

MINNESOTA METRO LUTHERAN TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST



The Official Newsletter of Minnesota Metro Lutheran Teens Encounter Christ

"I am telling you the truth: A grain of wheat remains no more than a single grain unless it is dropped into the ground and dies. If it does die, then it produces many grains." John 12:24



A message from Jason...

Happy Easter everyone. I hope your summer was a time filled with fun, relaxation and great memories.

A few weeks ago I was trying to decide what to write about for this newsletter. Unfortunately circumstances have sort of dictated what this article is going to be about. As you are probably aware the T.E.C. trailer was stolen over the summer. The last few weeks the council has been dealing with police reports, insurance claims, and purchasing supplies for November T.E.C. One of the things I have been thinking about a lot is what T.E.C. is about. One verse has been on my mind as we continue to deal with the fallout of our trailer being stolen.

But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven.

-Matthew 5:44

It has been a very difficult situation to deal with. At first it was very difficult to think about forgiving the people who stole the trailer and have made it more difficult for us to continue hosting T.E.C. weekends. After a lot of prayer and meditation on this verse I have been able to forgive them. What I realized is that all the stuff we lost is not what T.E.C. is about. All the stuff that was taken was just stuff, and losing it won't stop us from sharing the gospel through T.E.C. weekends. Since we believe in a gospel of amazing grace and unfathomable forgiveness we will continue to tell the world about Jesus and what He has done for us. We'll continue to pray for people who don't know Him. We'll continue to be people who live our lives as an example of the forgiveness and joy that we have experienced. As I have been thinking about preparing for TEC in November I am overwhelmed with a sense of peace because God has a plan. We have seen it in the way people have offered to help. Throughout this situation we have been blessed by the prayers and support of the TEC community and churches we have partnered with. I want to thank you for your support and ask you to continue to pray for TEC.

Shine On,
Jason

TEC #110

Nov. 18-20 2011

Minnetonka Lutheran

Co-Directors:

Justeen Rylander & Jesse Dresselhaus

Team list pg 5

NEW FEATURE!

"BLAST FROM THE PAST"

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[MMLTEC](#)



UPCOMING TEC WEEKENDS

TEC #111

Feb. 11-13 2012

Immanuel Lutheran
Eden Prairie

TEC #112

Apr. 13-15 2012

Shepherd of the Hills
Shoreview

A note from Kate...



Fall is my favorite season. The air gets crisp, the leaves change color, scarves and boots come out of the closet...and my life gets **BUSY**. After Labor Day I get slammed: work, meetings, more work, church, holidays/birthdays, TEC Council getting in gear for “retreat season”, *trying* to have a social life and (a new one this year) planning a wedding. Although I am a “do-er” and I love being involved in many different things, and even get bored when I don’t have things on my calendar, all this busyness turns into stress very quickly.

Sound familiar, anyone? Well, maybe not the specifics, but I’m betting that you’ve all experienced the surge of stress that comes roughly around September 5th and stays until...June. Or so. Even if you don’t have the problem of over-committing, stress makes its way in at some point or another.

So how do we deal with it? In my experience stress rarely goes away on its own. There are as many “stress relief” ideas floating around as there are stressors in our lives. Yoga, meditation, eat healthier, work out, massages, vitamins, imagining yourself a peaceful place, etc. etc. etc. To be honest I’ve tried a lot of ways to reduce my stress, but the only thing that *a/ways* makes me feel better, no matter how busy I am, no matter how long my “to-do” list is, and no matter how little sleep I’ve gotten, is prayer. I know it may seem like just one more thing on your list to find time for, but going to church and finding time to pray brings a sense of peace like nothing else can. Don’t let your faith slide to the bottom of your priority list, even when your list is longer than the hours in a day.

My favorite “no time prayer” is from Psalm 46: “Be still and know that I am God”. Simple, one sentence, but powerful. “Be still...” take 10 seconds to calm down, take a breath, and find peace in knowing that our God has you in His hands. You will make it out the other side. Just have faith.

-Kate



“Way of Christ”

TEC FOR ADULTS/PARENTS?

If you are an adult or a parent of a TECie searching for a weekend to get away from it all and to have your "gas tank" filled with the Holy Spirit - a Via de Cristo weekend may be just the thing for you.

Minnesota Via de Cristo is similar to a TEC weekend in that it is a weekend retreat for encountering Christ and establishing or strengthening a personal relationship with Him. There are many opportunities to keep the Via de Cristo and TEC programs alive in you home congregations, but it takes all of us in prayer and action to make it happen.

Please consider attending a Via de Cristo, or **serve on a TEC weekend as an adult.**

What if They Gave a Party and No One Came...

