

# Youth Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 18

Greetings everyone and welcome to this week's installment of the Anderson First UMC youth newsletter!

## Sunday Night Happenings

This past Sunday night we focused on God and how truly awesome He is. We spend so much of our time trying to understand God, what He looks like, His nature, how He operates. Why? There is absolutely no point. We can't even begin to comprehend a miniscule of His nature. There are words, sounds, tastes, smells, colors, and even emotions that God experiences that we can't even begin to wrap our minds around. We are always putting God inside of a box. Sometimes we think of Him as the most perfect human being we can think of, which doesn't even come close. Even our own language inhibits us from truly understanding God. We use words such as holy, righteous, and even good to describe Him, and those things still don't give us a full or accurate picture. Remember, there are WORDS that God knows that we can't even comprehend. When I think about all of these things I can't help but be amazed at how awesome God is, and it just excites me to know that we do not have the capability to understand Him. That is another place where freedom lays.

*"For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength." -1 Corinthians 1:25*

## Other Youth News

- **October 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 A.M.** is the big kick-off for the **Sunday Morning Youth Service**, which has been unofficially named "Something Different." We're looking to have a **special guest** come in and help us kick things off. Stay tuned for more details!
- The **Youth Auction Fundraiser** finally has a definite plan! It's going to be a silent auction. Bidding starts on **November 8<sup>th</sup>** and the winners will be announced on **November 29<sup>th</sup>**. Sign up if you want to help us raise money!
- **Our next service project has changed, AGAIN!** We're actually now going to be having our annual Fall Cleaning Day. Last year we cleaned out all the nooks and crannies of the youth room, so we're going to do it again this year. **Meet at the church at 3, dinner will be at 5, and then we'll hang out until 7!**

- It's been almost a year since we took part in **United Way's Operation: Weatherization** service project, and it's almost that time again! This year it will be on **Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>**. Let Jake know if you plan on attending because we need the names of our group members. There will also be sign up sheets on the "Youth News" board and up in the youth room.
- **We're hosting a 30 Hour Famine!** It's going to be on **February 26, 2010**. It seems like a long time from now, but we should start discussing the details now!

## Technological Advancements

We need to stay with the times. I've been trying to do that so far. I've started up Facebook groups and fan pages for the church and for the youth. I've been texting, e-mailing, sending newsletters through e-mail, and I even started up a MySpace account for myself (a part of me died that day, though). The next adventure that I'd like to take us on is creating a website. I've been exploring the church website lately, and honestly it's not that great. To be even more honest, the "Youth" section is downright miserable. Therefore, I want to build a separate website for the youth ministry in the church and link it to our church's website. If anyone would like to help out with this please let me know. I want to get this going and finished as soon as possible. This is going to be awesome!

## Sunday Morning Youth Service

This will be the last issue of the youth newsletter that will be released before the first youth worship service, so what can I say or do to convince you to go? Hmm... let me think. Well, you should expect to see a ninja fighting against a black belt in karate, a singing sock monkey, and a rapping unicorn. You'll also get a chance to try and understand your soul through the use of photography. There should be some music, too. I can almost guarantee prayer as well. If that doesn't convince you to go, then nothing will. The service starts on October 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 A.M. and will be in the youth room. It's for youth ages 12 and up.

## Youth Auction Fundraiser – More Details, Like I Promised

Get ready for more details because here they come! It's going to be a silent auction. The bidding will start on November 8th and go until November 29th. We'll reveal the winners on the 29th. That gives the

congregation three Sundays to bid on us. That means that we really have to get them to do it! Let me know if you plan on allowing yourself to be auctioned off, or sign up on one of the sign-up sheets (one is located in the youth room and the other is on the "Youth News" board around the church offices). If you think that you've told me that you're going to do it, I might have forgotten, so make sure that I know for sure.

