

Youth Group Meals

Tips and Tricks

Does the thought of cooking dinner for 20-30 high school youth make your blood run cold? Or, perhaps, it sounds like fun but you have no idea what you are doing. Either way, here are a few tips to turn frightening into fantastic! Happy cooking!

1) You will be feeding approximately 20-30 youth and adult volunteers.

2) Simple food is all you need.

These are youth. If it takes a long time to prepare, you have probably done too much. Some examples of successful entries are: Spaghetti, Lasagna, Ziti, Tacos, Walking tacos, Mac & Cheese, Sub sandwiches, Make your own sandwich/salad bar, Baked potato bar, Sloppy Joe's, Hot dish. Pair this with a veggie or salad and a dessert and you have a meal. Desserts can be simple, easy to serve foods like cake, cookies, cupcakes, fruit, etc. Use your imagination. If your kids eat it, these probably will. Even if your kids won't eat it, these kids probably will! On a side note – Yes, there are kids with allergies. However, these are teens. They know what they can and can't eat. You do not have to monitor or provide special meals. However, having a veggie or a salad with your meal helps provide another option for a kid who can't eat the main course.

3) Dinner is served in the church hall at 6:45 pm.

The Youth Group gather from 6-9:00 pm, starting out in the old school building. Please wait for one of the other adult volunteers to signal the time to begin serving.

4) You can do as much preparation at home as you like.

You may prepare your meal at home and simply heat it up in our oven/stove. You have access to church pots and pans and utensils for prepping and cooking. Just be sure and clean anything you use in prep and serving.

5) The church has a refrigerator and freezer that can be used before and during preparation.

Please remove all items from the refrigerator and freezer after dinner.

6) All dishes, silverware, cups and napkins are provided by the church.

You are welcome to use the dishes found in the kitchen.

7) Church utensils and serving dishes are available for your use.

The church has a large variety of items that are available for your use.

8) Drinks are provided by the church.

Lemonade mix and water are available in the kitchen.

9) Serving is simple.

If you need additional people to help serve, grab a couple of youth. They are always willing to help serve.

10) Cleanup – the simpler the preparation, the easier the cleanup.

Please dispose of any leftovers or take them home. Please return everything to its appropriate location and leave the kitchen as you found it. Trash should be taken to the waste bins behind the church.

11) We are here to help!

Many parents have done this before. If this is your first experience and you would like to have another parent assist, please let us know and we will line up a buddy. Feel free to contact Megan Anderson if you have questions or concerns. She can be reached by phone at 651-315-4403 or by email at stnicksyouthgroup@yahoo.com.

12) Get others involved!

Providing Youth Group meals is a great way to show our kids how important they are to the church. We welcome participation by all of our parish families. Talk it up with your friends. This is a great and easy way to show we care.

Thanks for your participation in providing meal for our Youth Group!