

Youth News

Soup & Salad

Another successful lunch planned and executed. Cathy Betz has high praise for the cooperation in the kitchen as youth and parents prepared. The meal brought in a total of **\$910.25**

Colin was the first man up to make the announcements and prayer. Our October volunteer for this task will be Matt and Connor plans to step up to take on Nov. We will be looking for additional volunteers for Jan., Feb., March, April and May. See Cathy Betz to volunteer. (it's easy - you all can do it)

Families, please remember this is our **only** fund raising event and we are very blessed to need only invest **8 times a year** to raise enough money to cover the 2/3 cost of trips each summer. We strongly encourage our youth to be involved in this event so they are a part of earning the funds used to participate.

All of the dates are set in advance. If a Sr High youth is not able to attend please let Cathy Betz know head of time.

Additionally, in the past we request youth families provide the deserts for the meal. Please be sure to bring a **Large desert**. (or two) Our Sr High youth is a bit smaller then last year and we count on each family to provide something to share. (even if your youth can't be there, if you can get a desert to the church - we thank you) **Oct. 28 Youth will again Meet the Kitchen at 9:00 AM**

Character

Our youth is the age each of us spend the most amount of time developing our character. It's not that we stop growing or building character after our youth but it is a time when we truly begin to form who we will be in our future and how we will behave as adults. We are impacted by our family, our environment, our friends, even by events of the world. Our character becomes the view we look through to see others around us and our character shines through in how we treat strangers as well as friends.

Youth who are bullied can take that hurt and develop bitterness and hatred or they grow to become stronger and compassionate. Youth who are teased for what they own or don't own or what they wear and how they dress can develop a desire for things to prove they are good enough or they build a desire to be proudly unique or learn to see more deeply for what is on the inside of a person and not what is only on the outside. We all make a choices in how we use the situations we are in to form our character. - Even our hurts can be used for good. We can develop a hard heart or a heart of compassion.

Our character is not just how we behave in the group we are with at the moment. It is false to change how we act and talk with one group and then behave differently with another. Christian's should strive to be the same with everyone we meet.

Our character is even in what we think when we are alone. Do you think positive and good things about yourself or negative things. What you think to yourself and about yourself comes through in your character.

I recently watched a live broadcast of the memorial service for a 19 year old young man killed in a tragic bike accident. It was clear from the testimony shared and the love of the friends he encountered during his freshman year on the college campus in McPherson Kansas, that his character was well developed before he left his home in Elizabethtown. Everyone who had to opportunity to know him, knew the same person. They each could conclude this young man was the same in church as he was on his tennis team. They could conclude this was a young man who's faith made a difference in how he lived and behaved, in how he spoke and how he treated others.

Youth is a time to develop character. What Character traits should we have? We should challenge ourselves to learn who we are called to be in Christ. - Linda B

Jr High go to the Disaster Relief Auction to Serve

A lot of stackin' -n- packin' and no time for slackin' as we worked together to fill school kit bags for "Kits from the Heart". This project has been going on for several years as a service to children around the world. Each bag contains notebooks, pencils, a sharpener, a ruler, crayons, and scissors. Andrew Lines was at the front of the line to open bags and add the notebooks and down the line worked Ava, Kaitlyn, Emil and Edison at the end who packed the box for shipment. We had to keep working until we were out of supplies. The supplies were stack in boxes behind the team. We had hundreds of items to go through in two hours.

This is the second year in a row Lancaster youth have attended the auction. Some got a chance to meet up again with friends from summer camp and district events as a number of youth groups regularly attend the event. After working the youth got to walk around the auction to see the crafts, food, produce, baked goods and of course, the favorite, Amish Donuts made right there on site. This year Emil discovered the horses and got to ride (twice). Andrew found the Carmel Corn and everyone got the chance to experience Brethren in action to help serve our neighbors and the world when a disaster strikes.



Pictured: Kaitlyn Heck, Ava Bowser, Edison Rodriguez, Emil Ramirez, Andrew Lines, and Linda Byers.



Brief News You Can Use

Messages of Thanks

Thanks to all of those who have volunteered to help in Youth Ministry in September.

Thanks to Gene Bucher for teaching the Sr High class about choosing a Bible. Also to our guest speaker for Jr High talking about their ministries: Jamie Nace, Carole Deck and Suzanne and Carlos Schaudel. And to Linda Husted for teaching Sr High.

Everyone who helped at Soup and Salad - Betz's, Snyder's, the other Snyder's, Brubaker's, Holsinger's, Murray's, Shearer's. And appreciation goes out to Carlos Schaudel, Deb Chillias and her husband Dave for clean up during the Safe Church meeting. Also thanks to all of the families who attended this important meeting.

Thanks to Todd Bookman for being our attending parent at Youth Time.

GO YOUTH - !

Sarah Shearer is working hard in the Hempfield Marching Band this year. GO Sarah! Anya Curran is on the Jr High Volleyball Team at L-S - GO Anya!

If your youth is doing something to cheer about. Let us know. - email Linda

Wednesday Night Live

Underway again. At 6:00 we meet for a little musical fun. We usually leave there laughing around 6:30. Next we get together in the youth room to find out what's been good about our week

and spend time playing games or doing homework - or sharing You Tube videos.

Youth are welcome to invite friends on Weds. nights. They will be expected to participate the same as the our own youth. Our WNL program is geared toward the Jr High age Youth.

Youth Soda Policy

Youth are welcome to have a soda or bottled water from the Youth room Frig. Because "pay as you drink" means - most of the drinks are consumed before we have the funds to purchase more. If you pay \$5 in advance it will cover the next 10 drinks. There is a list in the youth room where youth can check off the sodas as they use them. It worked well last year. As always we are using the honor system.

