

**Grace Presbytery "STARS"**  
**Youth Leadership Development Ministry**

**An Overview**  
**2009-2010**

**"STARS" is the youth leadership development ministry of Grace Presbytery. "STARS" sponsors a series of seminar/workshops (September, November, December, February and March) that prepare youth to be leaders in their church and within the presbytery. "STARS" are called upon to share their skills by leading Youthquakes, Youth Sunday on Wheels, and other events sponsored by Grace Presbytery.**

**"STARS" is open to youth in grades 9-12.**

**Seminar One                      Saturday, September 12, 2009                      2:00pm to 5:00pm**  
**Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church, 9800 Preston Road,**  
**Dallas**

This session is primarily a familiarization event. Participants will begin to know each other, the current STARS, and the adult leadership. They will do this through a series of games, trust building activities, and small group time. They will also become familiar with the STARS program and its goals. They will be given a chance at the end of the meeting to ask questions and then decide if the program is right for them and if they have the time to commit.

1. Approximately 1-1/2 hours of the time will be spent in get to know you activities. These activities will be led by current STARS and will include one hour of trust building. It is important for individuals entering the program to begin forming associations with each other and existing STARS as quickly as possible.
2. The large group will break into small groups focused on learning what type of leaders the STARS program is seeking. The small groups will spend some time debriefing the trust activities. The groups will discuss how we learn, what makes a good and bad leader and what type of leader each is required to be.
3. The last 30 minutes of the meeting will be conducted as a large group. The leader will discuss in more depth the STARS program. This discussion will cover the goals of the program; developing leadership for the church as a whole and individual churches as well as leaders for events such as Youthquakes, SHYC, and Youth Sunday on Wheels. The leader will discuss the commitment required to complete the training and the obligations required of a STAR.
4. All future STARS will be given an application to complete before returning. This application will require endorsement by the parents and the home church leadership, either Pastor, DCE, Youth Director, or Clerk of Session

**Seminar Two****Saturday, November 14, 2009****10:00am to 2:00 pm****First Presbyterian Church, 319 LaSalle Drive, Richardson**

This session will deal with leading a large group. The various elements of a large group: recreation, music, skits, and keynote addresses will be explained. This session will also have time spent specifically on music selection and leading music.

1. Get to know you games will be played again. This time it will be explained why they are there and how to make them effective. The same applies to energizers.
2. Small groups will be formed to work out a 3-minute skit that will be presented to everyone later in the meeting.
3. The large group will be reconvened. Each small group will present their skit. A group discussion will take place after all skits are presented to go over the planning process and presentations.
4. Lunch
5. More discussion on large groups, focusing on music and keynote addresses/theme presentations. Ideally we will find a music leader that will help explain the function of music, and how to get individuals it participate as well as how to do music in a large group if there are no musicians with instruments present.

**Seminar Three****Saturday, December 5, 2009****10:00 am to 2:00 pm****First Presbyterian Church, 319 LaSalle Drive, Richardson**

This session will focus on the actual act of leading small groups. Time will be spent on how to prepare and lead a Bible study. Tips and techniques for engaging individuals in small group activities and group control will be shared.

1. Approximately 30 minutes will be used to do check in and get to know you games. We want individuals to have time to remember each other from the last meeting and to get to know any new members. Various activities used will be explained as a way to introduce trainees in large group leadership.
2. The leader of this course will spend the next 30 minutes explaining how to prepare for a small group meeting. They will also discuss leading a Bible study group. Information on what makes a good study group and where to find reference material will be presented.
3. Individuals will form into small groups. In their small group, they will spend approximately 15 minutes discussing the material presented. They next 45 minutes will be spent in preparing a small group meeting. The purpose of the meeting will be a Bible study. Biblically based leadership is one possible topic.
4. Break for lunch and fellowship.

5. Small groups should re-form into a large group to discuss the process they just went through.

**Seminar Four**

**Saturday, February 20, 2010**

**10:00am to 2:00pm**

**First Presbyterian Church, 319 LaSalle Drive, Richardson**

This session will deal with leading individuals in worship and spirituality events. Time will be spent in discussing various spirituality techniques as well as worship elements. A brief session on church governing bodies is also planned. Preparing the STARS to lead worship within their home church is the primary goal of this session.

1. Discuss various worship services and the common elements in a service. Why each element is present. What is the role of the leader and the congregation will be discussed.
2. Time will be spent on what is meant by spirituality and how STARS can help individuals seeking spirituality. Time will be spent in learning where to find ideas for an event and some basic techniques.
3. A brief discussion of the governing bodies within the Presbyterian denomination (Presbyterian Connectionalism) will take place. This should provide a general understanding of the method of governing the church and each body's role in that governance.

**Seminar Five**

**Saturday, March 20, 2010**

**10:00am to 2:00pm**

**First Presbyterian Church, 319 LaSalle Drive, Richardson**

This session will offer more in-depth training in the various activities learned previously. There will be four sections offered with individuals selecting one of the sessions in the morning and one in the afternoon. It will also serve as a way for individuals to make up any missed session.

1. Recreation: this will include energizers, large group games and small group games
2. Small group: how to prepare for small groups, how to handle tough situations and games usage.
3. Spirituality: different types of meditation, Bible studies, preparing worship services, and music.
4. Event planning: this will include writing manuals, scheduling, game selection, and location selection.