For a majority of us, the Agape Dinner was the most memorable part of the TEC weekend. Sitting at the Lord's table, in his presence, the flowered cross in the middle and the heavenly voices serenading. This was followed by "Living Wheat." Remember the sanctuary filled with people and the ocean of candles? Those people were "TECies" that came to support you. Will you do the same to support the new weekenders?

We, the TEC Council, prayerfully ask that you attend the Agape serenade and Living Wheat for every TEC you can make it to.

It is a brief sacrifice of time for you, but a lifetime of memories for the weekenders.

TEC 110 Agape

Plan to serenade at the Agape dinner and stay for the "living wheat" service.

Please arrive by 6:00pm to serenade.

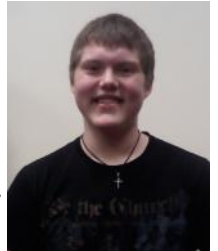
**Directions to Minnetonka Lutheran
16023 Minnetonka Blvd. Minnetonka, MN 55345**

**Hwy 494 to Minnetonka Blvd. Go 1 Mile West
(952) 935-3419 <http://www.mtkalutheran.org>**

From you TEC Council Youth Rep.....

As I sit here at write this, it is currently 12:33 AM. I am like many students out there, procrastinating from my homework, and it is quite late and I am very tired. I just returned from a weekend working at a camp with some friends and I got to experience something that I absolutely love about getting away for the weekend—stargazing. I love the cool air of a crisp fall night. I love hearing nothing but the rustling of the leaves and my own breathing. But most of all, I love realizing just how small we all really are. The closest star (other than the sun) is Proxima Centauri—it's 4.3 light years away, or 25,277,549,200,000 miles from Earth. And there are billions of stars out there—all named by God (Psalm 147:4). Just seeing this and realizing this, makes me understand the glory of God even more. But even so, we need to realize that we are only seeing a glimpse of it. Being broken people, and living in a broken world blinds us to His true glory. Through a relationship with Jesus Christ we can come to know it more, but never on this Earth will we fully grasp all that he has in store for us. So after a weekend, when you're coming down from a "TEC-high", take heart. God has greater things in store for you. More mountain top experiences, more relationships with people, more time spent with him—and when you combine a lifetime of these things, it still pales in comparison to what He has in store for us when we finally go home.

-Jesse



OFF TO COLLEGE?

CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS OR EMAIL?

Help keep us up to date. Just click the "contact us" link on the web page and send us your email or address change.



Blast from the Past **November TEC 1986, 25 Years ago**

(Yes, John Rogers was there. Back right with yellow & blue stripes)

TEC Team Selections

We are frequently asked, "How do you put the teams together?" So here is how we do the selections. When we receive an application, we mark it by the date we **receive it**. It is then entered on our computer with your 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice selections. Remember, you cannot work in the conference room until you have worked a team outside of the conference room. We then pray about the team selection. The teams are then assembled and every attempt is made to give you either your 1st or 2nd choice. But as teams fill this is not always possible. We do not let you know in advance what team you will be serving on because we want you to keep your focus on serving God rather than who you will be with you on team. **Remember; if you plan to give a talk, include an outline with your application.**

Gene & Laurie Whitbeck, team allocations.

Spread the Word...

Hey TECies! Do you know of a church that doesn't know anything about TEC? Or does your youth director know nothing about TEC? How DO we get more people involved? TEC has put together a DVD presentation that tells all about what a TEC weekend is. If you know of someone interested in TEC and they want to know more, A TEC Council member will be available for questions and a presentation on TEC at your church. Just email or call any member of the council for more details.

TEC #110 TEAM LIST

**** Barb DeMars**
**** Peter Jorgensen**
****Bryan Miller**
****Chris Woll**
****Debbie Odell**
****Gene Whitbeck**
****James Verlautz**
****Jason Waldron**
****Jennifer Follestad**
****John Rogers**
****Jon Brandon**
****Laurie Whitbeck**
****Michelene Verlautz**
****Paul Clark**
****Randy Bachman**
****Randy Romsdahl**
****Steve Nierengarten**
****Susan Johnson**
****Thomas Spoden**
***Abby Schnorr**
***Christina Weiberg**
***Kate Billison**
***Tony Grillo**
Aimee Sullivan
Alex Woytcke
Alison Smith
Andrew Follestad
Avery Maijala

Bailey Bechtold
Brandon Winkels
Brianna Peterson
Chelsey Harris
Danielle Grunzweig
Dave Follestad
Emma Sorensen
Eva Baker
Gabe Howard
Garrett Freese
Jennifer Graika
Jesse Dresselhaus
Jinna Johnson
Jordyn Kunde
Joshua Odell
Justeen Rylander
Kayley Indrehus
Kourtney Ryan
Leah Kellogg
Lukas Sorensen
Madaline Eichers
Matt Spoden
Meghanne Bartlett
Riley Fischer
Ryan Demars
T.J. Mason
Taylor Fosse