



THE F.I.S.H.

FELLOWSHIP IN SERVICE TO HIM



SUMMER FUN UNDER THE SON

Hosted once again at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Lakeland, youth groups from across the region, Tampa to Orlando, gathered together to kick off the summer with a *Saturday of Fun Under the S-O-N*. Because there is no better fun than under The Son!

Our day was packed with events, ice breakers and team building to help these youth get to know their fellow brothers and sisters in Christ from different congregations. From egg spoon relays to the pie eating contest these youth were able to make new friends and reconnect with some they meet at last year's Summer Fun Under the Son last year in July. (FYI the pie eating contest...Pastor Shea took home the title once again, lol).



#UnderTheSON

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Flood Bucket Challenge



2018 HEARTS FOR JESUS PROJECT
FLGA DISTRICT

the youth just how our district and synod responds when disaster strikes. In 2017 we witnessed how devastating Hurricanes Harvey and Irma were in TX, FL and other parts of the

T-shirts and sharpies were given out to each youth and we had a contest to see who could receive the most signatures and positive notes on their shirt before the event was over. Top 2 winners received their choice of Chick-Fil-A or Apple iTunes gift card.

What really made the event extra special was the servant event. We had Jon Elliot—from our very own FLGA District and apart of LCMS Disaster Response—came and showed



world...and still are to-day. So in 2018 at Summer Fun Under the Son we put together flood buckets!

Thus, on Saturday, June 2 using the funds raised by FLGA schools for the District's *Hearts for Jesus* program the youth put together 330 flood buckets to help those who endure such disasters. This year at Summer Fun Under the SON we put our hearts for Jesus forward to love and help our neighbors.

All of these flood buckets are stored at Hope and with this 330 that brings us nearly to 1000 flood buckets in storage. Next time disaster strikes they will be sent across the country as part of the LCMS Disaster Response action plan to those in need. Last year alone thousands of flood buckets were sent to people and congregations effected by Hurricane Irma and Harvey. :)

DAD'S ROOT BEER

In honor of our Heavenly Father and our earthly fathers Hope's Youth gave out a nice cool refreshment made especially for dads... It's called Dad's Root Beer.

After Service dad's of all ages were gifted with this beverage as a blessing and thank you for all they do.

From working a job, working lawn, and working to raise up their child/children, we appreciate God's Gift of Dads. So Hope's Youth gave a message to all fathers, especially God, our Father: "Have a Blessed Fathers' Day!"



KIDS BAGS

The United Food Bank of Plant City does a tremendous job providing a hand up to families struggling to provide even 3 square meals on the table a day. During the school year children are blessed to receive free or reduced breakfast and lunch through National School Lunch Program. However, when Summer break rolls around, these children are not in school and so don't have the same access free and reduced lunches. So while many gleefully toward summer break, some children even within our own community and classrooms go into summer with food insecurities. Many of these children are at risk of receiving only 1 meal a during the summer break as all their families struggle to provide for the necessities in life.

One way the UFBPC is giving a hand up to such families and children is through the Kids Bag Program. "The Kids Pack Program fills the nutrition gap during the summer by serving meals to children 18 years and younger so they can return to school healthy, happy and ready to learn." Therefore, once again this Summer Hope's youth volunteer at the UFBPC to help put together these bags, to be the very hands of Jesus reaching out to feed the hungry in our community. We continue to pray for when the UFBPC is no longer needed as every home and household is able to provide for their family. Until then Hope and Hope's Youth will continue to volunteer, will continue to give a hand up to those in our community, especially the children in our community.



"Truly, I say to you, whatever you did to one of the least of these...you did for Me!" (Matthew 25:40)

INREDIBLES 2

Our summer was so incredible, we just had to see the movie Incredibles 2. The first Incredibles came out before some of our youth were even born, however, this highly anticipated movie and the 14 it took for the sequel finally came to fruition. And movie was....I just have to say it...incredible! ;)

Before the movie we went to Way Back Burger to grab some grub before we wait in line to enter the movie theater here in Plant City, Premier Cinema 8. To help get us through the wait we loaded up on snacks that we nearly finished even before entering the theater, *haha*. When we finally enter we took up a whole row to ourselves. It was great! So we just kicked back that Friday afternoon and enjoyed one film. :)





*“This is the day the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it!” (Psalm 118:24)*

FAMILY FUN CENTER

To gear up and get us excited for Vacation Bible School we went to Family Fun Center. This time we were blessed to have no thunderstorms keep us away from mini-golf. I won't tell you our scores...let's just say that if we were bowling our scores would make us champions.

Inside Family fun center was just as extreme with Laser tag. We had epic battles of *blue team vs. red team* and a *free-for-all* in which alliances were formed and once again a youth pastor was left to fend for himself while relentlessly bombarded by youth.

