

YOUTH MATTERS

The Spark Workshop on July 22 was well attended by adults & youth!

Firstly - THANK YOU, Brian Schuenke/Signature for the delicious pizzas at lunch!

I was pleased to see such the turnout of people interested in growing our youth ministry. Pr. Matt Behrens of **Spark** led us in determining what challenges we face, and what we want to happen. He pointed out the differences between how we perceive Youth Group and how Youth Ministry works.

Youth Group features peer relationships, revolves around common interests and is limited to the times/places the group meets. Adults are involved as teachers or chaperones, the group creates events for youth to participate in, and it emphasizes how many show up.

Youth Ministry develops discipling relationships, finds individual interests, and involves itself in a youth's whole life. Involved adults serve as mentors and advocates, the ministry enters the youth's life, and it emphasizes who shows up.

We cannot create disciples out of youth, but we can create contexts for discipleship to occur. These contexts take place at 5 levels:

1. National/Global - National Youth Gathering, World Missions, etc.
2. Regional/State/District - Camp Omega, County or City groups, etc
3. Congregational - Youth Ministry
4. Family - prayer and devotions in the home
5. Individual - youth's personal prayer and devotion time

We identified many things we could implement at all of these levels. Since many people had to leave at noon, we just picked three, and then were divided into groups to develop strategies to accomplish them.

One group is undertaking Missions. Another is planning an event to encourage questions and new ideas. The third is starting a Sunday morning time for parents to discuss topics related raising teens. All very exciting stuff!

If you were only able to attend the morning session, **please pick up a Spark Evaluation** and Feedback form on the booth in the narthex; fill it out and turn in to Pr. Rieger. This helps Pr. Behrens improve his presentations.

Needed: someone to **take pictures at Vacation Bible School, August 5-9, 6-8:00 pm.** Yes, you can use your phone. Call Nancy Simonson.



Whooo-oo is going . . .

to the Nat'l Youth Gathering next summer in Mpls???

I have not heard from anyone planning to go, and I am hoping that is just because everyone is busy with summer stuff. (This year's 8th graders & up can go.) If you don't know what it is, google "LCMS National Youth Gathering" on YouTube. Watch videos of amazing activities. Please give it some serious thought and prayer. It is truly an awesome experience. I guarantee, you will not be sorry if you go. As an added incentive, I will get a tattoo if only 6 Trinity youth go! (I already have it picked out.) Watch the announcements for date and time of an organizational meeting after school starts to begin planning this "mountain-top" experience. Registration opens in October.

Thanks to Betty Gutknecht, the \$\$\$ collected for the recycled pop cans will now go to the Youth fund. Be sure to bring your empty pop cans to the west parking lot and put them in the black "box."



We're moo-ooving! The **Youth Room** is now going to be back to the south end of the nursery. We will need to move some furniture (I got a new set at the rummage sale!) this month. I plan to text some of the guys and their dads for a moving party. Afterwards . . . pizza & pop for all who help!

How to Avoid Money Problems - Tip #2

(Remember Tip #1? *GIVE 10% back to God.*) Tip #2 is **SAVE**. Pay yourself 10%. This is \$\$ you are **NEVER** going to spend; it's for retirement. You laugh, but starting to save now can make a difference in when and how comfortably you retire--100s of thousands of \$\$\$ more than even if you start saving in 10 years! Put it in an account that you will not touch; before you know it, you'll have enough to invest.



Contact: Kristin Sellentine

Home: 334-0249

Cell: 612-229-0249

Email: youthmatters@trinityfaribo.org