

ONE Youth Updates—August 2024

MISSION Statement

Empower youth to KNOW God, GROW in faith, SPEAK truth, SERVE with love, and LEAD others to do the same.

VISION Statement

To see the lives of youth deeply transformed by Christ, confident and courageous in who they are and what they're living for.

7th-9th Grade Faith Formation—OPEN TO ALL! Invite your friends!

Formally known as confirmation, Faith Formation is designed to not only nurture the faith growth and curiosity of 7th-9th grade youth, but also to help them build trusting relationships with one another and adult volunteers and create a safe, fun community of faith where they feel accepted, heard, and valued. Faith Formation will consist of snacks, large group time, worship, games, interactive activities, small group time, prayer, and group blessing. Like last year, Faith Formation will take place at Peace Lutheran Church in Barrett on Wednesdays after school from 3:30-5:15 p.m., except for on the first Wednesday of the month, which is an early-out day for West Central Area Schools. **Faith Formation will begin Wednesday, September 18.** We encourage kids to walk to Peace during nice, fall weather. More details to come on possible winter transportation options. An official calendar will be released soon via email and social media with all the dates through December.

Please keep in mind, ONE Youth Faith Formation is an opportunity for outreach, therefore is open to **ALL** youth, 7-9 grade, from our churches and from those beyond our church doors. In other words, all youth are welcome, whether they are members or not, so we encourage you to share this faith-building opportunity with others you may know who are interested in faith formation for their children.

For anyone interested in providing snack for our Faith Formation youth, please stay tuned for sign-up details, which will be shared on our social media platforms.

Confirmation for Peace Lutheran 10th graders will take place on Sunday, October 6, during worship at 10:30 a.m. Confirmation for United Lutheran 10th graders will take place on Sunday, October 27 during worship at 9 a.m.

HS Youth Group—10th-12th Grade

HS ONE Youth is designed to not only nurture the faith development and maturity of 10th-12th grade youth, but to also provide a safe, fun place for them to build relationship, be real with themselves and one another, take a step away from the busy pace of life and expectations and just BE with friends, mentors, and the Lord. We meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 5:45 p.m. at Peace Lutheran Church. **Our first HS Youth Group gathering of the year will be on Wednesday, September 25.** These evenings are filled with supper, group game, worship, large group message, interactive activities, life application, small group discussion, prayers, and blessings. It's hard to find the words to describe the atmosphere and energy that takes place during this time.

HS Wednesday Morning Prayer Time—10th-12th Grade

New this year—Wednesday Morning Prayer time for the 10th-12th grade youth on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 7:20 a.m. at Peace Lutheran Church. **Our first Morning Prayer Time will take place on Wednesday, October 2.** The youth have experienced the transforming, heart-warming power of prayer, therefore, we want to continue to nurture this faith practice of prayer by providing a time to gather with others to seek prayer or to offer prayer to friends.

Youth Registration Fees—New this year!

With increasing costs of curriculum, supplies, food, and involvement, we are asking for your financial support of the ministry of ONE Youth by contributing a \$50 registration fee for your youth for both 7th-9th Grade Faith Formation and HS Youth Group to help cover the ongoing ministry expenses. If you are unable to contribute at this time, we understand. **PLEASE NOTE:** All are accepted to participate, regardless of paying the fees. However, for those who are able, we greatly appreciate the support that will help enable us to continue this ministry work. Fees can be paid via cash or check to ONE Youth and mailed to: United Lutheran Church, ATTN: ONE Youth, 215 10th Ave. SW, Elbow Lake, MN 56531 or brought to a Wednesday event.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is back for another great year! **Our first Breakfast Club of the 2024-2025 school year will be Friday, September 20, from 7-8 a.m. at Peace Lutheran Church.** Youth, grades 5-12, are welcome to come and enjoy a warm breakfast prepared by countless, awesome members of our churches and communities. It's a wonderful opportunity for intergenerational connections and as an intentional way to show our youth the incredible encouragement and support they have from their community. Thank you to all the groups who have already committed to giving of their time and food to support this awesome outreach ministry.

Family/Church Service/Fun Day & Potluck Picnic

ONE Youth would like to invite members from all congregations to join them in a service/FUN day and potluck picnic on Sunday, September 15 beginning at noon at Elk Lake near Hoffman. As many of you know, ONE Youth is very active in serving our churches and communities, and they are inviting you to join them in a service project of refurbishing picnic tables at Elk Lake. The tables need to be scraped and painted, and we hope with your help we can get the job done.

In addition to the service project, we will host an "Old-Fashioned Church Potluck Picnic," so we invite you to bring a dish to share. We will work, eat, have music, lawn games, and great fellowship! We hope you will join us! Stay tuned for more details!

Junior High & High School Special Event & Trip Opportunities

ONE Youth has experienced and acknowledges the incredible value and faith growth that comes from providing ongoing special event and trip opportunities for our youth. Therefore, we are in the process of not only planning a fall event for 7th-12th grade youth, over the MEA break, October 17-19, but also looking to the summer to plan another mission trip. Details for both are still being finalized, so please check our social media platforms and your emails for detailed information on registering for both exciting opportunities as the information is made available.

Family Faith Worship

With heartfelt intention to meet the needs of our families and desires for our youth to worship with one another, we are working to develop a tri-church Family Faith Worship that would take place the first Wednesday of every month, hopefully beginning on October 2. We are looking for musicians from all churches and beyond to join as one contemporary worship band to lead this family-oriented worship

once a month. If you are interested in singing, playing piano/keyboard, guitar, drums, bass, or any other instrument, please contact Natalie Hanson at 701-730-6760. Stay tuned for more detailed information.

HS Mission Trip to Cheyenne River Reservation

The HS Mission Trip to the Cheyenne River Reservation in Eagle Butte, SD, was another life-transforming, faith-building experience for all who attended. Despite the heat and mosquitoes that were at times hard to bear, the youth and leaders not only worked hard to serve the native community with servant hearts, but they also built deeper, trusting relationships with one another and a more intimate relationship with the Lord. Praise God for the work He is doing in the lives of our youth! Thank you to all who so graciously supported these youth through financial means and prayer. Your generosity and belief in opportunities like these are making a true and lasting difference on this generation of believers.

BEST WAY to Stay Informed

If you have a child in ONE Youth or are interested in staying up to date on all the happenings with ONE Youth, we encourage you to join our REMIND app. Instructions are below:

- Send a text this number: 81010
- Text this message: @oneyouthgr

If you haven't already, we highly encourage you to follow us on Instagram and Facebook as we post weekly updates. On occasion, when needing to communicate on specific program/trip details, we send emails from our ONE Youth Gmail account. If you have a child in ONE Youth, we encourage you to add our email address to your contacts to ensure you receive the emails. Our email address is: oneyouthforchrist@gmail.com.

Donation Opportunities

We are continuously overwhelmed by the generosity of our church community. We consistently receive an outpouring of monetary donations and memorials, and we want to thank you, for your loving support. These donations support our on-going expenses, but also are used for supplies, activities, and trips.

Donations can be made payable to ONE Youth and mailed to: United Lutheran Church, ATTN: ONE Youth, 215 10th Ave. SW, Elbow Lake, MN 56531