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Welcome to the NFCLYO and our monthly newsletter! You are receiving this because of a connection to our program at one point or another. You'll find info on past events and upcoming stuff here, at LCLC and more. We keep your email address confidential and don't pass it on to anyone. Please be sure to add this email address to your contacts to ensure it arrives okay. So enjoy...and as always...

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Whats Up @ NFCLYO

The monthly newsletter of the NFCLYO
Issue No. 41
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LCLC 2010 winter Retreats

Senior High Winter Retreat January 8-10...register by December 28!

Winter Retreats at LCLC are a great way to stay connected to camp friends, camp and Jesus in the snow! Weekend winter retreats geared for both senior high (9th-12th grades - January 8-10...register by December 28) and upper elementary-junior high (5th-8th grades - March 5-7). Check out www.lclcelca.org for more or call (716) 386-4125.



NFCLYO Winter Day Out

Fun in the snow and more January 31



It's back! The 2010 NFCLYO Winter Day Out: fun in the snow, dinner, worship, and great times with friends! We head to Colden Tubing Company (at Kissing Bridge) on Sunday, January 31 from 2:30-8 pm. Spend the afternoon with unlimited snow tubing on the largest tubing hill in WNY, then we head indoors for a pizza-wing buffet and a worship experience planned and led by the NFCLYO CORE Team.

Tickets for this event are \$20 for each participant (youth and adult)...tubing or dinner only options are \$10 each person.

THIS EVENT IS LIMITED TO 75 PARTICIPANTS...ORDER YOUR TICKETS EARLY TO GET IN!!!

Get more details, registration and ticket order forms, directions, last year's pictures and more at www.nfclyo.org! Ticket order deadline is Friday, January 22!

Master Registration Forms are here

No more repetition, but PLEASE complete the form!

Sick of filling out essentially the same registration form for NFCLYO events? No more...NFCLYO registration forms are now good for the entire school year! So once you fill out a form and turn it in, it's good for all events! Sorry, tickets and \$\$ are still needed for each event. Details are with each event's flyers and pages on www.nfclyo.org. (Note: new form is only for NFCLYO programs, not for

LCLC or Synod events.)

NOTE: when filling out those registration forms, be sure to complete ALL info asked for. If not, they will be returned.

You're invited!

Church events all are welcome to

Every now and then, a church will have a youth ministry event that they just can't keep to themselves...they want everyone in on it! The NFCLYO is more than happy to help out churches that open their events to all by promoting what they've got. So if your church is having one of these events, head to www.nfclyo.org and see our guidelines on how to get promoted...just like this church's event:

Lasertron by St. John's, West Seneca

Are you the kind of person that can't get enough Lasertron action? Here's your second helping of Lasertron this year! St. John's Lutheran Church in West Seneca is having their own overnight at Lasertron...and is inviting everyone to come be a part of it! It's on the night of Friday-Saturday, January 29-30 from 12-7 am. Cost is \$40 per player (includes Lasertron/Cybersport access, food, tokens and unlimited drinks). If interested, call the St. John's youth advisors: Tim at (716) 440-7248 or Ashley at (716) 867-5330 by January 17!

(NOTE: this is not an NFCLYO-led event...please refer all questions and get any registration details at the numbers above.)

NFCLYO North

New youth ministry program starting in Niagara-Orleans counties

With the leadership of Chris George as our NFCLYO youth ministry assistant for 2009-10, the NFCLYO is beginning a new youth ministry program to better meet the needs of churches the northern areas of our conference. All churches in the Niagara-Orleans County area are invited to join in!



This is an effort to connect youth in this area that otherwise may not be able to do so. If those up north can't make NFCLYO events (for whatever reason), then this is our effort to bring some of that ministry to you! We are in contact with churches in this area to invite you personally, but if we haven't contacted you yet, feel free to email info@nfclyo.org or call (716) 380-0330 or (716) 465-1321 and let us know you want in!

First event coming January 15-16

"Jesus is Here" is NFCLYO North's first overnight lock-in on Friday-Saturday, January 15-16 at First English Lutheran Church in Lockport. It begins at 7 pm Friday, ending at 8:30 am Saturday morning. There will be games, mixers, discussions, worship, food, and plenty of fun meeting new friends from all over! The NFCLYO CORE Team will be there as well! This overnight is free to all in grades 6-12 and adult chaperones (we ask that you come in a church group with 1 adult for every 9 youth). All you need is overnight sleeping gear! Please RSVP with Chris George at (716) 380-0330 by January 11. More info and registration forms for this event and other NFCLYO North happenings is at www.nfclyo.org.

NFCYMnet gatherings



The NFCLYO goes Green

Are you a youth worker (volunteer or paid), a pastor, or are interested in finding support for your church's youth ministry program? Come join us with the NFC Youth Ministry Network to pray, talk, get ideas and connect with others just like you!

