

# YPOG NEWS

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

September 2016

**Greetings In Christ Alone** to all of you “new” freshmen coming in and our returning sophomores, juniors and seniors. We are so excited to “kick-off” our 2016-2017 year. May God richly bless our time together!

Here are some Bible verses I would like you to think and pray about.

*“What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ.” Philippians 3:8*

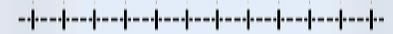
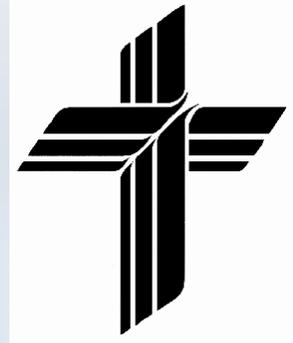
So, does that mean if we have Christ in our lives and know He is our Lord and Savior we have everything?

As a new season has approached, the school year is beginning, let us look ahead. We will now be faced with new challenges, expectations and desires. Will there be worry, frustration, sadness and disappointments, more than likely yes. God has a great reminder in His Word that will comfort us. Will there be great fun, friends and happiness, oh yes. In both the good and the bad Christ is always with us. Here are two scripture passages for you reminding you of that:

*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” Philippians 4:6*

*“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!” Philippians 4:4*

My prayer for all of you is that you will have a great year **In Christ Alone**,  
*Roxie Leckband*



THANK YOU to the youth who so faithfully serve in using their gifts on our tech crew and in the nursery on Sunday mornings!

THANK YOU to Pastor Mark and Joy for hosting a fun evening of food and fellowship at their house on August 14th.

Our worship services are in need of camera and projector operators. Only a little training is required. If you can move a finger, you can run the projector!

### Wednesday Youth Nights:

- Sept. 7 at 5:30 p.m. – Planning night with pizza and worship.
  - Sept. 14 at 5:30 p.m. – Open Youth Room with fellowship, devotion & worship.
  - Sept. 21 at 5:30 p.m. – Fellowship, devotion, food & worship.
  - Sept. 28 at 5:30 p.m. – Games, devotion, food & worship.
- \*\*September 7 & 14 – worship service is at 6 p.m.  
\*\*September 21 & 28 – worship service is at 6:45pm

### Sunday Events:

- Sept. 11 – worship at 8am and 10:30am
- Sept. 11 - Sunday School Kick-Off Event at 11:30am – youth are to assist.
- Sept. 18 – worship at 8am and 10:30 am
- Sept. 18 – NO High School Sunday school, youth may attend Adult Bible Study.
- Sept. 25 – worship at 8am and 10:30am
- Sept. 25 – High School Sunday School at 9:15 am.

The youth have been meeting on Wednesdays in July for Christian fellowship and planning for future events. They have come up with some very great ways to serve the families of the Worthington community. They also have ideas for future mission trips and fundraising options. The youth has also been researching and doing the planning for these. During upcoming meetings, our prayer is to come up with some definite goals for the "YPOGs Youth in Ministry." Please raise up our youth and their leaders in prayer. God is definitely at work with our youth and those who lead and support. To God Be the Glory!

We have some very motivated youth looking toward their futures. At one of our youth group meetings this summer the youth were asked, "what will your business card say 15 years from now?" Responses were: Autumn – Doctor of Veterinary Medicine; Jordan – Pediatrician; Coral – Marine Biologist; Jasmine – Forensic Scientist; Tyler – NBA player; Bailey – Law Enforcement; Bethany – Art Therapy; Gabe – Computer Software Engineer; Nayeli – Contractor. We discussed how all of these vocations would be able to serve God in His kingdom. We thank God for such great young people!

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING REPORT: Youth produced a power point presentation to inform the congregation about their experience at the Gathering. A picture board is in the Great Hall for people to view. The youth and adult chaperones met at Jenna & Andrew Bents home for a time of reflection and future vision of how the Gathering helped them with building their faith. Following are some of the student's statements as they reflect on the Gathering: 1) "The Gathering made a major positive impact on my faith. Not only did my faith grow, but my eyes started to open and I begun to see all the things that happen around us that we can help and create a positive CHANGE." 2) "It is not our talent. It is God's talent that he is sharing with you. So be humble with what is given to you." 3) "I was able to meet new people and strengthen my faith by knowing that In Christ Alone I have Salvation." 4) "In Christ Alone I learned that I am worth it. That my voice matters and that I don't have to be scared of my future or what happens because in Christ alone I can conquer it all without fear. In Christ alone I can be happy without much effort." 5) "The most memorable part of the NYG was the Rend Collective band. I love their music and it makes me happy to know that people all around the world are singing about Jesus." 6) "My favorite part of this trip was walking to and from the Superdome with all of the 25,000 believers." 7) "We had a Bible study each morning based off of the book of Philippians. We learned about having true joy in Jesus and how our identity is in Christ Alone!" 8) "On this trip I got to experience God's love by seeing 25,000 people who gathered with me to learn more about God's love for us and that in Christ alone we are saved."

