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Children, Youth and Family Ministry News

November 2011

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Dear Friends,

The Colleges and Campus Ministries of the Church live in a close partnership with the youth ministries in our congregation. They can use their amazing resources to offer great events for youth for example:

- The Lutheran Student Center at UNI offers "High School LaVida" nights at their coffee house.
- The Lutheran Student Center teams up with the Synod LYO to offer the Middle School Lock-in, which this year included an emphasis on the ELCA Malaria Campaign.
- Wartburg College is hosting the JUNIOR HIGH Event - Blessed to be a Blessing- Saturday, Nov. 5, 2011 which will include activities related to the ELCA Malaria Campaign.
- Luther College is offering Church Youth Fest November 12 which includes an emphasis on the ELCA Malaria Campaign and ELCA Disaster Response.

The congregation's youth ministry can reciprocate by participating in these events, inviting representatives from these ministries to meet with youth, and to generally speak often of the colleges of the church and of Lutheran Campus Ministry at our State Schools. By supporting each other we support the church and its mission.

Keep in Touch,
Pastor Mark

Senior High Stewardship Event

Saturday, Nov. 26, 2011

Upcoming Events

Nov 12 Church Youth Fest and Peter Mayer Concert
Luther College, Decorah

Nov 26 High School LYO Event
Mason City, Iowa

2012

Feb 9-12 ELCA Youth Ministry Network Extravaganza
New Orleans, LA

Feb 18 High School LYO Event
Dubuque, Iowa

Feb 26 High School LaVida
Lutheran Student Center, Cedar Falls

March 18 Safeguarding God's Children Workshop
Zion, West Union

March 31 High School LYO Event
Cedar Falls, Iowa

July 18-22 ELCA Youth

Our Saviour's Lutheran, Mason City

With the theme, "God's Work, Our Hands," this day-long gathering will kick off with games, followed by the video "God's Pie" and presentations focusing on what stewardship means and how to improve stewardship.

The event runs from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Registration fee is \$5 per student with lunch and refreshments included. Adult leaders may attend at no cost. To register by the Nov. 19 deadline, email synod office or call 319-352-1414.

High School LaVida

High School LaVida: Game Night
Sunday, December 4, 7-9pm
Lutheran Student Center in Cedar Falls

This is a great chance for high school students to connect with other ones, to experience a little piece of campus ministry and start making connections there and a low price, off-site pre-planned excursion for your senior high group! Contact Chris Tripolino (lscuni@cfu.net) for posters, handouts, etc. Here's the agenda:

7pm - Chill out time (get some snacks and get ready!)
7:15 - GAMES, round 1 (Board games, card games or whatever)
7:45 - Giveaway and a quick blurb about the LSC
7:50 - GAMES, round 2
8:30 - Chill time again. Get a tour of the LSC if you want, play some more games, or whatever!!

Benefit Concert

The House Band for the 2012 ELCA Youth Gathering
The Peter Mayer Group Benefit Concert
Saturday, November 12, 2011
7:00-9:00pm
Luther College Center for Faith and Life
All proceeds go to the ELCA Malaria Campaign & the ELCA Disaster Response
\$15.00 general admission
\$12.00 for a group of 8 or more

Book Review

Perry, Alex. Lifeblood: How to Change the World One Dead

Gathering
New Orleans, LA

2013

Jan 24-28 ELCA Youth
Ministry Network
Extravaganza
Anaheim, CA

ANCESTORS OF OUR FAITH

Be sure to check out the
latest release from
re:form!

Start your journey
through the Bible with
re:form Ancestors Old
Testament. In each of
the fifteen sessions,
youth explore the
similarities between
themselves and the
many unlikely people
selected by God to do
extraordinary things.

Check out the [website](#)
for more information!

Mosquito at a Time. New York: Public Affairs, 2011.

Alex Perry is a journalist who shadowed philanthropist Ray Chambers, a Wall Street wizard who accumulated a vast fortune and then sought the most effective way to give it away. Chambers made his fortune as the former Chairman of Wesray Capital Corporation, a private equity holding company. As Chambers studied global poverty he discovered that Malaria is often the cause of sickness, which lowers family income as well as national productivity including agricultural production. Worse yet, while malaria breeds poverty, poverty boosts malaria (p.17). Chambers invested a large portion of his own resources in the fight against malaria and then sought to leverage his contribution by inviting his financial peers to also contribute and by inviting his close friend, President Bush, to take up the cause. There is even a mention of his meeting with "leaders of a Lutheran denomination in the US that maintained a wide missionary network on the continent and had also decided to raise funds for malaria" (p.90). Through his efforts Chambers could clearly demonstrate that the use of nets, pesticide, and medication could dramatically reduce the instances of malaria and turn devastated communities into vibrant economic centers. For this Chambers was named the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Malaria.

The book is very affirming of the possibility of eradicating malaria from the globe in the next few years. The author, Alex Perry, also makes a strong case for the involvement of big business in the fight against malaria as this disease cuts deep into corporate profits. However, Perry is very critical NGO Aid groups and charities as being too inefficient and not entrepreneurial enough. His admiration for the business community gives him amnesia on the history of corporate greed and its effects on the developing nations. He is also blind to the inefficiencies and stagnation of even the most capitalistic of enterprises. In my opinion, this would have been a much more useful book had Perry spent more time on malaria and less time with a political axe to grind.

Mark Anderson
Northeastern Iowa Synod, ELCA