



Youth GROUP News



<http://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://epfmc.com/>

Winter Activities:

- Youth Bible Study each Sunday at 9:15 in the youth room at St. James School
- Wednesday night Teen Fun Night. The second & fourth Wednesdays of the month. 6:30-8:30 pm @ St. James School. **We will not meet December 28th**
- Wednesday, December 14th: Attend the Cantata Service as part of Youth Fun Night
- Thursday, December 29th: Youth Christmas Party. St. James School, 4-10 p.m.
- Friday, January 27th– Saturday January 28th: [un]Paved ministries Jr/ Sr High LCMS youth gathering at Mayer Lutheran High
- Sunday, February 19th: Snow Fun Day behind St. James School
- Wednesday, February 22nd: Ash Wednesday, start of Soup Suppers, 5:00-6:30 pm
- Saturday, March 10: Tubing @ Powder Ridge
- Check the Youth bulletin board @ church & weekly bulletins for other planned winter activities.

St. James Church, Howard Lake, Minnesota

Let it snow, Let it snow, Let it snow

In these months of winter we will most likely be experiencing a fair amount of snow. There are a lot of fun things a person can do in the snow. A few of these we will be doing together as a youth group. We will be making snow sculptures, we will go snow tubing and enjoy a number of various activities. But snow is more than just something to play in.

Snow can remind us of how we are made clean through Christ Jesus. In Psalm 51:7 it says: "Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow." Je-

sus was born to deliver us from sin. Through faith Christ forgives us and we are made clean. Our sin is removed and we are made holy in the sight of God. Whatever sins you have committed, whatever things fill you with guilt are all forgiven when Jesus covers you with His grace just as a fresh snow covers all the dirt and makes everything look clean again.

Jesus was born into this world for this reason. He suffered and died upon the cross for you. Jesus rose from the dead so that you

may be forgiven and spend eternity with Him in heaven. Confess your sin to Jesus, believe in Him, and be assured that when God forgives you, you will be whiter than snow.

This winter each time it snows or you see that pure white stuff out on the ground let it serve as a reminder that God grants to you His Divine forgiveness through faith in Jesus.

Pastor Schoenfeld



Prayer suggestions to include in your daily prayers:

- Ask that God would be with all of our families and friends in Christ, as well as those who do not know Him, that we may honor Him this holiday season and remember the true meaning of CHRISTmas.
- Ask that God would give His Holy Spirit to your friends, (pray for them by name) so that they may follow Jesus in regular worship, youth group, and daily in faith and life.
- Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will direct your paths.

***PLEASE SHOW THIS NEWSLETTER TO YOUR PARENTS SO THEY CAN STAY INFORMED AS WELL.**

WEDNESDAY NIGHT TEEN FUN NIGHT

Join us on the second and fourth Wednesday nights each month for our Teen Fun Nights! This new part of our youth program has been off to a great start! We look forward to expanding our activities and we encourage you to invite your 7th-12th grade friends. Both members and non-members of St. James are welcome.

Come to St. James School at 6:30 pm for a light meal, followed by devotions and discussion, then enjoy some time for fun and games until 8:30 pm. A special thank you goes out to our volunteers, Viann and Connie, who have been serving our meals. If you know someone who would like to help them, please contact Viann.

Andy and Suzie Koosman are your leaders, and they have been working with your other youth leaders, Lila and Jeff, to plan some fun winter activities! Please note that on December 14th, we will attend the Cantata service at 7:00 pm after our meal, then return to school for some social fun. Also, we will NOT meet on December 28th. Instead, plan to attend the Christmas party on Thursday, December 29th.



Teen Fun Night: Find your "Animal Pair"



Mark Your Calendars...



SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

We will meet each Sunday at 9:15 in the youth room at St. James School. There will be an assortment of topics studied. Pastor Schoenfeld, in cooperation with others, will lead many of these studies and will strive to make them meaningful and fun for you.

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY



Join us Thursday, December 29th from 4-10 pm for our youth Christmas party! Bring a \$5 gift to exchange, as well as a White Elephant gift. Also bring a snack or dessert to share and your own pop. A small meal will be provided. This party will be hosted by all of our youth leaders in the St. James School gym.

FUN IN THE SNOW!

