

## Youth Ministry 2021

### Less is More!

2021 was not a very busy year for Youth Ministry. Due to the pandemic and Alex's summer sabbatical, there were no summer trips, no Spaghetti Dinner, no youth groups until September, and no outreach events. And although we missed some of these pre-pandemic highlights, **we are deeply grateful for having more time, energy, and creativity to invest in the few programs we were able to do in 2021.**

### Confirmation Class of 2021

Confirmation became the main focus of Youth Ministry for the first five months of 2021. Taylor, Alex, and Cindi teamed up to lead a primarily virtual Confirmation program. The students met over zoom for class every other Wednesday night to learn basics of the Gospel message, the Bible, Reformed worship, Presbyterian governance, etc. In between their weeks of classes, the students split into two age-specific groups to read and discuss the Gospel of Luke in a way that helped them engage with each chapter. As one student wrote in their faith statement, "In the span of a couple months of reading... Luke, I have learned many new things about what happened in The Bible. I found that reading the Bible makes more sense as I have grown, knowing that some stories are a bit advanced. But overall, the Bible has taught me about God and his ways, that he is always with us, and that everything happens for a reason." For their class project, the students decided together to do yard work in late April to prepare the church grounds for the summer (pictured). **The students confirmed on May 23, 2021, are Caden Frost, Bryn Moore, Owen Sobotta, Teddy Solberg, Jon James Ticku, and Taryn Winga.**



### Students Engaging in the Life and Ministry of First Pres

On one of our final Confirmation gatherings, the students took a survey designed to show them which ministry teams of the church would best fit their interests. By the end of 2021, at least half of the Confirmation class has been actively involved in other areas of the church, especially the Tech Team & Children's Ministry programs (the latter is pictured). **We are grateful for the significant contribution these young men and women have made on the life and ministry of First Presbyterian Church!**

