

*Director of Youth & Student Ministries*

Report to Congregation Council

Peter A. Fox - December 2018

Greetings to all in the name of the Lord. YG is going strong this season. There is something every weekend, and that is keeping everyone busy. With that said, Let's not waste any time. Here is what we did in the month of November. First off, we started off the month on the 4<sup>th</sup> with YG. There were around 40 YG and advisors in attendance. Continuing our "J.O.Y. (Jesus, Others, and You) theme for the year, our focus for the night was REAL WORLD, and it highlighted how popular culture feeds our daily lives and affects the way that we see things. Which is rarely good. We are called for something more, to be that "Christian" example - always trying to look at things through a "Christian lens". That's the key. All and all, this was an super YG.

On Sunday, the 11<sup>th</sup> we had Sr. High. Around 20 Sr. High YG and advisors came out for this evening of faith, discussion, and fellowship. The focus on this night was CARE FOR OTHERS. On this night we talked about all the ways we serve others, both big and small. In service to our graduated YG brothers and sisters, we did College Care Packages to our graduates. We stuffed many boxes full of goodies, announcements and YG love. This night was a laid-back one of faith and fellowship. The very next Sunday, the 18<sup>th</sup> was YG BOWLING at Trindle Bowl. Around 45 YG and advisors, came of for this night of total fun and fellowship. It was a blast from start to finish.

We closed down the month (and led into December) with our YG WINTER RETREAT. There were around 30 YG and advisors in attendance for this YG weekend of faith, fun and fellowship. The theme of the retreat was ACCEPTANCE. This "timely" retreat was all about teaching our youth the importance of accepting others in their lives, no matter what. We looked at Jesus' example of accepting everyone, and compared that to our lives and just how hard it is to do sometimes. We looked at acceptance, or the lack thereof, in our world today; and noted how we need to be different as people of God.. We also looked at why it's important to accept ourselves. Through interactive activities and engaging discussion we tackled this extremely necessary and powerful subject, and the YG got the point. It was an awesome retreat.

Lastly, registration has started for our Sr. High Mission Trip this upcoming summer to North Carolina. We will once again be working with LutheranHANDS. We are going down south to North Carolina to help out with the recent flooding. There will be more news in these next few months as we get ready for a mission trip of this magnitude. Please come out to YG fundraisers as they will benefit this mission trip effort. That's all for now.

Yours In Christ,  
Peter A. Fox  
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