



Dear Parents,

SuperStart! is just around the corner and we wanted to make sure you were as informed as possible before signing up your child to join us on this amazing weekend event specifically designed for preteen students (grades 4-6).

In case you've never heard of SuperStart! before, here is a quick overview: It's a weekend event produced by Christ In Youth, an organization that has been putting together age-intentional events all over the world for almost 50 years (you can check out their website at www.ciy.com/superstart). It takes place in a large auditorium, where your child will worship alongside hundreds of other students their age. It's literally an experience they'll get nowhere else. It's also one of the safest and most well-organized events for students in the country!

Imagine your favorite video game. You're at the moment where everything hangs in the balance. One wrong move and your player could die, but if you play the game just right you'll make it to the next level and eventually win the game. It's the perfect time for a "Power Up" – that critical gift or ability that you didn't have before, but it helped you advance and win.

In the game of life, however, for a preteen it can often seem like the odds are stacked against them. But God tells us that's not true. He tells us that He's on our side, and He gives us a tool, a "Power Up" to help us through life. That "Power Up" is His Word. By exploring Luke 11:28 and plugging into the world of video games, SuperStart's mission this year is to help preteens understand that through God's Word they receive the power they need to navigate and serve in His Kingdom.

SuperStart! offers small group times in which your child can connect with their adult leaders and other students. This is one of the most important things we can do as a youth ministry. Next to your influence as a parent, building those bonds between our leaders and their peers is the No. 1 thing that will help your child grow in their relationship with Christ.

4th & 5th Grade Fellowship students are invited to the SuperStart! experience April 13-14, 2018 for \$85 per participant. (Cost covers registration, meals, and a t-shirt.) Student's will meet at Gary on April 13th at 5:30 p.m. and go to Community Church in Naperville for Day 1 of SuperStart! After the Friday night session, students will join Wheatland Salem's 4th & 5th graders for a group lock-in at Wheatland Salem UMC in Naperville!

On April 14th, participants will return to the SuperStart! site for a day of continued "Power Up" fun! Everyone will return to Gary at 3:30 p.m. for parent pick-up. To register, simply visit garychurch.org, complete a Gary Youth permission slip (if you have not done so already), CIY Medical and Liability Release Form, and submit your \$85 payment by April 3, 2018.

We're excited for SuperStart! and the amazing experiences we'll have over the weekend. If you have any questions that can't be answered by visiting www.ciy.com/superstart, contact the 4th & 5th Grade Leadership Team through the Church Office, office@garychurch.org.

Sincerely,
Your 4th & 5th Grade Fellowship Leadership Team
Ben Hafner, Deb Schulze, Brian Jones, Alexa Isaac, & Carey Bebar