

Youth News

Plans for May 4 Sr. High Youth Sunday

It's seems like a long distance away but our Sr. High National Youth Sunday will be here before we know it. This year we will be serving during the 10:15 Traditional Service on May 4. Often we have used the resource materials and theme inspiration from the Church of the Brethren website. Of course, the theme this year is the same as our **theme for National Youth**

Conference – “Called by Christ – Blessed for the Journey”. The

scripture passage where they have extracted the theme is the writings of Paul in Ephesians 4:1-7 and it reads:

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. ⁷ But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.

To remind us all, this letter to the Ephesians was written by Paul the Apostle to the church in Ephesus where many of the new believers were not from the Jewish faith or culture. (This means they were Gentiles) Paul wanted everyone to know they ALL were included in God's plan and

should continue to live in accordance with the teachings of Jesus. Paul wanted to encourage these new “Christians” that God is speaking to them and through them to reach the world. Each one of us is called to serve and to use our lives as an example of Christ in the world. We each have a call on our lives from the Father.

So now that we know the theme – we need to gather some Sr. High Youth together to share the message of the theme for Youth Sunday. We hope EVERY youth in Sr. High will participate in some role to serve in worship on May 4. It does not matter if you participate in youth

events or if you are going to NYC. If you are a Sr. High Youth YOU are welcome to be a part of this Youth worship service.

We need a team of Youth to help in planning all of the parts of the service. We will need people to read scripture (maybe in a “scripture jam”), we may include a drama or skit, we could use youth with musical talents to play or sing, we need youth to be ushers and youth who will prepare a brief reading about our theme. We have many options. The team will meet a couple of times to iron out the body of the worship service. So we need your thoughts, inspiration and creativity. I will be inviting our senior youth first to be members of the team and then others to join as needed for planning. **Please think about YOUR CALL to be a part of our Youth Sunday Planning Team** and how you would be willing to serve for our worship.



Sr. High Winter Retreat

Yes, it did feel like winter waking up to several inches of snow on Saturday morning at Camp Swatara for the district retreat. Four Youth and two advisors made the trip: Odett Rodriguez, Emil Ramirez, Elliot Ramirez, Edison J. Rodriguez (representing the ANE youth cabinet), Edsion Rodriguez (advisor) and Linda. Our weekend theme was led by Becky Ullum-Naagle – the denominational Youth and Young Adult Leader. Inside Out was the title for the weekend. We had a great band – “Everything Dear” playing for our worship sessions. The sessions revolved around the call of David to become King which comes for the book of First Samuel. The scripture reveals God searched and saw the inside of David’s heart even though he was the youngest (a runt) and not even considered by his family to be worthy to be brought before the prophet. During the last session on Sunday we got to write on one another’s retreat t-shirts what we see on the inside of the other person. Some of the other memorable events besides the worship sessions were the photo scavenger hunt, the “coffee house” concert, the group games like lowering the hula hoop, dodge ball and four square (as usual).



Brief News You Can Use

Messages of Thanks

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

Thanks to Edison Rodriguez (the older) for going as a adviser to the Sr. High Winter Retreat

Thanks to Mark Forsha and Morgan Husted for teaching the Jr High class.

Our team for Spaghetti and Salad: Carol Shearer and Renea Snyder and all of those who helped - Mike Snyder, Terry Shearer, Donna Brubaker, Scott Brubaker, Tim Heck, Michele Shertzer, Sue Lines, and John Lines..

Thanks to Renea Snyder for joining us at Pottery Works.

Soup and Salad Report

In January our team of youth and adults served the annual Spaghetti and Salad dinner. Again this month the crowd trickled in after the service and seemed to linger after the meal, engaged in conversation. The congregation contributed over **\$1,100** . to fund Work Camps and National Youth Conference. Thanks to all of our families for helping out and support with deserts. Thanks also to the Holsinger Family for providing our sause. **February 23** is our next meal event and we will be back to serving Soup and Salad.

The Waters of Baptism

Any youth interested in exploring what it means to join the Christian faith and the church through the act of baptism should contact Linda Byers. Several youth have expressed interest and we will be planning a date to baptize on Palm Sunday, April 13. There are no "classes" to join in but all of those expressing interest will be invited to discuss their thoughts and the meaning of baptism in a couple of personal conversations. There is a packet of information available to share with you to get started on this journey. Please make that contact by March 1.

Basketball Tournament Team

The LCOB Basketball Team wants to rally together to represent! Tim Heck has again volunteered to help lead a team of youth and adults for the ANE District Basketball Tournament. This is not a youth event. It is sponsored by the ANE District for all Brethren churches, all ages and levels of play. The tournament, we are expecting, will be scheduled for the Saturday of Easter weekend in 2014 (April 19). If you are interested in joining the team (youth and adults) please contact Tim Heck or Connor Snyder to learn the practice schedule.

