

Report to Congregation Council
Peter A. Fox - February 2019

Greetings to all in the name of the Lord. So far, YG is crazy busy in 2019! There is something every weekend, and that is keeping everyone's schedule quite full. That said, let's not waste any time. Here is what we did to kick off the new year in January. We started off the month on the first weekend, the 4th and the 5th, with our Sr. High & College Sleepover, in its second year of existence. 15 Sr. High, 9 College Kids, and 4 YG Advisors came out for this night of total fun and fellowship. We played games, watched movies, ate pizza, and hung out with one another. It was a blast from start to finish. We will definitely do this event again, it has grown since last year.

On Sunday, the 13th we had our first YG of the year. There were around 35 YG and advisors in attendance. Continuing our J.O.Y. (Jesus, Others, and You) theme for the year, our focus of the night was BUILD UP YG and it concentrated on strengthening our own YG. This night was all about doing activities and challenges to build our YG into a stronger family. In YG this, "strength in numbers" philosophy also helps us outside of church walls to be empowered to live out our lives daily as a solid Christian. We strive to be there for one another in times of struggle or joy. And we use our gifts to lift up one another. A lot of fun was had throughout this YG, but learning and trust building was what it was all about. On Sunday, the 27th we had second YG of the year. There were around 35 YG and advisors in attendance. The focus of this night was FAMILY TIES and it concentrated on our individual families as well as us being part of God's family. For families, what is normal these days. We looked at our family dynamics and the positives and negatives that go along with it. Christ calls us to treat everyone with love and respect, especially our families. That's why our immediate family unit is so important - we must start modeling our actions in our home if we are supposed to be

strong enough Christians to live them out everyday in the world outside. Once again, this was a powerful YG with much activity and deep conversation.

Wearing my other hat, the Sunday morning classes for the youth have been going great! First off, Confirmation this season has been a blast. There are 16 students, and 4 adult small group discussion leaders to help out with class. The kids are participating in class and getting involved in service throughout our church and communities. This is one of the best classes that we have had so far. Ditto for the Jr. High "Faith Connect" class and the Sr. High F.O.J. "Friends of Jesus" class. In the 6th-7th Grade class, we are blessed with 3 dedicated teachers who make this class a success. Those who come out have a lot of fun every week with cool videos and interactive learning. The Sr. High class, although small, engages in weekly deep discussion and serves throughout our church community. This whole class also takes part in Jane Killian's Sunday morning class, which is awesome.

Lastly, registration has completed for our Sr. High Mission Trip this upcoming summer to North Carolina. We have 19 people attending total (12 Sr. High YG, 5 College YG, and 2 YG Advisors. This is a great turnout! We will once again be working with LutheranHANDS. We are going down south to North Carolina to help out those dealing with the recent flooding issues. There will be more lots 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
Director of Youth & student Ministries