

NEW HOPE PRESBYTERY YOUTH COUNCIL

What is Youth Council?

Youth Council (YC) is a group of youth and young adults from churches in the presbytery who are dedicated to serving God through their church and through the presbytery. The YC attends training and planning sessions to prepare to lead 2 weekend retreats. To this end, YC agrees to:

- Build a Christian community and be a representative of your home church.
- Serve as a Small Group, Music, or Activities Leader for middle school and high school retreats.
- Attend YC meetings (see schedule below). A maximum of 2 absences from meetings will be allowed. Attendance at the August meeting, the middle school retreat, and the high school retreat is MANDATORY.
- Meetings begin at 10:00 am and conclude at 4:30 pm. We will stay consistent as possible with the schedule. All training events include lunch and snacks.

August 18-19, 2017	OVERNIGHT STAY Commissioning of YC, planning for Middle School retreat Site TBD	Cost: \$75
September 16, 2017	YC meeting. Site TBD	No additional cost
October 6-8, 2017	Middle School Retreat, Camp Don Lee	YC Cost: \$100
December 2017	YC Christmas Party. Date, time, site TBD - OPTIONAL	No additional cost
January 20, 2018	YC meeting. Planning for High School Retreat. Site TBD	No additional cost
February 17, 2018	YC meeting. Site TBD	No additional cost
March 16-18, 2018	High School Retreat, Camp Willow Run	YC Cost: \$100
April 21, 2018	YC End of Year Commissioning and Party. Site TBD	No additional Cost

Am I eligible to apply for Youth Council?

- 1) You must be a confirmed member of a congregation in New Hope Presbytery.
- 2) You must be and remain active in your local church.
- 3) You must currently be in 9th, 10th, or 11th grade for the 2016-2017 school year, and will be in high school for the entire 2017-2018 school year.
- 4) You must adhere to the covenant and other responsibilities listed in the application.
- 5) YC with a driver's license may drive to planning meetings if approved by parents or legal guardians, but may not have passengers. YC are **not allowed** to drive to either retreat. Transportation to and from retreats is the responsibility of parents and/or churches.

How do I apply for Youth Council?

To apply, complete the attached application and mail the completed form to:

Presbytery of New Hope
2022 McDonald Lane
Raleigh, NC 27608
Attn: Rene Baker

In addition, please email Rene Baker in the presbytery office the day you mail your application at rbaker@nhpresbytery.org. In the subject line, type YC re-app or YC new app and give your basic information. This will help her be aware of mail for which she needs to be watchful.

PLEASE – make a copy of the completed application to keep for yourself just in case there are problems with mail delivery.

For **NEW** applicants: You must complete and mail the following information to the Presbytery office postmarked no later than April 28, 2017: Youth Council Application, signed Youth Council Covenant, two Youth Council Recommendation Forms (one youth leader or director recommendation and one pastor or elder recommendation).

For **RETURNING** applicants: You must complete and mail the following information to the Presbytery office postmarked no later than April 28, 2017: Youth Council Application, signed Youth Council Covenant, one Youth Council Recommendation Form (one youth leader or director recommendation).

*Scholarships may be available. Requests for scholarships **must** be made at the time of application to Evan Walker at williamevanwalker@gmail.com

Applications are due **April 28, 2017**

What happens after I apply?

Once we have received all applications, the YC Leadership Team will review applications. You will hear from us via a USPS letter. No money is due at this time, but you will receive instructions, upon acceptance, regarding payment for YC events.

We're so glad you're applying!

I have read and understand the information above.

YC Applicant' signature: _____

Applicant Parental/Guardian signature: _____

Parent email and mobile phone: _____

YOUTH COUNCIL APPLICATION

Applicant Information:

Full name: _____

Preferred name: (What should we call you?) _____

Grade in School for Academic Year 2017-2018 _____

Contact Information:

Street _____ Apt. _____

City, State _____ ZIP _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

Email: _____

Preferred mode of contact: (circle one)

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Email

Name of church representing (with town/city):

Confirmation date: _____

Emergency Contact:

Emergency contact: (name and relation) _____

Emergency contact number: _____

Recommendations by:

Name of Youth Leader/Director: _____

Name of Minister/Elder: _____

Applicant Questions:

If you are a first-time applicant, please answer **only** questions 1-4 on a separate sheet of paper and attach to this form. When answering these questions, feel free to discuss them with your parents, pastor, advisors, or any member of the Youth Committee. If you are reapplying for the youth council, please answer **only** questions 5-10 on a separate sheet of paper based on your participation in youth council this year.

