

Report to Congregation Council
Peter A. Fox - February 2020

Greetings to all in the name of the Lord. So far, YG is awesome in 2020! The calendar is jammed with great events. There is something YG related on almost every weekend. 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 3rd and the 4th, with our SR. HIGH & COLLEGE SLEEPOVER, in its third year of existence. 13 Sr. High, 7 College Kids, and 4 YG Advisors came out for this night of total fun and fellowship. We played games, watched 80's 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 9th we had our first YG of the year. There were around 35 YG and advisors in attendance. Continuing our JESUS theme for the year, our focus of the night was JESUS AS SERVANT and it concentrated on showing the YG what a servant Jesus was in all that he did. This started from day one, born in stable, a carpenter's son, living a life of humility. Then as his ministry progressed his service to others was without measure. Just as he said, we are called to humble ourselves, and put others first through service. And we are to use our gifts that we been given to lift up others in need. This was a timely YG with faith-filled discussion and creative-learning activities. On Sunday, the 26th we had second YG of the year. There were around 35 YG and advisors in attendance. The focus of this night was JESUS AS FORGIVER and it concentrated on the ways that we need to forgive to be more like Jesus. Forgiveness seems like an easy topic when you are discussing it, but it is infinitely more difficult when you are hurt by the actions of others that we trust and care about. It's even harder when the person is not a friend, but someone we dislike. Even though it is super hard, we need to look to Jesus' example of forgiveness. In his life, he forgave others time and time again, even on the cross. We need to try and do the same. Once again, this was a powerful YG with much activity and deep conversation.

On another note, the Sunday morning faith formation classes for the youth have been going great! First off, Confirmation this season has been the best ever. There are 20 students, and 5 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. Parents have lots of praise for this class, and the students are enjoying it like never before. It is a blast! Ditto for the Jr. High "Faith Connect" Class and the Sr. High "Friends of Jesus" Class. In the 6th-7th Grade class, we are blessed with 2 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 fellowship, and learns about different opportunities to serve in our church and in our community through the use of guest presenters. This class does a lot and is quite involved in our churches life.

Lastly, registration has completed for our Sr. High Mission Trip this upcoming summer to North Carolina. Altogether, we have 13 people attending this summer's MISSION TRIP. We will once again be working with LutheranHANDS. We are going down south to Wilmington, North Carolina to help out those still dealing with 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