

The Youth PULSE

The Rhythm of Life for First Congo Youth

January & February 2012



Sunday, January 8– 2:00-5:00– Youth Sledding Party– Bundle up and let's go have some fun on the hills! This year let's go to Echo Valley. Cost is \$12/person. We will meet at Echo Valley at 2 – and leave

by 4:30 to go to Jill's house for some hot chocolate. Parents can pick up their youth at Jill's at 5. Please RSVP, so I know to look for you!

Sunday, January 15– UP Group 3:00-5:00 & C.B.S. Group 5:00– 7:00–

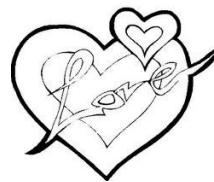
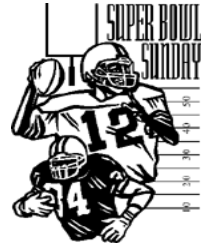
Mystery Night at the church– Come for a fun evening, but I am not going to tell you what we are doing! You just have to show! :)

Friday, January 20– Sunday, January 22– Mark your calendars for the yearly youth retreat. I am hoping to have it this weekend– but still searching for our location. Details and costs will be sent in a brochure later. **SAVE THE DATES!**



Sunday, January 29– 3:15– 6:30– Both UP & C.B.S. Groups attending the K-wings game at Wings Stadium– Let's go have some Hockey watching fun! Cost for the ticket is \$10– I need RSVP's for purchasing our tickets too..so message me and let me know if you are coming!

Sunday, February 5– 2:00-4:00– Pre-Super Bowl Party – Yes, it is Super Bowl Sunday, so come to Jill's for a pre-party with your friends. Bring a dish to share and let's get ready to watch the game!



Sunday, February 12– 3:00– 5:00 UP Group making Valentines for shut-ins & 5:00-7:00 C.B.S. Group making college care packages.

Let's share some LOVE...Come help us make some special things for some great people of our church. Donations for either events will be appreciated. Let me know what you would like to donate.

Sunday, February 19 3:00-6:00– Youth Planning Session for Martha's Table Worship....On Sunday February 26– 3:00– 6:30 the youth will be leading the Martha's Table worship and serving the Dinner.

Come and help us plan on the 19th ...then come back to serve and participate on the 26th! This is a great service project and I hope to see you all come to help!



Youth Bible Study Sr. High Wednesday Night Bible Study Plans:



Wed. January 11– 6:30– 8:00– Bible study and Dinner at Dianne's– 724 W. Kilgore

Wed., January 25– 6:30– 8:00– Bible Study in the youth room– Ginni Zywicke cooking dinner

Wed., February 8-6:30– 8:00– Bible study and Dinner at Dianne's– 724 W. Kilgore

Wed., February 22– Ash Wednesday Service at church– 7:00– Youth attending!



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

Finding Warmth in the Cold

Growing up I had a favorite church camp song that I was always singing. It is called "Pass It On". Maybe you know it and maybe you don't, but it has always been a favorite of mine. The words to the first verse are;

*It only takes a spark, to get a fire going
And soon all those around, can warm up in its glowing
That's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it
You spread His love to everyone, you want to pass it on.*

I think that I love this song so much because in my life I have been blessed enough to feel God's presence and warmth and I truly enjoy passing it on to other people.

You may ask, well what is experiencing God or what does that warmth mean or feel like? It really is quite simple, I think. Have you ever been having a bad day, and someone smiles at you and it makes you feel better? Or have you ever been given a gift that you really cherished and appreciated? Or what about that friend or family member who gives you a hug to try and let you know it will all be ok. These are all ways that we experience God.

Sometimes it just takes us stepping a little out of our dark, cold place and looking for the love that is around us for us to experience God in our lives. He is there, but we have to choose to notice and accept this love. That is not always an easy thing, but I promise each one of you this. I have found in my life that allowing people to love me and accept me is definitely the way to find warmth and happiness in your own lives. Because once you feel this warmth and love, it is like the song says, you want to pass it on.

Just think what an amazing world this would be if everyone tried to show love like that to each other. A smile, a hello, an "I've been there before", is just what someone else might need from you too. The last verse of this song says:

*I wish for you my friend this happiness that I have found
You can depend on Him, it matters not where your bound
I'll shout it from the mountain top, I want the world to know
The Lord of Love has come to me, I want to pass it on.*

I truly do wish this for each one of you. I hope and pray that you find this happiness and peace and warmth that comes from having God and love present in your lives. I try to show each of you that every time we are together. You are all very special to me, and I do really want to pass this wonderful warmth on to you. Accept it and know that you are worth it....each and every one of you.

Together through our cold times, I know that we can stay warm. Let's encourage each other, love each other, and pass on God's love in our world. It also doesn't hurt to take it outside of just our group, and our church. Smile at a stranger, help someone, or just let them know someone cares. Together we will stay warm.

Blessings & Hugs,