

Vision, Programs and Goals for FBC Rincon Youth Group
Youth Alive in Christ

Vision

Building the Family of Faith by Preparing Youth for the Future to the Glory of God

The vision of the youth ministry is to teach kids to know God in His Word and live it out in their lives by accepting others because He has accepted us. This done well will build up our faith family and enable our students to glorify God both today and in the future.

YAC stands for Youth Alive in Christ, but it is more than a name. We believe our students are living models of Christ in every area of their lives (II Cor. 2:15). We want them to live transformed lives by knowing God more and more in His Word. We strive to *partner with parents* to help them in equipping their sons and daughters for ministry, growth, leadership, and service both inside & outside the walls of the church. This starts by teaching students to know the Bible for themselves. As they live this out in all our group activities and events, the youth group will be a place and a people where acceptance is an everyday reality.

The Bible sees parents as the primary disciplers of their children (Deut. 6:4-9) and that the church is here to help the parents (Eph. 4:11-13). I believe in a team-approach to youth and their families, which means I train other leaders to do the same. We have a solid and dedicated group of volunteers who minister to our students.

Our Student Center (YAC SHAC) located on the corner of 7th St. and Richland Ave., is home to the greatest group of young people you will ever meet because we have a great God! The youth leadership and awesome volunteers are focused on preparing the young people for ministry both now and in the future. Our prayer is that you might find your place here with us. You are welcome here. We've been praying you would come.

Programs

We have multiple ministry times described below. While parents are always welcome to join in on any of these events, at the same time I tell parents it is wise to ask their child if they want them to be present or not.

1. **Sunday mornings** at 9AM we have HS and MS Sunday School divided by grade, with MS further divided by gender. We also have one combined class at the 10:30AM service (much smaller numbers). These teachers study a lesson all week to bring God's Word fresh from their own life experiences. We want the students to know the Bible for themselves so they can know who God is. The teachers really grow attached to each class as the year goes on. There are special activities that are done by class on occasion.

2. **Wednesday nights** at 6:45pm we have Youth Group, we call it DEEP Youth Group because we dig deep into the Word of God and the relationships we have with each other. We meet at the Youth Center which we call the YACSHAC standing for Youth Alive in Christ.

The focus of the night is applying the Word of God to the lives of the students by understanding what the Word says. This happens best in the context of a relationship that goes beyond simply

teacher but also friend. The volunteer youth leaders are Christian men and women who model Christ and want to see Christ formed in you (Gal. 4:19).

All of our teaching is centered around the Gospel. In Luke 10:20 Jesus explains to His disciples that the greatest joy in our lives is our own salvation. The source for all of our ministry to these “kids” is the Holy Spirit that lives inside of us, who directs and empowers us to do ministry. We challenge the students to never lose the wonder of your own salvation and who God is. The Gospel is the starting point and ending point of our faith (Rom. 1:17).

Topics range from dealing with difficult people, emotions, relationships, dating, purity, evangelism, defending the faith, witnessing, faith, family, love, and many others. We also strive to go through books of the Bible in multi-week series such as Colossians, Philippians, Genesis, Daniel, and the Gospels.

3. Please keep up to date with each semester’s calendar for the **special events** going on. Often these events revolve around fellowship and having fun together. We want the students to see that we are the aroma of Christ anywhere we are, that we represent Christ to both Christians and non Christians. Because teaching is best done in the context of relationships, it is a time for students to get to know each other and their leaders.

4. We offer leader development in various trips, groups, or activities. We also have a reading program that encourages the students to learn about missionaries and Christian living.

Goals

In the end, how do you measure spiritual growth? Numbers are not always a sign of growth. A key indicator over the years is how many students are staying with God in college when they are out on their own. Our overall goal is to see more students in the MS ministry stay with us in HS and on into college. Each year we have some goals set for the students. For 2012 I am challenging the students to develop a habit of reading God’s Word and praying. The Middle School challenge is to read through a one year, daily devotional book I will provide. The High School challenge is to read through the entire New Testament and 5 Old Testament books. I also challenge all students to be a part of 40 students going to Impact Summer Camp and to memorize the 12 in 12 foundational truths that Bro. Bob has asked us to memorize.