

## **Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry Report – January 9, 2019**

Bekah Leafblad

### **Sunday School Christmas Program**

- The theme for the Sunday School Christmas Program in December was “Bethlehem Night.” The program was during the 9:15 service on December 16 and went wonderfully!
- Brenda Gullicksen is helping me direct the program.
- We had more than 50 students involved in the Christmas program!

### **Confirmation**

- Confirmation students went to the nursing home on December 16 to carol and give gifts to residents. I was unable to attend, but heard that a good time was had by all.
- Confirmation started up again after the holidays on January 2. We are discussing the Lord’s Prayer and will continue to do so for the next 6 weeks.

### **3:16s**

- 3:16s started back up after the holidays last Sunday, January 6. We had 4 youth attend and we discussed the question of why bad things happen to good people.

### **Indianapolis – Mission Trip 2019**

- We have 9 youth and 2 adults planning to go to Indianapolis next summer for our Group Mission Trip. We used to have 10 but 1 dropped.
- I will have a meeting with the youth going on the trip and their parents this Sunday, January 13.
- These youth will call members of our congregation and sell shares of stock in our youth program on January 17, 21, and 22.

### **Youth Group Events**

- On December 15 at 7:00 p.m., I hosted a Youth Christmas Party at my house. There was fun Christmas games, cookies, music and movies. 15 youth came!

### **Upcoming continuing education events for me**

- Tomorrow (January 10) I will head to Good Earth Village for our SEMN Synod Faith Formation Retreat. I was on the planning team for this retreat, so I will serve in a leadership role during this 2-day retreat. Andy Root, a professor at Luther Seminary, will come to discuss faith, science, and youth ministry.
- From January 24-28 I will be in Jacksonville, FL attending the ELCA Youth Ministry Network’s Extravaganza. This conference is for youth pastors, lay leaders, and volunteers. I will attend various workshops and worship with other people who do the same work I do!