I'm working with Juanita (one of the security people) on getting some t-shirts put together (they will be free) that we can wear on that first Sunday to help promote it. We're also going to be making signs for each youth who is being auctioned off to kind of "sell" him or her to the congregation. If you want a shirt, give me your shirt size ASAP so we can get them made ASAP. Also, get me your info for your sign (if you want one made) and I'll put it together. Here's the info that will go on it:

**Name:**

**Age:**

**School:**

**Grade:**

**Likes:**

**Dislikes:**

**Skills:** (Examples - dish washing, vacuuming, scraping gum off the bottom of shoes)

**Hobbies:**

**Favorite Scripture:**

I know it seems like a lot, but it really isn't. Feel free to send me a picture of yourself to put on your sign too. When the bidding is over and the winners are announced it us up to you and the person who "won" you to figure out a day/time to fulfill your service. There will be a trophy for whoever gets the highest bid (and that bid is the winning bid for you; not sure how it couldn't be, but I figured I'd go ahead and clarify that just in case), so now you have more incentive to get people to bid on you! Let me know if you have any questions!

## Youth Band Training ~ Free Music Lessons!!!

Things with the youth band are going great! However, if we really want this to grow and to continue through the ages, we need to start investing in gaining future members! That's why Jake is offering FREE MUSIC LESSONS! If you are interested in being a part of the youth band, but can't play an instrument (or can't sing), then Jake is willing to teach you how to play something! Right now he is offering

guitar, bass guitar, drums, and mandolin, but with a little team work and dedication, you could probably learn how to play anything! If you are interested in this FREE opportunity, then contact Jake at [Jacob@andersonfirst.org](mailto:Jacob@andersonfirst.org) or 643-6977. Also, if you are interested in helping to teach something, contact Jake as well.

## Random Thoughts

### The Fantasy of Football

In case you know nothing about me, you should know that I really, really like football. Honestly, I usually don't get to watch as much as I'd like, but just the fact that I can read about it and watch highlights of the games is good enough for me. Usually when football is being shown on TV it means life is good (and it's fall!). All of this is to say you would think it would be natural for me to play fantasy football, but it's not.

I remember playing it once with my dad when I was 14 or 15, and I didn't do too badly. I think I made it to the championship game; however, I kind of stopped paying attention to it after a while and just got lucky. This year I pulled a Brett Favre, I decided to come out of retirement.

I'm being slowly reminded as to why I never wanted to play again after that first season. For one thing, it makes it harder to just enjoy watching a game. Sometimes I like to watch football games with no emotional investment. I can just relax, be entertained by large men launching themselves at each other like torpedoes, and perhaps even take a nap during halftime. If I'm playing fantasy football, I'm always concerned about how well my players are playing. A few weeks ago, I was actually ROOTING for the Dallas Cowboys because their quarterback is on my fantasy team. I HATE the Cowboys! I also found myself in the predicament of hoping a player on the Green Bay Packers (my favorite team) played poorly so that I could win my fantasy game, but I didn't want him to play poorly because I wanted the Packers to win. It really does throw a wrench in things.

It can also be frustrating to invest a lot of time into it and feel like you are making the right roster moves, pickups, and trades just to see your team get massacred. It really all comes down to luck. You can do all you can to increase your chances of winning by putting good players on your team, but in the end you can have the best guys and they could all play poorly and

the other team can have a bunch of no-names and they could all play out of their minds. You just never know what can happen.

Now the question is, "Will I play next year?" Well, I don't know. Maybe... probably. Yes, I will.

## Shoutouts

A shoutout to the Strocks for making the dinner on Sunday night. Someone has to do it, might as well be you! The dessert was amazing. Thank you... thank you.

## Calendar Dates

**October 17** – Clean out youth room                      3 P.M. – 7 P.M.

**October 25** – First Sunday morning youth service                      9 A.M.

**November 7** – Operation: Weatherization

**November 8** – Youth Auction bidding starts

**November 29** – Youth Auction winners announced

## Upcoming Birthdays (That I know of)

**October 25** – Natalie Griner

**October 30** – Whitney Hardison

**Thanks for reading and see you next issue!**

You are receiving this because you either expressed interest in receiving it or because you are a parent/guardian for one or more youth in the church. If you do not wish to receive this newsletter reply to this e-mail stating so.