

Youth Group News

October 2018

Peace Lutheran Youth Group is happy to welcome the following freshman to our group; Mira Eschliman, Jazmynne Fangmeyer, Jayden Isernhagen, Kyra Jenkins, Chloe Mosier, Paiton Nash and Taylor Shaw. We started the Sunday School year off with a bonfire to welcome the new freshman to our youth group. There were eight youth in attendance along with Pastor Rich. Jake Beam and Earl Hillman also made an appearance representing the Council and Education Team. The theme for our bonfire was, "Find the Fire Within You." We talked about how discovering our God-given talents takes the same careful

attention as starting and maintaining a fire. Our gifts from God are ignited when we believe and use them for His purposes. God wants us to, "fan our flame," He gives us exactly what we need to identify and develop them: a spirit of boldness, power, love and self-discipline (2 Timothy 1:6-7). It was a fun filled evening with games, devotions, prayers, good food, laughter and songs around the bonfire. Thanks Pastor for playing the guitar! A big thanks also to Brian and Heidi Isernhagen for allowing us to have the bonfire at their bin site. The youth group ended September by participating in, "See you at the Pole," along with the FCA, in celebration of National Day of Prayer.

For Sunday mornings we are doing a Bible study from the book called, "Identity Theft." Our first lesson is titled, "ID Thieves at the Door; They Come to Destroy". In this section, we studied John 6, first how Jesus fed the 5,000 with only five loaves of bread and two fish. In this lesson the group heard that even if we don't think we have anything to give, we still need to because with our amazing God, He can take what little we have and turn it into something BIG! We have to trust Him. In verse 20, "But He said to them, "It is I. Don't be afraid." Jesus walking on the water is the fifth of the seven miracles written in John that supports that Jesus is in fact God. Here we are taught that with difficulty and dangers; then and now, through the Word of God we are given the greatest hope and unfailing love. We are reminded in verse 29, that our good works aren't what satisfies God, it's believing in whom He has sent. It was discussed what Jesus meant by the Bread of Life, which brings us to one of our weekly Bible verses; Then Jesus declared, I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry and he who believes in me will never be thirsty." (John 6:35) To sustain life, we must eat bread, but to sustain our spiritual life we must invite Jesus into a relationship each and every day. In the last verses of John 6, we read how some turned away from Jesus, to them what He was teaching put a roadblock in their faith and it may have been too hard to accept that He was the Messiah. Here we are reminded that Jesus is the only way to eternal life, so why do we allow roadblocks to get in our way of our faith?

In July, the idea of a War Room came to me, so Stuart and I have been doing some deep cleaning in the YOP house and unfortunately it is in need of some major updating.

Our upcoming events in October consist of a movie night of the War Room, getting started on our service project by making cards for residents at the nursing home and at the assisted living and some youth are taking on the challenge of the Escape Room, where we will be locked in a room and we have to find the key to unlock the door. It is being held at the SCC Education Learning Center in Hebron. We will do devotions in between the two rooms, that is if we get out of the first room!

We ask that you continuously pray for our youth and us as leaders; that they may hunger and thirst for God's Word and that we may help them to become devoted disciples.

As we have started a new Sunday School year, I want us to think about what's our purpose for being a follower? Do we follow Jesus Christ to get a personal gain or are we true faithful followers of Him?

Serving in Christ, *Chandra and Stuart*