The sodas are available during Weds. nights, Youth Time and on Soup and Salad Sundays as long as everyone is respecting the rules of the room. Soda at Soup and Salad is available when we are not serving. The policy continues to be no sodas in the FLC or Kitchen when we are working.

Youth Ministry Must Have Volunteers

As our policies will be changing in light of the Safe Church initiative, all of our scheduled Jr High and Sr High Youth events will be required to have at least two adults present (and hopefully participating). Our events this year will include Jr High activities on Weds. Night, Sr High's NEW Youth Time and any events we hold at the church.

Sign up sheets are in the Youth Sunday School classrooms or you

can contact Linda to learn when a volunteer is needed.

Sr High District Barn Party

Happening at the Longenecker Farm in Mt Joy. **Saturday Oct. 20 - 6 to 10** Need to sign up with Linda by Oct. 14. Cost is \$5 - payable that night. Bring a friend.

Jr High District RETREAT

Remember it snowed last year! Hopefully not this year for the "**Hunger Games**". That is the theme for the weekend. It begins the evening of Oct. 26 and ends after lunch Sunday, Oct. 28.

Jr High Youth need to be signed up by this Wednesday, October 10, to attend. - contact Linda to sign up - cost is \$43 - checks payable to Lancaster CoB can go in mailbox #9 - please note on the check it is for the Jr High Retreat.

LEAF RAKING

We are asked again to serve the church by helping to rake leaves - **this year we are needed on Nov. 10**. We had an Awesome turnout of families last year! Lets do it again! Add the date on the Calendar.

Oversight Team

Youth Oversight Team meets once a month on the first Tuesday (usually) at 7:30 in the Youth Room. We will be in need of adding a new member in December for a two year term. If you are interested in serving or think of someone who might be if asked, contact Linda or one of the members of the Oversight Team.

Jr High Youth Sunday

Another Youth First. We are adding a Jr High Youth Sunday. This is celebrated sponsored by the denomination each year in November - but it's new to us. **Our Jr High Youth will be sharing in the Morning Psalm Service on Sunday Nov 11 for both the 9:00 service and the 10:15 service.** Watch for upcoming email for more information. We hope ALL Jr High will be there.

Sr High Youth Time

This year beyond Sunday School, Soup & Salads and the occasional district events our Sr. High will be meeting once a month on Sunday after church.

Last year our youth participated in painting bowls for Souper Bowl of Caring - a charitable event we raised over \$1,200 for the Council of Churches Food Bank in Lancaster. The year before was the 30 Hour Famine - again with a goal to raise funds to serve others. Prior to that event there had been a community outreach to educate about human slavery and trafficking. There is value in continuing to instill in our youth ministry program deeper than just to keep youth busy, entertained and involved in raising funds for our own needs. This is the idea behind "Youth Time". We want to be reaching out.

We are looking to serve a community need and seeking a way to have our youth invested in the project. It's one thing to have something planned for you, it's a different investment to be a part

of the planning. Our youth are busy - so this is not intended to become a burden. Just a little time each month to reach a doable goal.

Youth Time consists of three parts: planning to serve, grabbing some lunch together and some activity time.

The planning to serve part is going to take several steps and will happen during each meeting. There is a plan to help our youth discover who they could serve and what they could do to serve. The goal and investment of time will only be as big or as small as the youth are willing to invest but it will need to be reasonable, supportable (as a "Brethren" youth activity or project), and serving

outside of the church body (unless we come up with a REALLY good plan that meets a need that isn't already being met). No doubt this will take support of our families and congregation to reach a goal to serve others. This doesn't even need to be something new. Even a previously used activity is doable. However, it can not compete with Soup and Salad.

The second part is, of course, Lunch. Each youth should bring \$5 for lunch and each time we will plan what we want to eat the next time. (October will be pizza and wings). Planning may spill over into conversations around the table and youth will be expected to help clean up.

The third part is activity. This can be as simple as basketball at the church to heading off to play broom hockey or bowling. The parts 1 and 2 of the event are only expected to be 1 hour long (30 minutes of talking and planning, 30 minutes to eat and cleanup). Activity time will begin at 30 min. but could go longer.

For each Youth Time we will need at least one additional adult to volunteer. That task will include to help at lunch and hanging out for the activity time. Parents helping could divide up (like one to help at lunch and another to go to the activity)

We'll begin at 11:30 - bring clothes to change for the activity part. We start when everyone who signed up for lunch arrives.

Anything new can be more challenging. We hope our families will see the value in encouraging and supporting this new adventure. We have awesome youth who can make a difference.

October Events

Oct 7 - Love Feast 5:00

Oct 10 - Jr High Weds Night Live begins 6:00 ends 7:30

Oct 14 - Sr High Youth Time - 11:30 (pizza and wings)

Oct 17 - Jr High Weds Night Live begins 6:00 ends 7:30

Oct 20 - Sr. High Barn Party

Oct 21 - Jr High CROP Walk Church -Movie "Amish Grace"

Oct 24 - Jr High Weds Night Live begins 6:00 ends 7:30

Oct 26-28 - Jr High District Retreat @ Camp Swatara

Oct 28 - Sr High Soup and Salad meet in the kitchen @ 9:00 Cong. Business Meeting

November Events

Nov 4 - Jr High Sunday school used to practice for Youth Sunday

Nov 10 - Youth Family Leaf Raking

Nov 11 - Jr High Youth Sunday All Church Breakfast
Sr High Youth Time - 11:30

Nov 18 - Sr High Soup and Salad meet in the kitchen @ 9:00