

# St Mark's Lutheran Church Youth Newsletter

## 1. Parents-youth-leaders meeting

Mark your calendar! Confirmation and High School youth, parents and adult leaders meeting will be on October 4<sup>th</sup> in youth Room (Room 214) at 9:30 am. Please come to this meeting! We will discuss important programs, ideas, and questions related to youth ministry of our church

## 2. Chrysalis 2009

### Metro DC Synod event for 9-12<sup>th</sup> graders

December 4-6, 2009

Northern Virginia 4-H Center, Front Royal, VA

The theme this year is OPEN -- opening our eyes, our minds, our hearts, and our hands to brokenness in the world. Important things to keep in mind - - -

-- Registration deadline is October 18!

Registration forms are attached the email message! You can also download from St Mark's Lutheran Church webpage! Click Youth and then check under forms! Or you can get information about the Synod's Youth Ministry programs from <http://metrodc.youthgroupstuff.com>

## 3. METRO DC YOUTH MINISTRY VOCATION EVENTS

**Calling All Confirmation Youth & Leaders!!** Every one of us is baptized and called by God, but then what happens? Confirmation-aged youth and their leaders are invited to join us on Sunday, November 1, 2009 for an afternoon gathering where we will explore Luther's understanding of our baptismal call. There will be a live band, games, fellowship, pizza dinner, an adult breakout session, worship and more! Registration begins at 3:00 p.m. and the event runs from 3:30-6:00 p.m. at Saint Luke Lutheran Church in Silver Spring, MD. The cost is \$15 per youth (adults are free) and the Congregational Registration form and money are due by October 21 (individual registration forms can be turned in at the event.) This will be an excellent addition to any Confirmation program so plan to make it a part of yours! Sponsored by the Synod Vocations Team! Forms will be provided during classes on Sunday. Please to download the form check St Mark's webpage!

**4. The ELCA Youth Ministry Network's Extravaganza** will be held Feb 4-8 in Charlotte, NC (just down the coast!) and the Gathering in the East, a weekend for YM adults in Regions 7 & 8, is scheduled for April 16-18 in Harrisburg, PA (just north of us!).

Information about the ELCA YM Network can be found on their website - [elcaymnet.org](http://elcaymnet.org) - and while you're there, sign up for their email newsletter; information about the GIE will soon be available at

[gatheringintheeast.org](http://gatheringintheeast.org). There have always been Metro DC people at these events - come learn and play with us!

## 5. Jesus, Justice and Jazz Musical Tour in our Area

Musical artists **AGAPE**, **LOST AND FOUND**, and **RACHEL KURTZ** are on tour to help change the world. Join them for a powerful and exciting evening of music, storytelling, and encouragement in your journey of faith prior to the event; the artists are challenging each participant to bring at least \$20 to support **ELCA World Hunger**. These donations will be counted toward the \$1 million goal of the Youth Challenge. [WWW.J3TOUR.COM](http://WWW.J3TOUR.COM)

Where and when:      October 4, at Gettysburg Seminary  
   On Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

## 6. WHAT THE HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH LEARN THIS MONTH

### *“Life Has A Purpose”*

This year we use the new group curriculum called “LIVE” for our senior high youth Sunday school class. This month we focus on the topic-- *“Life Has A Purpose.”*

This five-week small group study will help teenagers understand God's purposes for their lives. The first week (REACH) focuses on helping students understand that we are created in God's image and we have the opportunity to share God's love with the world. Week two (CONNECT) focuses on understanding the basic need that humans have to be connected with others on a deeper level.

Week three (GROW) focuses on the truth that we were created to know God and grow spiritually by spending time with God. Week four (SERVE) focuses on the truth that God's unique design provides us with the privilege to serve others. Week five (HONOR) focuses on the truth that God rested on the seventh day to show us the importance of taking time to stop the busyness and focus on what's important.

## 7. WHAT THE CONFIRMATION CLASS LEARNS THIS YEAR!

Confirmation at St Mark's Lutheran Church is officially a two year program for youth in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. We use *“Here We Stand”* curriculum by Augsburg Fortress which covers Small Catechism, Old Testament, New Testament, and the Lutheran Theology and Doctrine. For those of you who were in the last year confirmation class we studied the Old Testament and the New Testament. This year we will focus on the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, the Sacraments, and the Creeds.

The two year confirmation program at St Mark's alternate between the Luther Catechism and the study of Scripture. It leads youth to an adult affirmation of their baptism on their Confirmation Day.

## 8. Annual Calendar online

Please refer to St Mark's Lutheran Church Youth Ministry Annual Plan is on our webpage. Any change will be communicated in advance.

May God bless our year and use it to enrich our lives! Please remember our youth, parents, and all adult leaders in your prayers!!!

Amsalu T Geleta,  
Associate Pastor