We have already met for December, but mark Thursday evening, January 14 off as we gather at the Buffalo Brew Pub (Main St. just west of Transit Rd., Williamsville) at 6:30 pm for peanuts, popcorn (both of which are free) and drinks (which are not)...with the Sabres at Atlanta on in the background.

Can't make this one? We meet again each month...check out our schedule at www.nfclyo.org under Youth Workers.

New initiative to be better stewards of God's creation



Becoming better stewards of God's creation is the drive behind the new GREENFCLYO program. Beginning at Harvest Bash at Harvest House, you

will begin to see the changes we are making to better care for the gifts God has charged us with. From sustainable-material foodware (cups, napkins, and soon plates and plasticware), to less use of petroleum-based plastics (goodbye water bottles!), to better paper use and wiser energy use, the NFCLYO is going green. Learn more at www.nfclyo.org/green.

2010 Event Dates

Be sure you mark your calendars for these great events coming soon! Info coming soon on all these events at www.nfclyo.org:



NFCLYO Volleyball Marathon: Friday-Saturday, March 19-20

Another great year for volleyball insanity! Volleyball tournament in church teams, with more awards for more stuff...not just volleyball! Help raise support for Lutheran Charities! Plenty to do off the court as well!

NFCLYO Pentecost Weekend: Built Up to Build Up: May 14-15

This year's NFCLYO Pentecost Overnight is going a step further...in fact many steps further. Join us on Friday night-Saturday, May 14-15, for what we are calling "Built Up to Build Up." We will have an overnight lock-in at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Downtown Buffalo, where there will be games, mixers, activities and a spirit-filled worship experience where we will discover how we are "Built Up" by the Holy Spirit. The next day, we take those many steps out into the community in service at various projects to "Build Up" our neighbor. Look for more info on this event in the spring.

Harvest Bash at Harvest House recap

What an incredible night! This year's Harvest Bash at Harvest House welcomed Captive Free, a young adult service and music ministry, to lead worship, and they did an awesome job. We also welcomed 100 people and **raised over \$1,500 for Harvest House** (almost double last year!!!) thanks in part to the Erie County chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans! Thanks be to God for all who had a part in this year's event: Harvest House, Thrivent, Captive Free, the adults who helped throughout the night and the youth who came for a great experience and made an incredible difference for the lives of those ministered to by Harvest House!



Check out the pictures from the night at the Picture Album on www.nfclyo.org!

The CORE Team: ready to help your youth

Let us know if you or someone you know is interested in CORE 2010-11



The NFCLYO CORE Team is at it again, now in their seventh year of ministering to their peers and others they see a need in. They are a group of 15 senior-high leaders in our church ready and willing to witness their faith through Lutheran Charities temple talks at worship, help lead youth ministry activities (from devos and games to overnights to weekend retreats), and serve others in need.

Call (716) 465-1321 if you would like the CORE Team to visit your church for any of these things or we can design something

new...distance is not a problem!

In 9-11th grade?! If you are looking to be a part of this dynamic team next year (2010-11), contact Rick MG at rick@nfclyo.org. We'll be opening some of our activities to check out next May...give it some thought and prayer to see if you could make a difference with your faith in CORE!

2010 Northeast Region Youth Gathering

Been to the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans and want another experience like that this summer? Or just want to be a part of a larger youth gathering? The Northeast Region (New England, New York, New Jersey and eastern Pennsylvania) of the ELCA is having a Youth Gathering this summer, July 22-25 in the Philadelphia area! For those currently in grades 9-12, this event has bands, worship, activities and so much more! Find out more at www.youthgathering2010.org! And if your group is planning on going, let us know at info@nfclyo.org. If there is enough interest in our area we could look into coordinating transportation!



The NFCLYO is on Facebook

Become a fan!

The NFCLYO is on Facebook...and we are making our presence there bigger this year! Go to www.nfclyo.org and click on the Become a Fan button to get connected with the NFCLYO on Facebook. Post to the wall, upload pictures, RSVP to events, connect with other fans, and receive automatic event reminders and updates right to your FB profile! "Fan-up" today!

The NFCLYO thanks three very generous groups for granting us the financial gifts to continue our growing and vital ministry with the youth of Western New York into 2010!

St. John's Lutheran Home for Children: This organization manages investments that fund much of the youth-oriented ministry happening in our Lutheran community in WNY.

Lutheran Charities of WNY: Helps Lutheran-operated ministries thrive in WNY...from the NFCLYO and LCLC to campus ministries, health and employment services and more.

YOU!!!: Without your individual contributions to Lutheran Charities and your prayer, the NFCLYO simply would not exist! Thank you all for your support!!!

Have a blessed Christmas and a safe and happy New Year...see you in 2010!

Rick Mollenkopf-Grill
Niagara Frontier Conference Lutheran Youth Organization

Connecting youth with Christ...RIGHT HERE...RIGHT NOW

A ministry supported by Lutheran Charities of WNY & St. John's Lutheran Home for Children

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Niagara Frontier Conference Lutheran Youth Organization | 55 Pleasant Ave. | Lancaster | NY | 14086