



TRINITY

LUTHERAN CHURCH
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DCE's Report

Voters Meeting 7/15/18

I. Highschool Youth Ministry

A. Sunday Nights

During 2017-18 the high school youth met on Sunday Nights from 5:30-7:30. This time included a portion of fun and games, large group Bible Study, and small group Bible Study. On average we had 8-10 youth on a Sunday Night. We walked through various curriculum ranging from Biblical overviews, current social issues, and a book study on building healthy relationships amongst their peers. We were assisted by various small group leaders.

Once a month we participated in a Love or Share event in lieu of our normal Sunday night study. This was a wonderful way to reinforce the idea that Service and Fellowship are essential parts of the life of a Christian. We sang and decorated cookies with residents from Nottingham nursing home, we bounced around at Skyzone, and we served at the Baton Rouge food pantry. These events were not only fun but taught valuable lessons to the youth.

We will be keeping this same structure as we move forward. We are always looking for additional help with youth ministry and confirmation. If you are interested in helping Contact me as soon as possible.

B. Nashville

Six youth and our 2 DCEs participated in the Southern Districts Annual mission trip. This year we served in Nashville, TN. Over the course of the week we served in various capacities including working at a nursing home, a non profit thrift store, renovating a school, and with the local community byu hosting a Kids Club. We also learned about focusing Onward towards Christ. We learned to broaden our perspectives, ignite our passions, expose new possibilities and inspire worthy pursuits. These were all based around the theme verse of Philippians 1:6.

C. NYG 2019

Preparations have begun for the LCMS National Youth GAttering taking place in July of 2019. We have had a informational meeting and will be having another July 24th at 6:30. The Gathering is in Minneapolis, Mn. This is a highlight point for many youth. This experience is for incoming 8th-12th grade students. Chaperones must be over the age of 25.

II. Confirmation

A. Sunday Nights

During 2017-18 confirmation class met on Sunday Nights from 5:30-7:30. This time included a portion of fun and games, large group Bible Study, and small group Bible Study. We had 25 students in confirmation between 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. We confirmed 9 students at the end of the year.. We walked through The Story teen edition to develop the Biblical foundations that we believe our confirmands need. We were assisted by various small group leaders.



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The program also included mandatory service hours and sermon notes. This helps us in ensuring that even our youth are going through our Praise Love Grow Share discipleship process. We also reworked the final elements of the program to keep with the most current educational methodologies. This involved switching from a public questioning to a personal interview with the confirmand and their parents. This allowed us to get a better picture of where they were in their faith life and a more in depth discussion of theological points. It was a blessing to see how supportive the parents were of their children. We also added additional elements to the testimonials that each confirmand gave in church.

We will be keeping this same structure as we move forward. We look forward to working through the Believe curriculum this year. We are always looking for additional help with youth ministry and confirmation. If you are interested in helping Contact me as soon as possible.

III. **Camp Restore**

A. Closing

As of August 2018 Camp Restore Baton Rouge will no longer be operational. With the disasters in Florida and Texas (Harvey and Irma) a majority of our volunteers chose to go to locations closer to home. We are currently working on a plan for the assets from Camp (including returning the trailers from Orphan Grain Train, setting up disaster trailers for the Southern District, and relocating the bunk beds). We are thankful for the partnership with Camp Restore New Orleans and we give thanks for the over 1200 volunteers who helped us to do 21570 hours of work in our community. This labor serving over 180 families and organizations is valued at over \$500,000!

B. LYAC Participation

Through camp restore we were a major piece of the inaugural year of the LCMS Lutheran Young Adult Corp. We were able to directly work with 3 individuals through the program. One of those individuals, Alex Lillis, is now using the training she received here to help operate Camp Restore Detroit. Our other two participants (Paul Mroczenski and Hayden Duncan) are now back at home preparing for their first year of college. These participants helped not only with camp but also through the church. We at Trinity have been essential at shaping this program for years to come.



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IV. Children's Ministry

A. Sunday Morning

Sunday School took place on Sunday during the 9:30 and 11am services. We are continuing this program starting on August 5th. We will continue to use the Dig In curriculum by Group publishing. This is one of the most popular curriculum for the age group and it allows us to have a strong Sunday school across all age groups. Last year we began each session with a large group time and then broke into smaller groups.

We are evaluating our new space as well as the age divisions for Sunday school. We have implemented a Sunday school registration process to get a better feel for who will be in the program.

B. Take Home SS

The summer take home Sunday school has been a wonderful testament to the idea that faith is developed in the home. We have had almost 20 boxes taken each week. This is an important element in our Sunday school process as it allows us to give our Sunday school teachers a much needed break during the Summer. It also allows us to evaluate our program and make necessary changes. Studies have shown that a stronger faith is developed when the teaching comes from home as well as from church. This Summer program has allowed us to emphasize this important element.