

Youth News

What Did You Do This Summer?

Our summer was exciting. We had youth attending several events. National Junior High Conference in June was held at Elizabethtown College. Several youth traveled to Unionville for Creation Festival. We had a group go to Sharpsburg, Maryland for the 24 hour Global Village experience with Heifer International in July. The Senior High Youth attended a “Week of Hope” in Newark, New York during the last week of July. And in addition to all of this some youth attended Camp Swatara.

Now it’s the time of year to get back to things – more life as usual. The question is – of all of those summer experiences – *what will we bring back?* What will we remember from the worship times, the stories shared, the challenges faced, and the relationships we built? Has our summer experience formed anything new in our hearts? Have these events changed us in any way? Have they impacted the way we think about our lives, about ourselves, or about our faith?

School has begun again.

What is new with you?

Isaiah 43:19 *”I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.”* (God’s voice)

The Photos I Wish I Had

I love taking picture. I remember my first camera was actually a box camera you strapped around your neck and looked down into the view finder. I don’t think I was even 10 years old at the time. I’m quite sure it was rather old when I was using it, a hand-me-down. My next camera I earned by selling greeting cards and gift wrap door to door in my neighborhood. (my sister and I would make and sell pot-holders too – so we already had a good customer base). I think I used that “instamatic” until they didn’t make film cartridges for it any more. Then for college – I had to get my first real camera to I take photography class. It had lenses and settings, F-stop and shutter speeds. I used it until it finally broke and I had to venture into the digital age. I don’t have all of my past camera’s that are so out dated now but, they do have a special place in my heart.

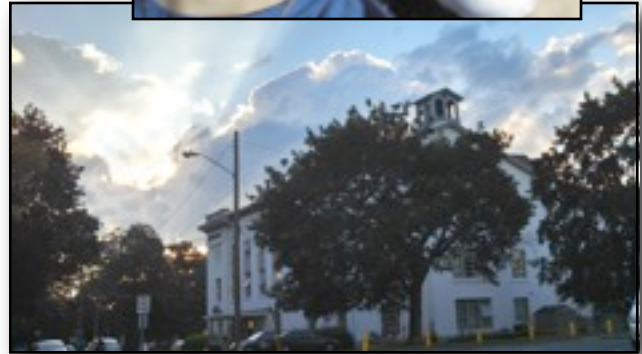
That is why I will miss so deeply my first digital camera, lost this summer during Week of Hope. I was “hoping” someone would return it or that it would have been found near the parking lot where it must have dropped from my back pack – but no. I think God is helping me to let go of some of my worldly possessions. I know there is a lesson in this for me. (that and the lesson: don’t delay in downloading images to the computer)

The unfortunate part of the whole thing is that the camera was filled with photos from this summer’s youth adventures. So there will be only a few images from our trips and travels. I have pulled images from facebook friend pages, the Brethren website and relied on youth and youth leaders who captured a few photos to use here. This will make our bulletin board a bit empty too. Thankfully, Susan Adsitt took dozens of photos from our time at the Global Village – so I won’t miss mine as much.

All of the photos helped to describe a great summer. I had pictures of Ava and Gabby and Andrew up on stage during worship at the NJHC and our group sitting together in the Lefler Chapel. There were some great shots of the Sr High group on our boat cruising down the Erie Canal enjoying some snacks and listening to the tunes on the onboard radio. And the last photo I took of the group on the draw bridge in Fairport, NY from the canal trail. I can still picture them in my mind. Beyond the youth photos, the photos I will miss the most are from the 6 hours in July we got to spend with Mason in Maryland before he returned by bus to Michigan for the next 13 months in BVS. It’s good we have our memories to replay the pictures in our minds.

NJHC in June

Eight Jr High Youth attended the National Junior High Conference at Elizabethtown College - June 14-16 - Ava Bowser, Kaitlyn Heck, Andrew Lines, Giovanni Phillips, Luis Rivera, Edison Rodriguez, Gabby and Odett Rodriguez. Advisers were Edison Rodriguez (the older) and Linda Byers.



Week of Hope

Six Sr High youth traveled to Newark New York for a camp experience through Group Mission Trips. Attending were: Cory Betz, Alex Bookman, Shane Heck, Stephanie Reynolds, Lea Rudl (the great-niece of the Schaudel's) and Sarah Shearer. Advisers were Linda Byers and Ricky Reynolds.



Brief News You Can Use

Messages of Thanks

Thanks to all of those who have volunteered to help in Youth Ministry this summer

Thanks to our Sunday School teachers, Mark Forsha, Renea Snyder, Ben Lattimer and Andrea Keller.

Thanks our advisers who traveled with us this summer: Edison Rodriguez, Susan Adsitt, David Byers, Andrea Keller and Ricky Reynolds.

In addition, thanks to all of those who have responded to the call to become Approved Adults for our Safe Church Initiative.

GO YOUTH - !