GO YOUTH - !

Gabby Rodriguez - has the honor of being invited to Sano, Japan for an exchange week with the School District of Lancaster

8th grade class. A great accomplishment! (following in the footsteps of her sister Odett)

It was neat to have so many Youth participate in the Christmas Eve Worship service: **Ava Bowser, Sadie Bowser, Alex Nye, Andrew Lines, Luke Wenger Odett Rodriguez and Gabby Rodriguez.**

Jr. High Work Camp Summer 2014

The following youth have completed registration for the Jr. High Work Camp: Ava Bowser, Sadie Bowser and Alex Nye. We are planning to travel to Hooversville PA, June 18-22 and stay at Camp Harmony. The camp will provide us with a way to serve through painting, doing clean-up and fix-up work around the camp.

If you are a Jr High Youth interested in going along to work camp this summer you will need to register online with your parents. Space is limited so please contact Linda ASAP if you are interested.

Sr High Bears Game March 2, 2014

Final Sign up - Feb.5

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

Paint a Bowl to Help Feed Others

There is still time to paint a bowl to help those who are in need. Both Jr. High and Sr. High youth have until February 9 to go to Pottery Works on Orange Street in downtown Lancaster to paint a soup bowl to be sold at our bi-annual auction.

If you have never painted a ceramic bowl before – have no fear, it's easy. There are people at Pottery Works who will help explain what you need to do. Our best advice is to keep your



design simple. Remember these are being painted for others to use and enjoy. You could paint something for a holiday (Easter, Valentine's Day) or an event (like breakfast time or eating ice cream). If you go online and google images of "hand painted ceramics" you may find some extra inspiration. Also consider a scripture theme or symbols of faith. Paint however you are inspired. You could even just paint solid colors. Remember you have the inside and outside of the bowl to design.

Funds raised from the auction will be donated to Lancaster County Council of Churches Food Bank OR Heifer International. Be sure to invite family and friends to attend the bidding action on

February 23. Your artwork (bowls) will be on display at the church beginning February 16.

On the day of the auction **WE WILL NEED JR. HIGH YOUTH to help show the bowls** to the crowd during the auction. If you painted a bowl it would be great to have you there to show it off.



Jr High Lock-in at LVC

Join us February 14-15 and stay up all night long with about 100 other youth and youth leaders to play games, go swimming, watch a movie, or create something crafty. SOUNDS LIKE FUN ! It's the annual District Lock-in at the gym at Lebanon Valley College in Annville, PA.

Registration Deadline: February 11

Contact Linda to register. Parent permission slip is needed + medical form on file. Cost: \$10 per Youth. Write Checks to Lancaster CoB memo: Jr High Lock-in - put them in mailbox #9.

Youth will meet in the church parking lot by the van at 9:00 PM PARENTS - remember we return by 7:00 AM the following morning!

February Events

- Feb 5 - Wed. Night** Youth 6:00
- Feb 9 - Sr High Youth Time**
Meet and Eat with the District Cabinet
ALSO - last day to complete a soup bowl for the auction
- Feb 11 - Jr High** last day to sign up for Lock-in
- Feb 12 - Wed. Night** Youth 6:00
- Feb 14-15 - Jr High** Lock-in at Lebanon Valley College meet at 9:00PM at church
- Feb 19 - Wed. Night** Youth 6:00
- Feb 23 - Sr High** Soup & Salad meet in the kitchen @ 9:00
- BOWL AUCTION**
begins during Soup & Salad
- Feb 26 - Wed. Night** Youth 6:00

Sr High ALL-NIGHTER

BOWLING and more. Another Late Night event for Youth. We'll be starting the event at the Palmyra Bowl at 10:00 PM (we'll be leaving the church at 8:45 to be there on time to get lanes). After a few frames we'll be going to the Mount Wilson Church of the Brethren near Mt. Gretna. It's a fun evening of hanging out and playing games.

Registration Deadline: Mar. 11
Contact Linda to register. Parent permission slip is needed + medical form on file. Cost: \$10 per Youth. Write Checks to Lancaster CoB memo: Jr High Lock-in - put them in mailbox #9.

March Events

- Mar 5 - Wed. Night** Youth 6:00
- Mar 12 - Wed. Night** Youth 6:00
- Mar 14-15 - Sr High All-night**
- Mar 19 - Wed. Night** Youth 6:00
- Mar 23- Sr High & Jr High**
Soup and Salad meet in the kitchen @ 9:00