seasons of the Spirit* curriculum – a study based on the same lessons you would hear in regular worship. The hour is structured to include active learning, sharing, prayer and worship. And we always contemplate what being a Christian in today's world means.

High School Sunday School • Grades 9-12

Sunday Mornings 9:30 - 10:30
High School Room, ground floor, United
Methodist Center next to The Coffee House

Join us as we discuss Christianity, discipleship, and topics relevant to our lives as Christians in today's world. Using the *Season of the Spirit* curriculum, the *Nooma* series and other book studies, we'll learn about the Trinity, grace, faith, and engage in prayer.

Worship • Grades 6-12

Worship is an integral part of who we are as United Methodists, so we make it a priority for youth to participate in worship at the Water's Edge contemporary service and our traditional worship in the Sanctuary.



fellowship & service

Youth Group and Special Activities • Grades 6-12

Youth Group is a great way to spend a Sunday in fellowship and fun while learning Christian discipleship. Middle and high schoolers meet together and in their own age groups depending on the activity or topics explored. There is never a dull moment: from Polyester Dress-Up Bowling to Broomball-On-Ice to our Grunion Run Overnight or Dive-In Movie; Disneyland trips; retreats – the list goes on. Each gathering or event focuses on a Christian discipleship theme and often includes service activities such as our Care Package Ministry to the homeless, and, always includes time for worship.



The Coffee House

Sunday Mornings
8:45 - 9:30 and 10:30 - 11:15

The Coffee House is open between worship services on Sunday. There, youth group members sell gourmet coffee drinks to the congregation to earn funds for Youth Ministry scholarships for activities and trips. Coffee House work offers opportunities for our youth to learn skills that will help them in future employment endeavors.



Sierra Service Project • Grades 9-12

www.sierraserviceproject.org for an overview of the program

"Ten days that changed my life" is a common response from a Sierra Service Project (SSP) participant who has returned from the annual trip sponsored by the Youth Ministry each summer. Whether it's a new understanding of cultures and life experiences different from our own, the satisfaction of completing a construction project or building new friendships with kids from all over the western U.S., SSP offers a profound way of living our faith in the real world. Our acts of service include repairing homes in Native American and urban communities from the Four Corners area to the Oregon/Nevada border to Los Angeles. It's not all work and no play – we include a fun side trip such as Disneyland or Mammoth Mountain at the start of each trip. Join us and the 1,500 other teens who volunteer each summer.

WonderWeek • Grades 6-8

Join the middle schoolers as we explore beautiful California and spend the week learning about our relationship with God and others and how to live a life that pleases the Lord. Activities reinforce each trip's biblical theme and include time in service to others. We rotate three trips over a youth's three years of middle school: Santa Barbara area beaches, King's Canyon National Park and San Francisco.