

YOUTH HAPPENINGS



We live in a world in which we are constantly bombarded with messages about how we should dress, spend money, eat, drink, study, work, vote, believe, live, etc. There are so many different messages that it gets hard to know which messages are true and which are just a bunch of lies. And then there are those in-between messages – the ones that aren't entirely wrong, but aren't entirely right either. So how do we know what messages we should listen to? How do we know what we really believe? In God's Word, we find this statement in John's Gospel:

"But these things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."

John 20:31

18 youth and 4 adults from St. John's went to New Orleans, Louisiana for the LCMS National Youth Gathering, based around the theme, "WE BELIEVE" taken from John 20:31. Joined by over 25,000 youth and adults from around the U.S. and world, we gathered to celebrate Jesus and His message of salvation, while being challenged to focus on these words. We looked at what WE BELIEVE and at what that means for everything we do.

We LOOK...

...and see the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

We LISTEN...

...and hear the words of the Word made flesh whose words are spirit and life.

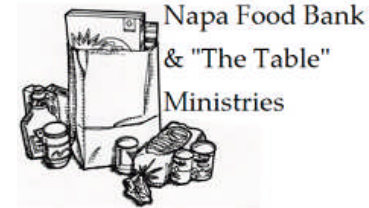
And we LIVE...

...because we have been given life in Jesus' name to love others as He first loved us.

Throughout the gathering, we participated in worship and Bible studies, concerts and speakers, service projects and missions, as well as many other things. From high fives to hugs and tears to laughter, we rejoiced in what God has done for us in His Son, Jesus Christ, so that we may BELIEVE and have life in Him, and so that we may show the world God's Story through our story!

For more information and photos from the gathering, check out <http://www.lcmsgathering.com/>

Also, if you would like to hear more about the gathering experience, the gathering group will be hosting a time one Sunday in August to tell about our experience, as well as show pictures and answer any questions you might have! So be looking out for what day we will be sharing our stories with you!



"The Table" and The Napa Valley Food Bank Ministries

Donations are down right now, so your support really counts!

For August, we are in need of:

- peanut butter
- cereal
- canned cream soups
- canned chicken
- noodles or small pasta

Thank you St. John's for reaching out to those in need in our community.

In His Service,
Diane and Cathy