Gabby Rodriguez has joined the Field Hockey team this year at Reynolds JH. Sarah Shearer is now the proud owner of a drivers license. The Shearer's are also excited for Joanna, their exchange student from France, who has joined the marching band at Hempfield. Giovanni Phillips is now a member of the Boy Scouts in Ephrata. Cory Betz is currently working at Woodcrest Villa, in the Bluebird Dining room, as a dishwasher. This is Cory's first job. He is also the secretary of the Student Council at Hempfield. If your youth is doing something to cheer about. Let us know. - email Linda

Teacher Needs

Here is an opportunity to grow in your faith along with helping our youth ministry. We are in need of a few approved adults to support our Sunday School program throughout the school year. You will join a team of teachers so you are not committing to every Sunday. Our Jr. High classes will focus this year on our series "Me and Jesus", diving into what we know about Christ already and why should we be interested in following Him. This year the Sr. High hope to make a few field trips to visit other places of worship and learn how Christianity compares to other faiths in our world. We'll need people to go with us on our visits. During the month of October both classes will be studying from the Circle of Grace ministry series. If you have not currently applied to be an Approved Adult, you will need to complete the forms and watch the educationally video to share in this ministry. Please talk to Linda if you are interested.

New Bibles

When youth move from 8th grade into 9th the church wants to encourage finding a Bible translation that will grow with you into adulthood. Anyone in Sr High who does not have a Bible in the version you like – please ask Linda if you are in need of one. We will be again inviting Gene Bucher to our Sr High Sunday School class to share about different translations. Gene hopes to share with us some time in November or December. If you have received a certificate

for a Bible (this year or last year) – remember to check or write down the version you would like and return it to mailbox #9.

Youth Ministry Oversight Team

YMOT works to schedule youth events, evaluates activities and seeks ways to instill opportunities for growth in the faith of our youth. Please join me in welcoming Renea Snyder and Carol Shearer to our team. They will be joining Cathy Betz and Laura Bowser.

Medical Forms

This year our Youth Medical Forms will be collected by **Laura Bowser (mailbox #18)**. ALL YOUTH need to have completed the medical forms to participate in youth activities. They also need to include a parent signature. The forms will be handed out at our Youth Parents Appreciation Dinners and need to be returned ASAP

Youth Events

Please be sure to check your email for updated information.

This News Letter may not include all dates, times, meeting locations or registration instructions for all events.

If you are not receiving youth email contact Linda at:

lancob.youth@comcast.net

You can also reach Linda's cell phone at: 717-368-9471 (text or talk ONLY) to leave a message call the church office or home number 390-2725

Care Cards - !

Get READY - Care Cards are coming to a mailbox near you! Sr. High Youth who attended a Week of Hope this summer plan to begin a NEW ministry to our congregation and to each other. If you want to know what it's all about watch the Youtube video by Ted and Fluffy:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uLKINK4YydE>

The youth hope to share this video during Soup and Salad.

Girl's Getaway Weekend

Plans are currently being considered for a Girl's weekend - Sept 27-29. This will be held for Jr. High and Sr. High girls (and a couple of Mom's) Mark your calendar and let Linda know if you are able to join us. Contact Linda if you have questions. (Guys - we are not leaving you out - we hope to be planning a weekend especially for you in March)

Soup & Salad

Carol Shearer and Renea Snyder will be helping to lead our Soup and Salad events this year. Please add these dates to your calendar.

September 29
October 27
November 24
January 26 (Spaghetti)
February 23
March 23 (with Jr High)
April 27
May 18 (pending)

These events are the ONLY fund raising we do to support our National Youth Conference/Work Camp Fund. ALL Sr High youth who plan to travel with us next summer are expected to participate. Youth families need to supply the deserts for the meal. We need adults to help in the kitchen lead our youth teams and set up tables and chairs.

WELCOME

Eight youth have moved from the Junior High Ministry to our Senior High. Andrew Lines, Andrew Gish, Emil Ramirez, Edison Rodriguez, Odett Rodriguez, Julimar Luciano, Jamilet Villa and Luis Rivera are added to the group.

There are five Jr High youth (and families) we would like to welcome to the youth ministry. Sadie Bowser, Alex Nye, Maria Ramiez, Ronny Tararez and Luke Wenger.

Parent Appreciation Dinners

Sr High Parents will gather

Sunday, September 8 - 5:30.
 Please RSVP by Sept. 3
 Renea Snyder
lrsnyder3@comcast.net or
 call 291-5749

Jr High Parents watch for the invitation in the mail to meet on **Sunday, September 22**

After our meal we'll share information about youth plans and activities including: Circle of Grace Sunday School Lessons, ANE District events and activities, Work Camps, National Youth Conference 2014 (Sr High only)

OutBreak

September 7 at the East Petersburg Community Park from 10 to 8:00. - sponsored by the Hempfield CoB.

September Events

Sept 3 - RSVP for SH Parent Meal
Sept 7 - OutBreak East Petersburg Community Park
Sept 8 - Sr High Parent Dinner at the Byers
Sept 15 - Church Picnic
Sept 22 - Jr High Parent Dinner at the Byers
Sept 29 - Sr High Soup & Salad meet in the kitchen 9:00 AM bring a desert to share

October Events

Oct 5 - Sr High District Barn Party
Oct ? - Sr High - Meet to Eat will be held on a weeknight
Oct 13 - Registration Deadline for the Jr High Retreat Weekend
Oct 25-27- Jr High District Retreat Weekend
Oct 27 - Sr High Soup & Salad meet in the kitchen 9:00 AM