At the arcade games our youth dominated. We were racking up tickets left and right and by the end of it we had collected thousands of tickets. What did we do with all those tickets. Yes we bought many things we only played with till the end of that





Tuesday or even the week. But we also spent thousands of tickets purchasing inflatable battle axes to be used as VBS props. We arrived full of energy and left with zero-energy but we left with inflatable battle axes and smile on our faces!

We took our smiling face right over to Chick-Fil-A to fuel our bodies with their delicious food and because July 10 was “Cow Appreciation Day” at Chick-Fil-A. Thus, wearing cow apparel of any kind would earn you some free food like a chick-fil-a sandwich or, my favorite, the chick-fil-a nuggets. After filling up at Chick-Fil-A we had hankering for something cold and sweet so we made our way to Gelati Joe’s in Lakeland. All the mixtures of Italian ice and soft serve ice cream...really satisfied our sweet tooth. Afterwards we headed back to Plant City in order to go home and rest after such an exciting and eventful day.



WORD FROM MARTIN LUTHER

Have you ever wondered what Martin Luther has to say about things like school, studies, and education...? Well here are 3 quotes Reformation leader to encourage you in your school, studies and education this year.

Luther says...

[1] “That when schools flourish, all flourish.”

[2] “Every book is a great action and every great action is a book.”

[3] “If you want to change the world, pick up your pen and write.”

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS is always such a special and important mission opportunity for our church. An opportunity to connect children in our community Jesus. And this year was extra special as we had more participants than usual with students from the “Lots of Hugs” summer reading program, which was hosted on our campus this past summer.

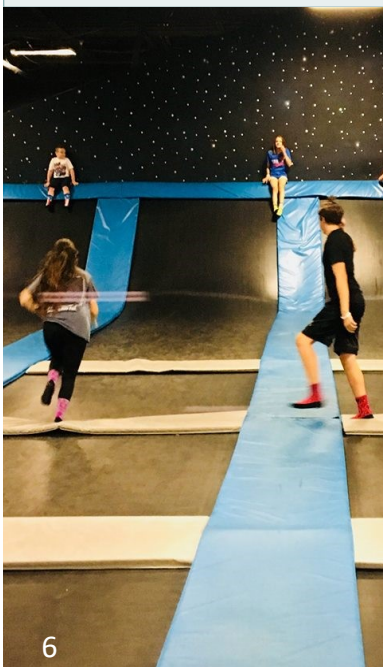
As with each year Hope’s Youth step up to volunteer and help lead these groups around to their stations, engaging with them in the bible stories, activities and games to help these children have fun and get connected to Jesus while at VBS.

This year VBS was *Babylon: Daniel’s Courage in Captivity*. Oh how exciting and fun VBS was with the celebration station, Tribe time, palace playground,

BUTTER BRAID

Make sure to give a big, "THANK YOU!" to everyone who's graciously supported us through our Butter Braids Fundraiser. Because their contributions help us have another record breaking year—raising \$1,297. Funds to help us attend the LCMS 2019 National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis.

Orders come in Wednesday, September 5 so Youth, please, come by the Church Wednesday before or after the 6:30 PM Living Hope Service to pick up your Butter Braid or Sunday, September 9 so that you can begin distributing these delicious treats to our blessed supporters.



all those marketplace shops and last and greatest of all, Daniel's Adventures. Listening to incredible adventures of Daniel and his friends. Like Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego who wouldn't bow down and worship a false God and were thus thrown into fiery furnace. Yet, God in his loving care delivered them so that not a hair on their arm, nor even up their nose was singed. We heard about Daniel adventure in the lion's den. How God protected Daniel when he was trapped in that pit of hungry lions because he wouldn't bow and worship

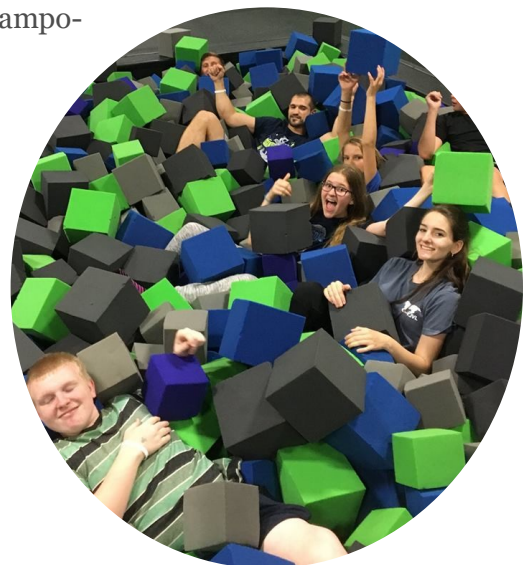


those idols of Babylon. The message of VBS was about the loving God who is with through it all. When things change, when we need help, when we are afraid, or lonely or thankful—God is with us. That's a message that these children needed to hear and our Youth help deliver that message to them.



