

YOUTH OF PEACE NEWS

by Kristi Duensing
Youth Director



Happy New Year! God is so good to us here at Peace Lutheran Church. Welcome to all our new members since last year. Isn't it fun having a full sanctuary and ohhh when we sing, it "fills the air". But is our worship all about filled pews? When I think of God looking down on our worship, I

see him smiling, absorbing the worship of EACH one of us personally. I noticed some of you taking notes during church, so I tried that. Wow! That makes a huge difference in keeping my mind focused (or so I try! HA!) during the week as I think about the word of God spoken to us. Yes, God is soooo good!

This new year of 2014 brings chances of improvement. Do you like to make New Year resolutions? It is good I believe to take an assessment of our worship, prayer life and service each year to see how we can do better in the future. The world tries to pull us in materialistically, but let's stand firm in God's plan for our lives. Recently, I read an article "Secrets of being happy". Our attitudes as people of God are watched by many who are not Christian. Let's set a good example. Sure it is easy to get "down" at times, but here are a few ideas to keep you "up". I'm going to try one of these each day and start the list over again. Winter sometimes can be a depressing time, so hopefully these ideas can "perk us up"! ☺

1. Spread happy thoughts.
2. Build memories to savor.
3. Pat yourself on the back.
4. Fine tune your Bible reading.
5. Get absorbed in doing something nice for someone.
6. Cherish meaningful moments, keep a journal and write them down.
7. Avoid negative thinking.
8. Remember to pray, praise and say thanks.

I give thanks to you as a congregation for all your prayers and support. The prayers are definitely "felt" as we go through our year.

ACTIVITIES COMING UP:

NO Study nite in January as the 1st Wednesday is still Christmas break from school.

JANUARY 19th Youth meal after church before our church annual meeting. Watch the bulletin for information as to what we will be serving. Come and get it! YUM! Proceeds for our meal will be going towards our Youth Mission Trip to Cheyenne River Indian Reservation in South Dakota. They had a 94% poverty level there and so we see this as a great opportunity to be the "Hands and Feet" of Jesus. We have 10 kids going who will be painting houses, playing games with the kids and putting on a Bible school. We are looking for a male sponsor, so let me know if you are interested.

JANUARY 19th after the annual meeting, traveling to Lincoln for Laser Tag.

Blessings to you in 2014! Your sister in Christ,

Kristi Duensing