

May 7, 2009

Dear Parents,

This last April held some great moments. We had a great turn out for the Girl's Staying True Conference. We'll be making preparations over this Summer for the next one. If you are interested in helping to make that happen, please either contact myself or Ruth Ellis. Even though Nerf Wars was held at the end of Easter Break, we had a great turn out. Thanks to Drew Laine for his participation and assistance that night. We will be holding another one in the fall. Those that participated in the World Vision 30 Hr Famine, not only had a great time, learned much, experienced great music by Michael John Stanley, received a small taste of what it meant to be hungry, but also was able to raise over \$600 to help feed hungry orphans. As we completed "A 40 Day Revolution", numerous students shared the difference and the impact they experienced by practicing self control, sacrificing a little and developing some self discipline both in their physical lives as well as in their spiritual development. You can check the youth website, cefcyouth.com, for periodic updates and testimonies.

We closed out April and began May with Special speakers. We welcome David Garcia as a part of our support leaders. David has an incredible passion for prayer and the Bible. David also has experience with Worship teams, Bible School, Wrestling and Crab Fishing in Iceland. A recent Special guest, Rob Dirkse, a 21 year Youth Ministry veteran and Executive director of Serve Partnerships Unlimited came and shared much about how students could make a difference and options that were available, even here in Susanville. For video clips from that night, check out the Sr High page on the youth website.

Our Sr High Worship teams continue to redevelop. Thanks Randy Brockett and Tressa Murray for all your hard work! As we continue to press forward and redevelop skills, please pray that the teams will be able to have the time to practice and the proper equipment to use.

Our new Sr High Small group at the Murrays continues to grow and change. Please keep our student and adult leaders in prayer as they work hard at trying to provide solid leadership and programming.

We welcome back Walter and Stacy Kirklin to the Jr High Staff. Walter, Stacy and Tom will be fleshing out the details and the teaching Sunday Mornings at 9 am. That class will be meeting in the 300 building in the 'partitioned classroom'. If you would like additional details on that you can contact Walter Kirklin or check out the Youth website on the Jr High Page.

The major event for this month is the 3rd annual Lassen County Spring Fest. It will take place Saturday, May 16th at the Lassen High School Student Center from noon to about 11. More than 10 bands from California and Nevada will be participating. If you have not already received information on that, you can get additional information at Springfest.weebly.com

In light of the numerous upcoming activities and as we desire to keep costs low for children as well as parents, there are several ways for families to raise money.

1. Food Donations. The Student Ministries department is hosting the church fellowship time between services. Baked goods (Cookies, Pastries, cakes, pies, etc) will be made available for donations during this time. All proceeds will go directly to youth ministries and upcoming Youth Ministries Events. May and June proceeds will go to those participating in Serve Susanville. After Serve Susanville, proceeds will go to those attending Spirit West Coast.
2. Janesville Bible Camp Work A Thon. Students are invited to get sponsors as they work at Janesville Bible Camp. Sponsors can pledge a flat rate or per hour. The two dates students can work are Saturday May 30 and Saturday, June 6th. Students have been able to pick up forms since March. The forms can also be downloaded on the Youth Website. Students have been known to raise not only enough for one major trip, but also enough for every event for the entire year!
3. Taco Booth. The Lassen County Fair is only a couple of months away! As we continue to make changes and adjustments to better serve you and your children, we'll have details available at the end of the month.

If you missed out on the 3 earlier deadlines for Spirit West Coast, there are still a couple slots available at the full regular price of \$200. Parents, please encourage your students to BRING HOME paperwork or please check out the youth website for regular updates. As we come across specials, we try to make them available for you, but it only works when they are claimed. When Students can get an additional \$2,500 a year off college, or \$50 off Winter Retreat or \$50 off Spirit West Coast and numerous other breaks, the savings can add up. Please help us in encouraging the students to be good in stewardship, sensitive to family communication, diligent in time and resource management and wise with finances.

Serve Susanville, a service opportunity and mission project here throughout Lassen County, will take place Sunday June 21 to Saturday June 27th. Part Training Program, Part Retreat, Part Service Project and Part Mission trip, Serve Susanville is not only a great stretching experience for students, but a great relationship builder for families. Please check out the youth Website or pick up the promotional material at the Welcome Center.

There are numerous other things that can be mentioned, but you can check out the youth website for additional details and updates. Thanks for entrusting us with your children!

By His Grace,

Jackson Fong
Student Ministries Pastor