First-Time Application Questions

1. What led you to apply to be a member of the Youth Council, and how did your faith impact this decision?
2. This is a position of service. How do you serve your family, church, friends, school and community?
3. What gifts and talents could you bring to Youth Council?
4. How do you spend your time? What are your other commitments of time and responsibility? How do you spend your free time? What are your hobbies? How do you plan to balance these with Youth Council commitments? Do you anticipate any conflicts in your schedule?

Reapplication Questions

5. Why would you like to continue serving on Youth Council, and how has serving affected your faith in God?
6. What did you like most about Youth Council?
7. How could Youth Council be improved?
8. What do you think is the most important function of Youth Council?
9. Have you missed any Youth Council trainings or retreats? If so, please explain why.
10. What are your other commitments of time and responsibility? How do you plan to balance these with Youth Council commitments? Do you anticipate any conflicts in your schedule?

Youth Council Covenant

The Presbytery of New Hope

THE YOUTH COUNCIL COVENANT

We, the members of the Presbytery of New Hope Youth Council, acknowledge our calling, our gifts, our responsibilities, and our unique opportunities to express our faith. As God is an inseparable part of our very existence, we realize the inclusive nature of our tasks. In addition, we come to know leadership as a shared experience. This allows us to reach out with love, hope, compassion, and support to those whom we serve. We recognize our bodies as sacred dwelling places for God's Holy Spirit; and understand our responsibility to provide the highest possible level of physical and emotional care for our bodies, minds, and spirits. We know our fears and imperfections; however, we accept our tasks and we pray through the Holy Spirit to seek new means of faithful expression in the world we share with all creation.

To build this Christian community, I willingly choose to do the following:

- Participate whole-heartedly
- Be truthful
- Listen to and respond to everyone's needs in a way that includes all people
- Bring a heart of service
- Respect my elders and each other
- Follow all rules, presbytery and otherwise
- Abstain in illegal activities (alcohol, drugs, tobacco, & flammables)
- Maintain wholesome relationships on the YC and retreats
- Not to leave premises without an adult
- Help everyone at the retreat to comply with all rules
- To be intentional about growing in my own faith and helping others grow in theirs

I understand that upon breaking this covenant my parents will be responsible for my immediate return from a Youth Council event. I have read the above responsibilities and covenant and agree to abide by these guidelines if selected to serve on Youth Council.

Applicants Signature: _____

Youth Council Recommendation Form

The Presbytery of New Hope

Youth who are **first-time applicants** are required to have one Youth Leader or Youth Director recommendation **and** one Pastor or Elder Recommendation to apply for Youth Council. Youth who are who **re-applicants** are required to have only one Youth Leader or Youth Director Recommendation. Use this form for your recommendations. Please email completed forms to Evan Walker at williamevanwalker@gmail.com on or before April 28, 2017 with "YC Recommendation for (youth's name)" in the subject line. We prefer email, but if you must mail via USPS, please send to: Evan Walker at PO Box 419, Roxboro, NC 27573.

Applicant's name: _____

Name of church representing (with town/city): _____

Recommendation Writer's Name: _____

Recommendation Writer's Complete mailing address:

(Street) _____

(Apt, etc) _____

(City/Town) _____

(ZIP) _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Preferred mode of contact: Home Work Cell

Preferred time: _____

Recommendation Questions:

Please provide a brief answer to the following questions on a separate sheet of paper and attach to this form.

- What is your relationship with the Youth Council Applicant?
- Do you believe that this Applicant could lead a group of ten 6th – 8th grade and/or 9th – 12th grade students with enthusiasm and authority? On what do you base this belief?
- How is the applicant an active participant in your church's youth ministry program? Please describe if the applicant serves in a leadership position in your church or your youth ministry.
- How would you describe the applicant's dependability? Please provide examples.
- Do you have any reservations about this Applicant serving as a leader for the Presbytery of New Hope Youth Ministry? If so, please describe.

In signing below, I affirm my responses to this recommendation and will accept this Youth Council Applicant's role as a representative of this church, if selected. I will strive in every way to stay in contact with this Youth Council Applicant, helping them continue to grow in faith and maintain their responsibility as a representative to the Presbytery of New Hope.

Signature: _____

Date: _____