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they were getting a divorce. Dad was moving out. **IMPACT!**

Jim loved biology. The teacher made the subject very interesting and even told Jim that he had the ability to be a doctor. **IMPACT!**

These teenagers experienced impact. Some circumstances bring negative impact. Others make for positive impact. The 2009 Iowa Youth Gathering will center on the theme of "ImpACT." Senior high youth will step away from those day to day experiences at home, school, and community to focus on the impact that Christ has made on their lives. The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ impacted them in the waters of their baptism. The Gospel message spoken in sanctuaries and in Bible study groups continues to direct them to God's grace. At the Lord's Table they are strengthened to withstand Satan's challenges. Through worship, Bible study, devotional times and sectionals youth will be impacted by the Spirit.

As God works through them, youth make an impact for Christ's sake. They serve in their congregations and communities. They are a blessing to their families. They witness to their friends. They participate in servant events and mission trips. The 2009 gathering will challenge youth to make an impact. Our gathering theme verse from Philemon 6 challenges all of us to "be active in sharing your faith."

The 2009 Iowa Gathering can make an impact on individual lives. It can make an impact on our youth group. It can make an impact on Calvary.

Youth leave on Friday, November 27 and return Sunday, November 29.

300 DAYS

300 Days is all we have left of this life, that is, the life prior to LCMS' National Youth Gathering. This Gathering **WILL IMPACT** each individual that attends. Lives will be changed. Congregations can be changed. Are we ready to trust in the LORD and take the plunge into HIS world?

In New Orleans an estimated 25,000 youth with counselors will come together to confess what we know and believe to be true...we have a heavenly Father who loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins and also sent His Holy Spirit to be with us, to strengthen us in our resolve to share His Good News with all people on earth.

Over the course of the next 300 days, Calvary youth are preparing spiritually by being in God's Word. And the youth need to prepare financially to participate in this Gathering. Although God's Word is free, attendance at the Gathering is not: hotel rooms, transportation, and the programming of the Gathering all need to be paid for.

The congregation is asked first to pray for the youth that will attend. It is also asked that the congregation consider their stewardship in the building of these youth to be the leaders of God's church by supporting our fund raising efforts.