

Council Report for Youth Ministry
Peter Fox
January 2021

Greetings in the name of the Lord. Peter here with all the news regarding our youth as we move into 2021. YG and Faith Formation have been going strong so far, despite the societal changes. With YG and Faith Formation events, we trying to keep things as 'normal' and 'regular' as possible, to make everyone feel comfortable and welcome. All things considered, even in this is new reality, things have still been going quite good. So the calendar is still packed, we are just being more open to any needed changes as they surface. Here is a taste of what we did in December.

We started off the month with YG on December 6 with YG SOCCER MATCHDAY. Throughout the many years, this first weekend in December has always served as our YG Winter Retreat. A highpoint of every retreat weekend is YG SOCCER. With no retreat this winter, I figured it could not hurt to get everyone together for some mask-on soccer, YG style. I figured right, because around 25 YG and Advisors met outside for this awesome day of fun and fellowship. Everyone had a blast and there were no injuries. The weather was sunny and warmer to, which was awesome! Our last event for the year was our Annual YG CHRISTMAS PARTY on December 20. Even though we could not go caroling at Manor Care this year, or meet inside our church due to Covid; we did not let that stop us. Instead we met up in afternoon in our parking lot. Around 20 YG and advisors came our for this mask-on/socially distanced last day (before 2021) of faith, fun, and fellowship. It was cold, but we still played crazy YG Christmas games, ate pizza, and closed down things with prayer. Also, since we could not go to Manor Care this year, I had the YG make cards in advance to give to the folks over at the nursing home. They made over 30 cards which I delivered after YG. It was good that this YG tradition could still continue, even if it was a little different.

Faith formation has been going strong through the winter months. All classes/sessions so far have been on Zoom, on Sunday mornings at 9:00am. This will still be the same for awhile as we move into spring, due to Covid. Middle School Connect is for grades 6 - 8, and Sr. High F.O.J. is for grades 9 - 12. I have great teachers spearheading each group, which always improves things. The sessions for both classes are solid. We continue to see a good core, with a new face or two from time to time. Hopefully these classes will continue to grow as we move forward. The curriculum that we are using video based and very relational. I like it a lot.

As we move forward, I will continue to strive to keep YG and Faith Formation connected whether remotely or in person. That said, I have to go, more planning needs to take place, and I feel more stretched than ever. As I've said these last months, please continue to keep our youth and parents in your prayers as they adjust to school, church and life. It is hard to say the least.

Yours in Christ,
Peter Fox
Director of Youth & Student Ministry