

Council Report for Youth Ministry
Peter Fox
June 2020

Greetings in the name of the Lord. Peter here with all the news on the youth front. YG is still very much happening, but all in very different ways. Everyday there seems to be full of new updates, and new ways to do things. Times are constantly changing, some for the better and some for worse. YG is adapting as best we can. Even though, times are a little crazy, we are proceeding full speed ahead. Here is what was happened this past month.

Every week, I have starting posting on YouTube a weekly video Prayer and Message to the Youth (and whoever else wants to see). I think that I am on number 9 right now. I am getting number 10 ready this week. These are good and they have all generated a lot of views, I have received lots of praise from YG and parents on them. Also, several congregation members have reached out to me that they are watching them too, which is awesome. This makes me happy that people are checking them out. I plan on doing through the summer months too, only less so. I will be posting like 1 or 2 a month. So they will still happen just less frequently. A little break is good, and needed. The YG has entered and conquered the world of Zoom (haha). We finished our fifth and final YG Zoom Chat for the season. All of the chats have went really well. Around 25 or so YG have been getting online for them. These numbers have slowly dwindled as I figured they would, with the weather getting nicer, and people going out more. Plus kids are zoomed out, plain and simple! With school, and work in some cases, everyone has been feeling the same regarding this medium, These Zoom chats did provide a great opportunity to tune in and talk, catch up, read scripture and pray together. And it was awesome to see YG faces again and just be together. Now, plans are being made for a summer YG Lawn Hang-Out, Pool parties, and a local servant event or two. So now that we can get out more, we are figuring out ways to do just that, safely of coarse.

Confirmation class has wrapped up for the season, The pastors and I are posted all the class videos online and had our final conversations with students. Everyone in this class did a great job adjusting to our new way of learning. They are stepped up big time. To make me feel even better, we have numerous rave reviews from students and parents alike, thanking us of this class and the opportunities we have created.. This has been one of the best classes to date, it's ashame we had to finish the way we did, but all things considered, it was still solid. There is one thing we still need to do, the actual rite of Confirmation. For this class, we have have moved the date to the fall. This Confirmation Service will take place during Saturday night worship on September 19, 2020. The class, the parents, the teachers, are all looking very much forward to it.

Like I said in the first paragraph, things are constantly in flux. Confirmation Camp has been cancelled, as Nawakwa has ceased all summer activities. This is a bummer. Looking ahead, the Mission Trip to North Carolina might be next on the chopping block. I hope not, but it's not looking good. I will know its fate probably by the time that you read this report. If this trip gets cancelled, we will be working with LutheranHANDS (and with my people) to try to come another local service opportunity(s) for our youth. I have

some pool parties scheduled for the summer, so we'll see about them. Got my fingers crossed on these things, but only time will tell. Some good news, work has begun on the ELCA National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, MN in summer 2021. This is a Sr. High event that takes place every 4 years in a major city. Normally, over 30,000 Lutheran youth, leaders, pastors, descend on the city for a week of faith, fellowship, community, and service. That said, it will be a BIG undertaking, especially in these times, but hopefully all goes well as we proceed ahead. And we need to raise a lot of money to make a trip of this expense happen, so please help out and support all of our future YG endeavors.

Peace,
Peter Fox
Director of Youth & Student Ministries