2 INFINITY

Hope's Youth worked so hard at VBS this summer we just had to treat them to something. So the Youth Team treated with some fun at 2Infinity in Lakeland. At this warehouse of trampolines, climbing walls, foam pits we spent a whole hour jumping for joy! They even had trampoline basketball and rope swings. Seriously, 2 Infinity look like a training ground for Ninja Warrior...so I guess we need to start training our youth for the competition, lol. All in all this was super fun event that we will certainly be doing again! :)





BEACH DAY

This year to close out the summer and kick off the new school year Hope's Youth traveled to the white sandy beach of Clearwater for a day of fun in the sun. Thankfully, the Lord blessed us with great weather and no thunderstorms where we were at that morning and afternoon. Nothing but clear skies and cool water and bright sun. The Lord also blessed us moving the red tide south away from Clearwater beach.



In that soft white sand and under a bright sun Hope's youth made a sand mermaid after burring one of our own under the sand. And when she tried to get out of the sand; it was hilarious. She struggled and wrestled

and it took nearly 20 minutes for her to wiggle her way out of the sand....we were all rolling over laughing. One of the youth even caught part of it on camera of her wiggling her way out.

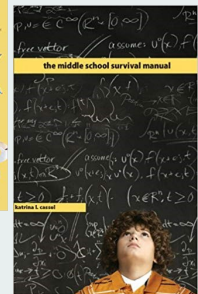
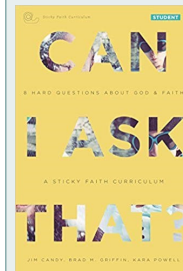
After send hours in water and hot sun we decided to continue our fun on land and check out the local shops, and of course, did a little shopping. We just had to pick up some souvenirs.

When we passed by this little ice cream parlor we just had to try...and it was delicious. Finally, before heading back we made a quick stop to Starbucks for some coffee and then Chick-Fil-A for some dinner. :)



FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL

Starting September 30 Youth Sunday School will be divided between Middle School and High School Classes. Mrs. Liz Pfeffer will be leading High School Sunday School, meeting in Stephen's Ministry Room. Pastor Shea will be leading the Middle School Class in Youth Room.



High School:

"Ever had a question about God that you were scared to ask? Ever feel like "I can't ask that at church?!" Well this fall we are going to dive into Can I Ask That: 8 Hard questions about God & Faith and wrestle through some tough questions like, "Can I be a Christian and believe in evolution? What does the bible say about being gay?"

Middle School:

"Entering the world of middle school is scary and exciting. But with a little help from a book called The Middle School Survival Manual, it doesn't have to be overwhelming. The Lord Your God is with you wherever you go (Joshua 1:9). With this manual learn to: Give grades a boost, Make testing as easy as 1, 2, 3, Live your faith at school, and lots more!"

FISH T.A.L.E

Reeling you in with all the happenings of Hope's Youth. Dedicated to encouraging, equipping and casting our youth out into mission field *prepared to share their HOPE* within (1 Peter 3:15), in order to catch people with the gospel. *To Connect People To Jesus!*



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[Hope's YOUTH](#)



YOUTH CALENDER

September:

- (9/5, Wednesday) Youth Group 6:30 – 8:00 PM
Creating "Empty Bowls" with Mrs. Becky (Part 1)
(9/7, Friday) **ROCK THE UNIVERSE** 5:00PM to 1:00 AM
(9/9, Sunday) *Begin Gift Card Tree Fundraiser*
(Saturday, 9/15) Confirmation 10:00 to Noon
(9/12, Wednesday) Youth Group 6:30 – 8:00 PM
Creating "Empty Bowls" with Mrs. Becky (Part 2)
(9/19, Wednesday) *Youth Led-Service* @ Hope 6:30-7:30PM
(9/26, Wednesday) Youth Group 6:30 – 8:00 PM
(Sunday, 9/30) Confirmation, Noon to 2:00 PM

October:

- (10/3, Wednesday) Youth Group 6:30 – 8:00 PM
(10/7, Sunday) **NYG 2019 Youth & Parent Meeting 11:30 AM**
(10/10, Wednesday) Youth Group 6:30 – 8:00 PM
(Saturday, 10/13) Confirmation, 10:00 AM to Noon
(10/17, Wednesday) *Youth Led-Service* 6:30-7:30PM
(10/20, Saturday) **Kayaking @ Hillsborough River,**
9:00 to 1:00 PM
(Sunday, 10/21) Confirmation, Noon to 2:00 PM
(10/24, Wednesday) Youth Group 6:30 – 8:00 PM
(10/27, Saturday) **Trunk or Treat @ YMCA**
(10/28) **Reformation Sunday**
(10/31, Wednesday) No Youth Group

MSYG 2018
LAKE YALE BAPTIST
CONFERENCE CENTER
NOVEMBER 2-4- 2018

\$165 PP BEFORE
10-4-18

\$175 PP UNTIL
10-11-18

