



KAYN

Kiski Area Youth Network

End of School Year Update

This time of year, many people are excited about graduation and the senior class of Kiski Area High School is no exception. However, the feelings of excitement about the future are often mixed with the sadness of saying goodbye to longtime friends and the familiar hallways of KAHS. As the school year comes to a close, the KAYN board members are also experiencing a wide variety of emotions. We are encouraged by the positive impact KAYN has had on the district but saddened by the challenging situations that so many students face daily. We are filled with anticipation thinking about

what God will do in the coming school year, but a little overwhelmed with working out the details that come with organizing a weekly youth event. We are hoping for a rejuvenating summer, but we also find ourselves planning summer events and fundraisers. But mostly, we are so excited at how much God has blessed this ministry and how much our Executive Director Jesse has accomplished since November. We are in awe of God's faithfulness and continue to trust that He will meet our needs and equip us to do His work!

- Blessings, the KAYN Team

Prayer Requests

Pray for **Kiski Area School District** as they seek out a **new Superintendent and Athletic Director**, as the people who fill these positions will have a significant impact in determining how active KAYN can be in the school. Pray that the school administration team remains open to KAYN working with and serving the school district.

Pray that **students will stay connected with KAYN** over the summer and participate in the mission/service opportunities, including the Street-A-Week Program in Vandergrift and the week long mission trip to New Jersey to help with continued Hurricane Sandy relief efforts.

Pray that our **fundraising events** (see below!) would grow our support base and serve our supporters as fun and exciting events.

Pray that God would provide KAYN with **committed individuals** who would be willing to **volunteer** their time and talents at our weekly KAYN youth program that will be beginning in the fall.

Send your prayer requests to us at kiskiareayouth@gmail.com or find us on at www.facebook.com/KiskiAreaYouth or on Twitter @KiskiNet

Raising KAYN: Growing Our Support Base to Grow Our Ministry

We continue to be amazed at the many ways in which God is blessing our ministry, especially our finances. We are happy to report that we have seen the number of monthly givers increase over the past few months and want to thank those of you who have decided to financially support KAYN on a regular basis! One time gifts are also so valuable, as evidenced by our participation in the Pittsburgh Day of Giving on May 5th. On this date, we raised over \$5,400 thanks to 16 generous donors and the matching fund! What an awesome day!

We are also excited to announce that our First Annual Golf Outing will be on August 29th from 1-6 pm at Willowbrook Country Club. If you are a golfer, please consider joining us for this event and keep your eyes open for information containing registration details.

We also hope that many of you are able to join us for the KAYN Family Picnic on June 20th so that we can get to know you better and give you the chance to learn more about KAYN!

Director's Corner: Notes from the Front Lines of Ministry

The success of KAYN thus far can be largely attributed to the receptiveness of the school district, community leaders and local churches. A local Catholic youth minister took me out to breakfast to ask me, "How have you received these open doors?", as he had recently transitioned into a new position and hoped to glean some strategies.

Besides God's favor, the one activity that I would connect our success thus far to is service - and I hope that this will encourage and challenge

you in your personal walk as well. Paul encourages us to



have the mind of Christ (Philippians 2:5) and then defines what that mindset is in vs. 6-8 - that of a servant, one who humbles himself. This runs so countercultural; in a

world where we strive for the top, Jesus calls us to race to the bottom.

It's there that we find true success, the last will be first and the humble will be exalted (the alternative isn't pretty). So at the beginning of every conversation with churches, administration and community leaders I have asked this question, "How can

we serve you?" Can we serve them in everything that they do? Not always, but in more ways than one might think.

KAYN Student Spotlight: Tim Collins



My name is Tim Collins and I am a junior at Kiski Area High School. I am the treasurer of the Kiski Area Bible Club and I think the Kiski Area Youth Network is a great thing for the youth in our area! Because it is still a newer organization, a lot of students still may not be aware that the Kiski Area Youth Network even exists, but it is doing a great job at trying to reach out to those students. I try to attend as many Youth Network things that I can. Every Tuesday, I go to our weekly bible study at Kings called "Love God, Eat Pie". One of my personal favorite things that KAYN does is Ask Anything. It is an event that usually takes place once a month where everyone shows up and asks a debatable question about their faith to a panel of advisors. It is always a great night of fellowship as we wrestle with our faith. Another awesome thing about KAYN is our Director, Jesse Ledbetter. He is always willing to open up his home to us, and he is somebody that any of us can come to if we need to talk. He is such an awesome guy, and we are all so thankful for him and the whole entire Kiski Area Youth Network.