

DECEMBER



YOUTH OF PEACE NEWS

*by Kristi
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Youth Director*



Christmas Joy and Peace to you! What a special time to be so thankful and celebrate the gift of eternal life we have with our Savior Jesus!! The youth are saving up to send Christmas gifts to the organization named Angel Tree. We hope to make these children's Christmas gatherings brighter. We have so much.....we are blest to be a blessing to others!

The LCMC Youth Encounter in Franklin, TN in July 2012 is going to be an AMAZING event! The purpose of Impact is to:

- proclaim Jesus as Savior and Lord so lives may be transformed
- resource congregations to strengthen their youth ministry
- equip young people to live out their faith in Jesus Christ

This will be done through worship, small groups on life topics, and serving together as they engage in Christian fellowship. Youth will grow deeper in their faith and understanding of the love and plans that our Lord has for them. The youth will also have an opportunity to do a service project with Feed My Starving Children.

We will leave July 4th to see the fireworks at the St. Louis Arch and then travel on to Tennessee the next day. We welcome any parents/sponsors who would like to come along with us. We will be back to Deshler by July 9th. We are asking for a \$50.00 deposit to secure your place by January 15th. The Peace Youth event fund will have \$2500 available to be divided among the kids attending the gathering. This will be a life-changing event for our youth! The web site to see more about Youth Encounter is <http://www.youthencounter.org/Default.aspx?tabid=383>.

I can't even begin to tell you how much fun we are having together at our youth group activities and study nights. In November, we had such a fun time at the prayer partner supper. (Thanks to the adults for their participation.) Silly games make for great laughs!! We talk often about our prayer partners and how important prayer is in our own lives. The Holy Spirit is enabling us to come to Jesus with our heartfelt prayers of thanks and praise. Also in November, Thayer County Health Communities Coalition sponsored treats and the movie showing "To save a life". This movie is about a teenager who was left out, teased and embarrassed. Being frustrated with his mind telling him that nothing would ever change, he tragically committed suicide. As the movie progresses, some kids set up a web site to reach out to other teenagers who are feeling the same way, allowing this young man's life to be remembered. We had some great discussion afterwards. Thanks for saving your Casey's pizza coupons for us. We usually have a big, hungry group on Study Nights and pizza is one of their favorite meals! You can just put them in the Youth box in Marla's office.

Also in November, we received our pool table at the YOP house. Thanks to the memorial money from Floyd Sorge, we were able to have it professionally moved by a company in Lincoln. The kids are having fun playing pool now and we want to thank Brian Isernhagen for all his planning in getting it here!

December is a busy month for activities:

Saturday, December 3: Leave the church at 2:30 to attend the Singing Christmas Tree production in Grand Island. The tickets are compliments of Peace, but I would like the youth to bring money for shopping/supper. We hope to return around 10:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 4: Leave after church to travel to Fairbury to buy Christmas gifts for 2 needy families. Please bring along money to eat out for lunch.

Wednesday, December 7: Study night at the YOP house with supper. We plan to make lots of Christmas cookies! YUM!

Sunday, December 18: Dinner and Christmas caroling after church. This is one of my favorite things to do with the Youth. Seeing the glow on the faces of gift basket recipients is something to be remembered! (NO PEPY Meeting in December)

Wednesday, December 21: Peder Eide Christmas Concert here at Peace at 7:00 p.m. Some of our youth will be helping with ushering. We are expecting a big crowd!

Thursday, December 22: Practice for YOP Christmas Eve service. We've been running through the program in Sunday School, so hopefully it won't take too long to practice.

Saturday, December 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 6:30. Merry Christmas !!! What a great group of kids! To God be the Glory!!

Sundays, December 25 and January 1: NO Sunday School - Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year to all!!!

Wednesday, January 4: 5:30 PM Youth Praise Team / NO Study Night - it will be the 3rd Wednesday of January, the 18th.

Sunday, January 15 - Registration Deposit Due for 2012 Youth Encounter Trip

Your sister in Christ,
Kristi Duensing

I MAY NOT BE A "WISE MAN," BUT AT LEAST I NEVER GOT SO LOST I HAD TO ASK HEROD FOR DIRECTIONS.

