

Getting to know - "the Answer" Youth & Family Ministry at Hope

What does it mean to be "united"?

According to Webster's Dictionary **united** means "made one; relating to or produced by joint action; being in agreement."

Growing up, as children we know that we live in the United States, but we spend most of our time learning about all of the differences between states and very little about what brings us together. In Christianity this is all too often the case as well. We like to go to National Youth Gatherings and Synod-wide conferences where we can be around people who believe all the same things we do. We know that we are supposed to live as the body of Christ, but I think that we don't have a very good idea of what that's supposed to look like.

United Fresno is a movement that has brought together many churches, church leaders and young people in the Fresno, Clovis and surrounding areas. The purpose of this is to *unite* Christians from across denominational lines in order to seek God's will for our lives and for our city.

Our group is excited to be a part of what God is doing in our city and looks forward to connecting the members of our youth group to other Christians on their own high school campuses. A big event coming up later this week is United Winter Camp. The camp will be held on January 22-24 at Old Oak Ranch Camp in Sonora, Ca.



At first, I wasn't sure how many of our youth would be interested in attending something like this, especially since we had already gone to a weekend camp earlier this Fall. I passed out registration forms, asking our Leadership Team to attend and leaving the option open for the rest of the youth in our group. Instead of a small group of a half dozen or so student leaders, Hope will be sending nearly 20 youth, to join the more than 400 kids from 18 churches from the Fresno/Clovis area who will be attending this camp.

I know that God has plans for this weekend and for our youth that are far bigger than I could ever plan or imagine. Please join me in prayer, asking that God would grab a hold of the lives of our youth in a powerful way and use them to extend Hope in Jesus on their high school campuses and with their friends. God is clearly at work through the youth of Hope Lutheran Church and I am honored to work alongside Alison Quinn, Arty Contreras and the rest of you to minister to the youth and families of our church and community.

Gratefully,

Adam D. Knudson



"Have you Connected?"

Our youth ministry program is a great place to be a part of a group of Christians who are learning what it means to follow Christ, serve others and extend hope in Jesus. We do happen to have an amazing amount of fun along the way too. If you think this might be the right place for you or for someone you know, make sure you give us a try. You can check out our calendar on the other side of this page for some of our fun events and our regularly scheduled programs. You can learn more about us by checking out info, photos and more at www.hlcyouthfresno.org and you can connect with lots of other kids by becoming a "fan" of The Answer—Youth Ministry on Facebook. There are lots of ways to get connected, so what are you waiting for?

If you're already connected to our youth ministry program (or even if you're not), you won't want to miss out on spending a week at camp this summer. Our Confirmation youth will have the op-

portunity to attend Shalom Camp at Mt. Cross during the week of July 11-16. Youth who will be entering 4th-7th grades and 9th-13th grades will have the opportunity to attend various camp options at Calvin Crest Conferences during the week of July 18-24. It is our goal that all of our youth will be able to afford a week of camp. With camperships and fundraisers, we will be reducing the price of camp to \$200.

This is a big goal and a big opportunity. Please join me in praying for our youth and families that they will set aside the time and resources this year to make summer camp a priority. In addition to funds to send kids to camp, there are many ways in which you can partner with us to make this experience the best possible. If you would like to help organize "cookies for campers" to remind our youth that people from Hope are thinking of them and praying for them, please let me know. Perhaps you've heard a lot about camp, but haven't had the chance to go. We are in need of men and women with a passion for Christ and a love for young people who would be willing to spend a week with some of our kids. Open your heart and ask God where you should get involved; I'm sure you'll be blessed.



February 2010

Hope Lutheran Church

Extending hope in Jesus!

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 Primetime | 4 | 5 Olympic Lock-In | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 Primetime | 11 | 12 | 13 Pastor Roger's Birthday Bash |
| 14 "the Life" - Youth Group | 15 All Youth Show Day | 16 | 17 Ash Wednesday | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 "the Life" - Gym Night | 22 | 23 | 24 Primetime Lent | 25 | 26 | 27 SPSYC 4th-6th Grade Retreat |
| 28 SPSYC cont. "the Life" - Youth Group | | | | | | |

For more information on any scheduled event you can check the online calendar at www.hlcyouthfresno.org

Regular Schedule

Sunday School 10:00am
the Life 6:00-8:00pm
Primetime 5:30-7:45pm

the Way ~ 4th-6th grade

the Truth ~ 7th-8th grade

the Life ~ 9th-12th grade

Director of Youth & Family Min.

- Rev. Adam D. Knudson
adam@hopelutheranfresno.org

Assistants for Youth Ministry

- Ms. Alison Quinn,
Discipleship & Events
- Mr. Arthur C. Contreras,
Worship

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Fresno CA 93710
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"Extending Hope. Living Faith."

The season of Lent is a season that offers us the opportunity to examine ourselves and consider how we might live out our faith more deeply and personally. As a congregation we will explore some of the classical spiritual disciplines during Lent.

Our regular Primetime Wednesday schedule will be suspended during the Wednesdays of Lent. On the Wednesdays following Ash Wednesday (2/17), our Primetime program will include a corporate service of worship in the Sanctuary from 6:30-7:00pm. Following this service we will have classes for 1st-6th graders in classroom 6, for youth (7th-12th grade) in the Conference room and for adults in the sanctuary. These classes will be scheduled from 7:00-7:45pm. I encourage families to come for dinner (as normal), attend the worship service together and attend the age specific classes. May you encounter Christ as we journey together toward the cross and as we live lives of spiritual depth and discipline.

Monday, February 15

All interested youth and families are invited to join us for a fun time of playing in that frosty cold white stuff. We will plan to depart from the church around 9AM and we will travel up to one of the snow parks above Shaver. We will plan to be back by about 3pm. We would invite you to pack a lunch or a picnic, bring a sled, your gloves and the rest of your gear and come and join us. Please give Adam a call to let him know that you plan to participate, especially if you need or can provide transportation.



OLYMPIC LOCK-IN 2010



"the Life" 9th-12th Grade
February 5-6, 2010

Have you been looking for a chance to come and see what our high school youth group is all about? Do you know someone who needs to get connected? Well, this would be a great way to get to know us. Come for an evening of fun, fanfare, friends, fellowship and food. We'll get started at 8pm on Friday night and we'll extinguish the Olympic flame at 8am on Saturday morning. The event is free and all high school youth are welcome. Contact Adam for more information.