

Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry Report – February 7, 2019

Bekah Leafblad

Sunday School

- January was the first month of Sunday School being officially back at church. After the survey we took this fall, I decided to have teachers rotate rooms instead of students rotating. I asked January rotation teachers how that worked out, and they said it worked just great!
- The February rotation is starting up where kids are learning about the Widow's Offering.

Confirmation

- On February 6, we had a service night for confirmation students where they helped WELCA put together 94 layettes and 50 school kits in under an hour!

Indianapolis – Mission Trip 2019

- We have 9 youth and 2 adults planning to go to Indianapolis next summer for our Group Mission Trip.
- I had a meeting with these youth on January 13 to go through our itinerary, packing list, and other logistics.
- Our next meeting will be March 3.

Fundraisers

- Stock sales has been going well and we have one more night (as I'm writing this on Friday).
- So far, our youth have sold 199 shares of stock in the youth program, totaling \$2,985.
- Our next fundraisers will be serving a Lenten supper and Easter breakfast.

Continuing Education in January

- January 10-11, I was at Good Earth Village for our SEMN Synod Faith Formation Retreat. I was on the planning team for this retreat, so I served in a leadership role during this 2-day retreat. Andy Root, a professor at Luther Seminary, came to discuss faith, science, and faith in a secular age.
- From January 24-28 I was in Jacksonville, FL attending the ELCA Youth Ministry Network's Extravaganza. This conference happens every year and is for youth pastors, lay leaders, and volunteer youth workers. I attended various workshops including Holy Disruption taught by Dr. Jacqueline Bussie from Concordia College (Moorhead), Top 10 Ways to Lead Relational Ministry, Radical Hospitality to Young Adults, The Small Church Project, Loving Big in a time of Revolutionary Love, Staying Power: Creating Longevity in Youth Ministry without Losing Your Mind, Laugh Yoga, and Overcoming Limiting Beliefs in Youth Ministry. If you would like to hear more about what I learned, just ask!
- I also had the opportunity to present my 3-year plan that I have been working on with my Discipling Cohort over the past year. I wrote up an 8-ish page report; anyone is welcome to read that if you'd like!