

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12: 1 & 2

## To facilitate growth in commitment to Christ and in connection to people through the church

This newsletter has general information for the whole year. I want you to know about some of the plans we already have and what we're working on for all of the 2010/2011 school year. Hopefully, it will help you make your personal plans and let you know what dates to save. And yes, some things might change, or we might do different stuff. This is just an outline of possibilities with a request for help when needed.

### Stuff from Me.

#### **Keep your focus on Jesus!**

The book of Luke (which you read in July) tells the story of Jesus' life. The book of Acts (which you finish this month) tells about what happened to the disciples as they began spreading the story of Jesus. The early chapters deal with the church in Jerusalem; later chapters focus on Paul's trips to other cities. During & after these trips, Paul wrote letters to the churches he started. Because he had had to leave Thessalonica in a hurry due to threats on his life (Acts 17), he wrote I & II Thessalonians. In the first letter he was encouraging the new Christians and defining the new way they were to live. Then, apparently, some of the new believers became worried that they missed Christ's second coming, so Paul wrote the second letter to dispel that notion and to give more life instructions.

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### Some General Stuff

- You are an important part of the worshipping community here at Emmaus. Please remember to sign up to help as greeters, acolytes, lectors, ushers & communion assistants.
- Choir starts in September. Consider singing this year, giving whatever time you have.
- Remember to list any activities you do to combat hunger. The BREAD BOWL ends at the Civil War in November.
- Ask your friends to join us for any activities here at Emmaus. They are always welcome.

### Some New Stuff

Want to help run a lemonade stand? How about selling lemonade on Wednesdays from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. during August & September when Winter Green Farms is has their produce stand. We'll have people here and it might help Winter Green sell more too. Let me know if you can or want to help. We'll start when, and if, I get enough volunteers.

### Middle School Stuff

#### **CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

Classes begin Wednesday, Sept. 15 and continue weekly with breaks for vacations

- Classes include opportunities for service and fellowship
- Continue to partner with Our Redeemer
- Halloween Mini Carnival; Oct. 27
- Confirmation Sunday: October 31
- NEEDS: 1-Small group guides; 2-Drivers for special events; 3-Help with the Carnival

#### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

- Possibly, Middle School Recharge at Camp Lutherwood, Oct. 1, 2, 3
- 30 Hour Famine in February
- OLYO Middle School Rally; March 5, 6 hosted here at Emmaus
- Possibly, Guys Only & Just Girls Retreats at Lutherwood in April
- NEEDS: 1-Adults to coordinate food preparation & service for the Rally; 2-Adults to serve 3 meals at Rally; 3-drivers for out of town meetings

#### **LOCKINS**

- Held tentatively in September, December, February, April, & June
- NEEDS: 1-Adults to chaperone; 2-Ideas for activities; 3-lots more friends to come

#### **OTHER STUFF**

- We continue our involvement with OLYO (Oregon Lutheran Youth Organization)
- We'll explore ways we can connect with other Lutheran middle school youth

## High School Stuff

### PHUNDAY NITE

- Sunday nights, Sept. 12 to May 29 (with possible breaks for vacations and other conflicts)
- An opportunity for high school students to get together
- Project for the beginning of the year is to paint the youth room
- Events include a movie night, game nights and other assorted activities
- NEEDS: 1-adults to provide meals; 2-coordinate meals; 3-attend regularly

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

- Classes taught as 'modules'. In other words someone will teach a class for a short period of time, followed by a new teacher.
- Each month the teachers will be listed in this newsletter.
- NEEDS: 1-teachers; 2-your suggestions for topics

### SPECIAL EVENTS

- Possibly, High School Recharge at Camp Lutherwood, Sept. 24, 25, 26
- Living Faithfully: October 8, 9 at Milwaukie Lutheran
- Fall Gathering: Nov. 12, 13, 14 at Canby Grove Retreat Center
- 30 Hour Famine in February
- End of the year lock-in: May
- NEEDS: 1-people to help plan events; 2-drivers for out of town meeting

### SUMMER MISSION TRIP

- Possible destinations: Mexico with Lutheran Border Services, Western States Gathering in Thousand Oaks, Ca, or Brooklyn, New York with YouthWorks
- We could possibly go to Mexico during Spring Break or with United Lutheran
- Dates for Western States are July 1-5, but we could explore going a little earlier or staying a little longer
- We can chose almost any week in the summer for working with YouthWorks in Brooklyn and then stay a little longer to explore New York City
- NEEDS: 1-Your commitment to go (all three of these possibilities require a non-refundable deposit; 2-a willingness to work on fundraising events; 3-ideas for new fund raising opportunities; 4-adults willing to serve as advisors on the trip

### OTHER STUFF

- We continue our involvement with OLYO (Oregon Lutheran Youth Organization)
- We'll explore ways we can connect with other Lutheran churches and high school youth



### A Little More Stuff About Summer Mission Trips

- Open to this year's eighth graders through this year's seniors
- Asks for a commitment to attend church and Sunday School
- Asks for a monetary commitment from your family
- Asks for participation in fundraising activities

The Mission Trip usually lasts seven to ten days. We need to learn to get along with one another so worshipping and working together during the year helps us prepare for the trip. The total trip, including transportation, food, and fun activities, can cost from \$750 (2010) to \$1500 (2009) for each person. That means that we raise funds to cover the difference from what you personally pay (\$100 in 2010 and \$350 in 2009) and the total cost of the trip.