

Youth News - January 2020 by Chandra Hillman, Youth Director

LOOKING BACK AT DECEMBER 2019

The youth kept busy with practices for the Christmas Eve service. I appreciate all their hard work. They did a spectacular job in sharing the Christmas message of the birth of Christ. I had many people who helped behind the scenes that made this service a success. With a grateful heart, a special thanks goes out to Pastor Dennis for being my other stage director and for providing the spotlight for our drama. Marla, thanks for leading the youth in song and for sharing your beautiful talent of music. Also thanks to Betsy Jo for playing guitar, Alfred for playing the violin, McKylie, Meghan, Paiton and Danica for singing, Addison Hintz, who is in Junior High, but helped where needed, Bill and Nate for helping out with sound, Stuart for doing the screen, Derek for running the spotlight, George for videotaping, Marty for putting up the beautiful center aisle candles, Leroy and Earl for designing the backdrop and taking it up and down for us to practice. Lastly, a special thanks to Mandy and Jeremy Grant for sharing their infant, Anakin, as our baby Jesus, and to all for their support in making our program a beautiful message of God's precious gift to us in the birth of a Savior.



With deep appreciation, I am forever thankful for the opportunity to teach and lead our youth. Thanks to the parents for their support, to Pastor Dennis and Marla for always being there for me, and to the Council and congregation for their continuous support and prayers. God is good, all the time and All the time, God is good!

In my December newsletter, I asked the kids who went to the homeless shelter what they thought of the service project. Coleton Marquart's name was omitted, so here are Coleton's comments; I liked giving them the blessing bags, I felt good giving them food as well as the blessing bags. I like this project a lot and hope others get to experience it. Thanks ~ Coleton!!

LOOKING AHEAD TO JANUARY 2020

We all are fully aware that God should come before anything else, so when it comes to resolutions for the new year, are we setting these goals for ourselves, or for God? We make resolutions to pray more, to read the Bible every day, etc. These are wonderful goals to have, but these resolutions can fail just as any others. There's no value in starting or stopping a certain activity unless we have the right motivation for doing so. If your goal is to be in God's word everyday, are you doing it because you know it's a good thing to do or because you want to honor God and grow spiritually? Maybe we want to exercise more. Is it to do good by ourselves or to honor God with our body? If God is the center of our New Year's resolutions, we will have a much better chance at succeeding at our goals. If it's God's will for something to be fulfilled, He will allow it to happen. As Christians, we need to pray for wisdom on how to fulfill these resolutions, rely on God's strength to help us and to not be discouraged if we fail but allow it to motivate us more, doing all this in the glory of His name. *"Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him and He will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun."* ~ Psalm 37-5-6

YOUTH ACTIVITIES FOR JANUARY

Sunday, 12th & 19th- take pizza orders after church for a fund-raiser on Sunday, February 2
Sunday, 12th- Youth planning meeting after church
Wednesday, 15th- movie night
Sunday, 26th - Annual meeting meal fund-raiser

The youth continue studying on Sunday mornings from their Bible study book, "The Battle Plan of Prayer". We will finish our lesson on scheduled and spontaneous prayer and begin focusing on the individual petitions of the Lord's Prayer and will go more in depth with the A.C.T.S. prayer (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication).

A year ago I was looking for a male co-leader, but without a pastor I decided to let all efforts go towards finding a new pastor. Now that we have a pastor in place, I want to go forward with finding a male co-leader. So if anyone is interested, please let me know or visit with Pastor Dennis or Bill Mize, Council President. *Thanks!*

Serving in Christ, Chandra

