

Youth Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 19

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

Sunday Night Happenings

This past Sunday night was our first ever Something Different service! In case you haven't been paying attention, it's a worship service for the youth that's offered on Sunday mornings. I think that it went really well. We had a great turnout; seventeen people! A lot of the youth said it didn't really feel like a service and that it was fun. That's perfect! Church should not feel boring and forced. It should be natural; it should be fun! We're gathering to worship God together and to deepen our faith together. In what way is that boring? We've started a new journey in the church and within the youth group. Hopefully we'll be able to continue down this path and that it will be successful. Our next service is on November 22nd. Invite your friends!

Other Youth News

- The **Youth Auction Fundraiser** finally has a definite plan! It's going to be a silent auction. Bidding starts on **November 8th** and the winners will be announced on **November 29th**. Sign up if you want to help us raise money!
- 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 7th**. 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.
- Our next **Something Different** service is on **November 22nd at 9:00 A.M.** Hope to see you there!
- Our **new youth website** is up and running! It should be linked to the "youth" section on the church's website, but might not be yet. Here's the URL if you want to just go directly to the site:
<http://www.ourchurch.com/member/t/teamawesome/>
- On **December 6th** we're having a **Christmas party**. It's going to be in place of our usual youth group that night. I don't really know the place where we're going to have it, but just know it's on **December 6th at 5 P.M.**

- **Have any Spring Break plans yet?** Well, if we get enough response, we will be going on a **weekend mission retreat**. You can read more about it down below.
- **Does anyone have any more ideas for what we can do in the months of December – May?** Give me your ideas. Our group needs to do the thing that the group actually WANTS to do, and we can't do those things if you don't tell me!
- **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!

Weekend Mission Retreat

For a while I have wanted to put together a mission trip for the summer of 2010. Well, that is a pretty large undertaking, and since we have camp during the summer it can be hard to get a group of people to commit two weeks out of their summers. I decided to sort of ease us into the whole "mission trip" experience. That's why we are going to go on a mission retreat instead. It's basically like a mission trip, but it will just be over a weekend instead of a week or longer.

We're going to be helping out at a place called New Life International, which is located in Underwood, IN. Don't worry if you don't know where Underwood is; it's one of those tiny towns located in my neck of the woods. New Life International is an organization that puts together water purifiers and delivers them to parts of the world that has unclean water. They show them how to work them, maintainance them, and all of that fun stuff. We'd help put some of them together and whatever odds and ends things they need to have done.

I was thinking about doing it over everyone's Spring Break; since everyone goes to a million different schools there are two different Spring Breaks we have to work with. However, there is an overlap, which is the weekend of April 2 - 4. It's the end of break for ACS and Pendleton and the beginning for Frankton and Lapel. I'm not sure if any of you are planning any trips over that break, but perhaps you can work this mission retreat around your plans. This is going to be a really awesome trip and I'm excited for our group to serve in this capacity together. If you want to learn more about New Life International check out their website:

<http://waterfortheworld.com/home/>

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 or 643-6977. Also, if you are interested in helping to teach something, contact Jake as well.

Random Thoughts

A Real Life Time Machine

I know that Einstein has proved that time travel is possible, but that's really only if you can travel at the speed of light. Therefore, you really can't create a machine that can travel through time on this planet. Perhaps someday we will be able to fly out into space and travel through time, but I doubt that we would be able to do it on Earth. I think Einstein's theory even states that time travel is only possible in outer space.

I say all of this just to turn around to say that there is a machine that makes time travel possible on this planet. In fact, there are several. They have been disguised under the name of "video games." Perhaps you've heard of them before.

You're probably wondering why I'm making this claim. Have you ever played a video game before? I have to tell you, they're a lot of fun. In fact, they're a little too fun sometimes. You could be just sitting around, kind of bored, not really doing anything and you'll think to yourself, "Oh, I'll go sit down and play a little video game for a few minutes." Six hours later you finally put the controller down and go to bed.

The thing about it is that it doesn't even feel like six hours have gone by! It feels more like five minutes. That's why I say that they are actually time machines disguised as video games. Perhaps they're part of a government conspiracy. They want to do certain things that are shady and they don't want anyone to know about them, so they have created these "video games" for people to play that actually propel them into the future, completely skipping over the period of time in which the government has carried out its shady actions. I'm just speculating, though.

I seriously can't believe how fast time goes by when playing video games. I wouldn't be too surprised if you actually were propelled into the

future when playing them, and it really had only been five minutes to you. If that's the case, then you would think that we would all look younger; well, sometimes they can be so stressful that you age really rapidly, so it makes up for the difference.

Seriously, though, if you are ever just sitting around waiting for something to happen or for someone to show up, play some video games. The time will pass by at lightning speed.

Shoutouts

The shoutout this fortnight goes out to Jim Strock. Thanks for filling in for me on Sunday night!

Calendar Dates

November 7 – Operation: Weatherization

November 8 – Youth Auction bidding starts

November 22 – Something Different 9 A.M.

November 29 – Youth Auction winners announced

December 6 – Christmas Party

February 26-27 – 30 Hour Famine

Upcoming Birthdays (That I know of)

November 1 – Evan Scherer

November 2 – Jeffrey Seitz

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.