

Council Report for Youth Ministry

Peter Fox

July 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. Here is what was happened this past month.

In June, I continued posting YouTube a weekly video Prayer and Message to the Youth (and whoever else wants to see). Just put out number 11 last night. 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 continuing these through the summer months too, probably once or twice a month. No longer happy with Zoom, we had our first YG event. And it was really the first church event to be held since the lock down in March. On Sunday June 18, we had YG ON THE LAWN, which is exactly as it sounds. 20 YG and 3 Advisors came out for a socially distant, masked YG evening of faith, fun and fellowship. We met on the lawn out back of church. Every YG brought there lawn chair, their mask, and their own snacks. We played safe games together, engaged in lite conversation, and even had a lesson with a prayer. It went really well, all things considered. Above all, it served as a good step to getting things back to feeling like YG. It was great to see such a good turn-out for a YG event over summer. And most important, it was awesome to see faces again, not over a computer scene. That mattered a lot. With the success of this one, we are in conversation now about doing another one. So plans are in the works. Now, plans are being made for a summer YG ON THE LAWN event, or something similar, 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 course.

With our Sr. High/College Summer Mission Trip being cancelled, I have been on a search to find a local service event that we can get involved with. Once again, the biggest hurdle is social distancing, Have not find anything yet, but I am chasing down leads. 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 nothing gets delayed or cancelled.) For this event, 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