



A service of the
Northwest District
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Lutheran Church -
Missouri Synod

Youth Supports

A resource to encourage and empower youth leaders for the expansion of the Lord's kingdom.

May 2009 - Volume 10, Issue 5

- "Shred the Gnar"
- **Free youth ministry resources!**

"Shred the Gnar"

Translation: Go big or Go Home! Go for it...

Share Your Faith DUDE!

"This is what
I want for
my youth..."

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teaching tool
is the use of
the acronym
G.O.S.P.E.L....

Several years ago I met Pastor Greg Stier. Pastor Greg and his church had begun an evangelistic training ministry that focused on equipping and training today's youth to know, to own and to share their faith in Jesus Christ with their classmates. The ministry is called "Dare 2 Share" ministries. I remember sitting at a training luncheon and thinking, "This is what I most want for my youth. I want them to be able to articulate what they believe, to trust in Christ alone as their only hope of salvation, and to be willing to share it with their classmates."

So I went deeper and checked into D2S, and I found that their mission statement and doctrine were faithful to God's Word. This ministry has proven to be a worthy ministry tool, especially as part of our confirmation curriculum. (Keep in mind that I need to use the "Lutheran Doctrine Filter" from time to time, but even that process is good for the whole knowing, owning and sharing of one's faith.)

D2S' primary teaching tool for evangelism is the use of the acronym G.O.S.P.E.L. to help students share the core message of the Christian Faith.

G-God created us to be with Him

O-Our sins separate us from God

S-Sins cannot be removed by good deeds

P-Paying the price for sin Jesus Christ died and rose again

E-Everyone who trusts in Him alone has eternal life

L-Life that is eternal means that we will be with Jesus forever.

We attended our first conference in 2007 (and two more since) and our youth group will never be the same. The conference training and ministry tools have changed the landscape of our youth group. D2S helped me and our youth realize that they are missionaries often best suited to reach their families, friends and

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K-Scope scheduled for August 2-7!

Free ideas for your youth ministry!

classmates for the sake of the Gospel. My kids are “Shredding the Gnar” and praying for their classmates. “*Ill Dude!*” (I think he means “Sick!”) They are pursuing their friends and family with the core message of Jesus. Way too cool!

D2S' on-line website tools enable me to keep up with major trends in youth culture as well as supplying me with a weekly Bible study that usually ties directly to the latest music, movies, and TV. The Gospel Journey reality video series are “Off the Chart...” (I think he means “Hook”)

And yes, it does help me keep up on the latest new “trends” in the world of my youth without much effort. In fact, the weekly email updates help me to stay...well...in a word...“irrelevant.” I know just enough about their world to ask (good?) questions and drive them crazy. I'm dubbed “clueless” to the relevancy of their world...which is exactly what I am aiming for...

“Pray also for me that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the Gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.” Ephesians 6:19-20 (NIV)

—Jan Novak, *Worship and Youth Leader, Lamb of God Lutheran Church, Lake Stevens, Washington* (worship@lambogod-lakestevens.org)

(You can find out more at <http://www.dare2share.org/>.)

Find past issues of Youth Supports at:

http://www.nowlms.org/educational_services/YouthSupports.aspx

Kaleidoscope 2009

Kaleidoscope 2009 has been scheduled for Aug. 2-7 at the Delano Bay Christian Camp on Washington's Key Peninsula about 25 miles west of Tacoma. The event is for youth who are entering 10th grade in the fall of '09 through to '09 graduates. Contact Rev. John Schmidt at 253-582-4043 for more information.

Want Some Ideas for Your Youth Ministry?

The Board of Youth Ministry for the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod with a grant from Thrivent started a new electronic youth ministry resource available for free on the internet. Check out <www.youthsource.com/> The web page is not just for adults, but for youth too with a number of links to other great web sites. The November site included a four part Bible study on Jesus and culture and an article on how to respond to the issue of homosexuality.

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