

Director of Youth & Student Ministries  
Report to Congregation Council  
Peter A. Fox - November 2019

Greetings to all in the name of the Lord. YG is going great so far 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 October. First off, we started off the month on the 6<sup>th</sup> with our third YG of the year. There were around 35 YG and advisors in attendance. We continued with our overall YG theme for the year of "JESUS". This whole year we are focusing in on all aspects of Jesus and his life. We are digging into his life, ministry, and teachings and why they are and should remain important to us. We are reflecting on how to be better disciples by using him as the example. What better person for us to emulate, not only this year, but always. The theme for this evening was JESUS AS TEACHER and it focused in on getting the kids to know that teaching was at the heart of all that Jesus was and is. We learned about some of his key teachings and discussed what they mean and why they are important. More over, we showed the YG why they are important to hold up in our own lives and relationships. This night, as is every YG, was all about faith, fun and fellowship. It was an awesome night.

On Sunday, the 13<sup>th</sup> we had our first Sr. High for the season. Around 20 Sr. High YG and advisors came out for this evening of faith, discussion, and fellowship. The focus on this night was recent news articles focusing on VIOLENCE IN SCHOOLS. Relating to a LA Times article, we had healthy discussion about the fears that we all have in our lives surrounding this issue. We talked about the causes and looked at what we can do about it to help to buck this trend. This is something that impacts all our youth on daily basis, so the conversation was powerful and needed. Sr. High also provides some great group building time, and solid prayer time. It was a powerful night from start to finish. On the 20<sup>th</sup>, the YG met up again. Around 35 YG and advisors were here on this night. The theme for the evening was JESUS AS HEALER, and it focused in on what a great healer Jesus was. We looked several of his healing's in greater detail and learned why they were so important. His whole ministry was about healing others in one way or another. On this night, through activities and discussion we saw how we can be healers for those around in our own lives. It does not stop with Jesus, we are called to be healers as well. This night was another good one. We closed down the month on the 27<sup>th</sup> with our annual YG PASTA DINNER. There were around 30 YG and advisors that helped make this night a success. Around 80-90 congregation members, friends and family came out for this night. Thanks to all who came out and supported this YG fundraiser.

On another note, the Sunday Faith Formation hour for youth is going great. The 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>

grade FAITH CONNECT class is going good with 2 committed teachers and an active class of 10 - 15 kids. They will learn about key figures and teachings in the bible this year through fun, videos, and creative activities. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation class is off and running! Adrienne and I are excited for what this year continues to hold for our 20 students. They are becoming more comfortable and talkative each week we get together. It's an incredible class. I am stoked to say that the 9-12 class known as F.O.J. is super. With a great teacher, this free-flowing class is all about lively discussion, group building, and service to the church and community. They will be involved of lots of diverse things as the year and season flows on.

Lastly, plans have started for our Sr. High Mission Trip this upcoming summer. We will once again be working with LutheranHANDS. There will be more news in these next few months as we discern where God is calling us to serve. Please come out to YG fundraisers as they will benefit this mission effort regardless. That's all for now.

Yours In Christ,  
Peter A. Fox  
Director of Youth & student Ministries