

Director of Youth & Student Ministries
Report to Congregation Council
Peter A. Fox - December 2017

Greetings to all in the name of the Lord. YG is going strong 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 November. First off, we started off the month on the 5th with YG. There were around 40 YG and advisors in attendance. Continuing our "AGAPE (aka: God's Love) for the year, our focus on the night was MANY ROOMS, and it highlighted how we need to be welcoming of all who we come in contact with in our lives. No matter what, God's love is for all, and we need to look to that example. We emphasized the diversity in God's kingdom, and showed ways to be better communicators to all we meet. It was a awesome YG.

On Sunday, the 12th we had Sr. High. Around 20 Sr. High YG and advisors came out for this evening of faith, discussion, and fellowship. The focus on this night was SERVICE TO OTHERS. On this night we talked about all the ways we serve others, both big and small. In service to our YG brothers and sisters, we did College Care Packages to our graduates. We stuffed many boxes full of goodies, announcements and YG love. This night was a laid-back one of faith and fellowship. We closed down the month on Sunday, the 26th with YG BOWLING at Trindle Bowl. Around 25 YG and advisors, came of for this night of total fun. It was a blast and a great way to cap off the Thanksgiving weekend.

On another note, the Sunday School classes for youth are going great. The 6th and 7th grade Sunday school is going strong with 3 teachers and an active class of 10 -12 kids. They are learning this year through fun, videos, and creative activities, about key figures in the New testament and core teachings of Lutheranism. Confirmation Class is awesome! This class is one of our best ever. Adrienne and I continue to be excited for what this season holds. They are talkative and seem to be enjoying the class a lot. It should be an incredible class. I am stoked to say that our Sr. High Class, "Friends of Jesus" is going great. This small class of 5 or so, gets lot done for it's size. Their yearly theme is service, and they do monthly things around our church to serve others. These things said, the Sunday school time is looking pretty good for our youth.

Lastly, we are officially registered for the 2018 ELCA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING in Houston, TX next summer. We have 16 Sr. High YG and 3 advisors going. With that said, this

will be an expensive trip costing a lot of money (about \$1,200 a kid). It will not be cheap! So we will need all of the help that we can get to keep costs down to our families, and to maximize attendance for this trans-formative week. Money should not hamper or be an obstacle to families for an event like this. This is way too important. We have asked for more in the 2018 church budget in anticipation of this Gathering next summer. That said, please support ALL of the YG fundraisers and endeavors in 2017 and 2018 to help pay for this trip. We will need all of the help that we can get. Most kids only get to go to a Gathering once in their lives, and it's worth it. It can be life-changing! And with this Gathering being in Houston, we will have opportunities to serve others while we are there. The kids are excited to work hard and serve! Enough said...

Yours In Christ,

Peter A. Fox

Director of Youth & student Ministries