By ROBERT PIERCE

• Leader & Times

As a way to draw in and unite the youth of the community, some local church leaders have been hosting monthly events in Light Park for the newly formed Liberal Youth Fully Empowered, or LYFE, group.

The events normally consist of praise and worship music from bands from several different churches around town. This Saturday, the local youth will get to hear music from a Colorado Springs hip-hop group.

According to their Facebook page, City Lights is "focused on uniting the body of Christ by providing a place where young people can gather in a positive environment and to ignite the youth for God and shining bright amongst their peers, standing out in the crowd instead of feeling the overwhelming pressure to compromise who they are to fit in with that crowd.

"Remember, you are the City of Lights," the page noted. "We want City Lights to be a place

where you are equipped to handle difficult circumstances you may face as well as connected, around other people who share similar struggles, as we all seek God together for the direction He wants for our lives!"

Church For All Nations' Joanne Metcalf said the night will also feature games and free sno cones courtesy of the Sno Shack.

Trinity Faith Church Youth Pastor Nigel Robinson said thus far, the LYFE group, which was formed earlier this summer, has been going great.

"We have seen the students of the community unite for one purpose, Jesus, and look forward to the next event," he said. "We have seen students get saved and grow in their passion for Jesus."

Metcalf said several local churches and organizations have become involved with LYFE in addition to CFAN and Trinity Faith. Those include First United Methodist, Puerta del Cielo, Lighthouse and Standout, and Metcalf said the group is a growing one.

"Two new churches for this month are New Beginnings and South Church of God," she said.

City Lights will perform Saturday night at Light Park as part of LYFE's Back To School Bash, and Metcalf said the event is the last LYFE has scheduled for this summer.

"We had decided to hold monthly events at (Light Park) as a way of drawing in and uniting the youth of our community," she said.

Metcalf said the monthly events are leading up to a "huge" event LYFE has scheduled for 2014 called Pure Rebellion, an event organization that travels around the country.

Metcalf said LYFE has decided to continue into the fall with monthly citywide events, and the group is planning a See You At The Pole rally in September.

The Back To School Bash will begin at 6:30 p.m. Saturday at the amphitheater in Light Park. The event is free to the public.