Plans are in the works for a FUN afternoon in the SNOW behind St. James School on Sunday, February 19th at 2:00 pm. Save the date and watch for more details to come.

Also, mark your calendar for March 10th. Weather permitting, we will go tubing at Powder Ridge.

LCMS REGIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

Mayer Lutheran High is hosting a regional youth gathering for all Jr/Sr high youth. It is Fri, January 27th- Sat January 28th and led by [un]Paved ministries. This regional Junior & Senior High LCMS youth gathering is high energy with praise music, speakers, Bible study, and discussion focused on equipping youth to imitate Christ.

You will not only grow in your relationship with Jesus, but you will also go and live out what you were just taught. On Saturday afternoon, you will be out in the community serving others in the name of Jesus.

For more information, visit www.unpavedministries.com. If you are interested in attending, our youth program will pay 1/2 of your registration fee. See Lila or Suzie for more information.



YOUTH LEADERS

Lila Drusch

320-543-2974

Jeff Diers

320-543-2242 (H)

or

320-510-1407 (C)

Suzie Koosman

612-978-4428

Andy Koosman

763-587-5242

Pastor Schoenfeld

320-543-2766

*Permission Slips and this newsletter are available on the church website:

<http://www.stjameshl.org/church>

Sunday Morning Coffee Schedule



Our Youth Group members take turns providing juice and treats each Sunday morning in back of the church for the congregation. Donations received go toward our youth activities.

Dec 4: Ben, Jenna, Mason	Jan 22: Cole, Brennan
Dec 11: Peter, Amber, Christopher	Jan 29: Marissa, Madyson, Emma
Dec 18: Sam, Max, Spencer	Feb 5: Cord, Angela, Danielle
Dec 25: Loren, Megan, Kayla	Feb 12: Ben, Jenna, Mason
Jan 1: Bethany, Austin, Ethan	Feb 19: Peter, Amber, Christopher
Jan 8: Rebekah, Joanna	Feb 26: Sam, Max, Spencer
Jan 15: Nathan, Kaitlyn	

THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

The colors of Christmas are red and green. The **RED** points to the blood Jesus shed for us. The **GREEN** of the tree tells us of the eternal life that He gives us by faith. The **TIP** of the Christmas tree is like a finger pointing to our heavenly home. On some kinds of trees, the tip of each **BRANCH** forms a little cross. The **LIGHTS** remind us that Jesus is the light of the world and that He has called us out of the darkness of sin into the light of salvation. The **ENDLESS CIRCLE** of the holiday wreath describes the eternal life we have in Christ. The **HOLLY**, with its sharp-edged leaves and red berries, reminds us of Jesus' crown of thorns and the blood he shed to save us. The exchanging of **GIFTS** tells us of Jesus, God's gift to us. Through him we have the gifts of forgiveness of sins, peace, life, and eternal salvation.



Cut here and return this to church or the Youth room

LENT SOUP SUPPERS

Our Youth Group will serve the soup suppers during Lent (starting Feb 22). You will be asked to bring a dessert at least one of the weeks.

YOUTH LEADERS

Lila Drusch
320-543-2974

Jeff Diers
320-543-2242 (H)
or
320-510-1407 (C)

Suzie Koosman
612-978-4428

Andy Koosman
763-587-5242

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*Pastor Schoenfeld*  
320-543-2766

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NEW
*Permission Slips are available on the church website:
<http://www.stjameshl.org/church>

WHO KNOWS?

Why are there interstate highways in Hawaii?

How does the guy who drives the snowplow get to work in the mornings?

If nothing ever sticks to TEFLON, how do they make TEFLON stick to the pan?

Why do we drive on parkways and park on driveways?

Why is it that when you transport something by car, it's called a shipment, but when you transport something by ship, it's called cargo?

Contact Information

We would like to keep you informed about our Youth Group activities. Please fill this out & return it to the church or the youth leaders.

Name _____ Current grade _____ School you attend _____

Parents' Names _____

Cell Phone # _____ (Do you use texting?) yes ___ no ___ (Unlimited texting?) yes ___ no ___

Home Phone # _____ Email address _____

Would you consider using Facebook to receive information for our Youth Group? yes ___ no ___

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____