

MIDDLE SCHOOL HAPPENINGS!

5-8TH GRADE

December 2011

Advent/Christmas Challenges!

Red Kettle Campaign

Throughout the month of December – the Salvation Army has red kettles and bell ringers all over town – accepting donations in order to help people who are in need. The goal of the Brainerd Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign is \$170,000 . Wow – that’s a lot. So here’s a story and the challenge . . . last year I made a commitment to put a donation in EVERY Salvation Kettle I passed. So if I went to Cub foods, Walgreens and Fleet Farm all in 1 day – I would make 3 donations. Each day I would put a bunch of change in my coat pocket – so that I would always have something to put in for a donation. I’m not sure what I gave to the Salvation Army over the month of December – but I can tell you this – it made a difference in my heart throughout the month. It felt good to be mindful of those in need each time I was out shopping and it felt good to be generous. I shared what I was doing with my family – and they joined in (every once in a while!)

So the challenge is this . . . every time you pass a Salvation Army Red Kettle – make a donation of at least 25 cents – maybe even \$1. You will be making a difference each time you give and it will change your heart!



Charlie Brown Christmas Tree

Middleschoolers – talk to your families and ask them if they would be willing to help you support someone from the Charlie Brown Christmas Tree!! The tree in the narthex at church is filled with ornaments and on each ornament there is an idea for a Christmas gift for someone who is struggling this Christmas season and unable to buy gifts for themselves or their families. This is a wonderful way to be generous and kind and think of others during the holiday season. We have so much – let’s bless someone else this Christmas!

The Charlie Brown Christmas Tree is sponsored by the Social Concerns Team of Lord of Life. They have adopted 4 families through Bridges of Hope.



Middle School Youth Group

- Meets every Sunday evening @ 5:30pm in the Sunshine Room. We WILL NOT meet on December 25 or January 1.
- For 5th-8th graders
- Meet for worship, study, fun and games, service



What we've been up to...

472 pounds of food were collected for the Salvation Army Food Shelf by teens during Trick or Treat; Help Others Eat.



The Middle School and Sr. Hi Youth Groups went shopping at Target and purchased items for Operation Christmas Child.



LIVING RULES

The following kids went to the NE MN Synod Middle School Youth Gathering... Reese Benson, Kaitlyn Borgstrom, Tanner Clink, Hanson Devine, Renae Ford, Kelsey Garberich, Kyle Hensel, Travis Jensen, Lydia Larson, Matthew Majerle, Maggie Mattson, Annika Mau, Jake Meyer, Dustin Nelson, Sam Nesheim, Hannah Nameniuk, Tim Roehrich, Hannah Staehling, Jenna Swenson, Taylor Tyrrell, Julia Wallace, and Luke West.

The faith focus was the 10 Commandments.
If you talk with one of these kids ask them what their SPARK is.



Technology Tip

Do you know what geotagging is?
It is when the geographic location is attached to an image taken with a cellphone.

What does that mean?
If you take a picture of you and your friends on your living room couch and then post it on the web or send it in a text message, you haven't just sent a photo, you've sent your exact street address which can now be used in a map application for directions.



Mia Berry, Kaitlyn Borgstrom, Lauren Forsythe, Kelsey Garberich, Lindsey Jensen, Abby Larson, Taylor Tyrrell, Caitlin Steffen and Cheryl Steffen went to Good Samaritan for an early out service project.
Manicures were greatly appreciated.

December 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
*denotes Supper Team Please be in the kitchen as close to 5pm as possible.				1	2	3
4 MSYGroup	5	6	7 7th & 8th grd Confirmation *Bryan Barrer	8	9	10
11 MSYGroup	12	13	14 7th & 8th grd Confirmation *Jim Grundemann	15	16	17
18 MSYGroup	19	20	21 7th & 8th grd Confirmation *Kara Patrick	22	23	24
25 Merry Christmas	26	27	28 NO CONFIRMATION	29	30	31

