

11 18th Street S Fargo, ND 58103

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WE'RE MORE THAN JUST PEACHES...

We radically love and bring hope to teens. Together we can make a difference in the lives of teens in the Fargo-Moorhead area. Can we count you?







[DIRECTOR'S NOTES]

Happy New Year! I hope you are having a great start to your new year.

These past few months at YFC have been a bit of a whirlwind. November was our Comedy for a Cause event and what a night we had. We had the opportunity to give 800 people a taste of the work that God is doing through YFC here in our community and have a great laugh with comedian John Crist. For many that night, this was their first introduction to YFC and it gave us the opportunity to show many others that we are so much more than peaches.

In December God brought to us two really neat connections with local business that are really going to be a blessing. For a while, we have been praying about and researching donor management software, as something we believe will help us get to the next level in organization. Through a God orchestrated meeting, we got connected with a new local startup called DonorDock and they have agreed to take us on through a beta testing agreement and, for as long as we continue to give them feedback, we will get the full huge answer to prayer!

The other really neat connection was with the new Chick-Fil-A that just opened in Fargo. They have a real heart for kids and the ministry we are doing and want to partner with us going forward. That was another God orchestrated introduction and another encouragement God sent our way. On January 17th, as part of their grand opening

celebration, they brought a huge party to Woodrow and blessed the staff and students with lunch. The day was full of laughter, entertainment, and great company. One of the other things they are doing for us next month is providing a little "thank you". This will be going out to all of you who give to YFC at givingheartsday.org on February 8th for Giving Hearts Day!

Giving Hearts Day is coming February 8th and for that 24 hour period, friends of YFC will be matching up to \$13,000 and we could not be more excited. All the information you need to give that day will be inside this newsletter. With that in mind, please consider blessing YFC that day.

Thanks for being a part of this ministry and enjoy reading about some of the faces behind the peaches!



Executive Director

Greg Everett

YOUTH FOR RED RIVER CHRIST®

Winter 2018

NOTES FROM THE JOURNEY ...

Going into this New Year, please pray for us as we begin working on a strategic plan to lead us into the future. Please also be praying for the peach crops in Georgia and Colorado as they help provide a lot of funding for this

[OUR MISSION]

YFC radically loves and brings hope to teens by working together with the local church and other like-minded partners to raise up lifelong followers of Jesus who lead by their Godliness in lifestyle, devotion to the Word of God and prayer, passion for sharing the love of Christ and commitment to social involvement.

YFC provides a safe and friendly place to learn leadership skills, to think about important issues and to develop quality relationships with peers and with caring adults.

YFC's 5 Ministry Essentials:



WIDESPREAD PRAYER

FAITHFUL BIBLE TEACHING

LOVING RELATIONSHIPS



ADULTS WHO EMPOWER

COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY STRATEGY



The Faces Behind The Peaches

Some of you may know us from our annual summer peach sale. While this does provide a lot of our funding, we are so much more than just peaches. These are some of the stories from kids we work with from right here in Fargo-Moorhead.

Juvenile Justice Program

Many of the kids we see in the detention center have tried to harm themselves physically. One young lady swallowed staples a couple weeks ago. I continually read her Psalm 139. I try to help her understand how special she is in the eyes of Christ. Self-harm is just one of the many common themes we see kids continually struggling with. ~*Mike King*

Woodrow Wilson Wednesday Lunch

Recently one of the students came up to me after lunch and asked to know more about who we are and what we do. I began to share about YFC with her. We later met for coffee and continued to build this new relationship. She began to open up to me about her life and she shared with me that she



transitions back and forth between parent's homes daily. She carries a duffel bag most days and just lives out of that. She enjoys Wednesday lunch and has asked to help be involved more with YFC. I am excited to continue to build this relationship with her. ~Danielle Hill

Juvenile Justice Program

Many of the young men are fathers, and want to be good fathers, but really do not know what this looks like. I encourage these young men to come to one-on-ones Wednesday nights so we can spend time discussing what a godly father looks like. My heart breaks, for not just these kids, but also the continual cycle of kids having kids and raising them with no solid foundation. ~*Mike King*

<u>Can we Count You?</u>

Giving Hearts Day is February 8th, 2018. It is a 24 hour window for giving, with the opportunity for gifts to be matched. Donations of \$10 or more up to \$13,000 will be matched by friends of Red River Youth for Christ. Checks dated February 8th and turned in by noon that day will also be accepted. To donate, go to givingheartsday.org, choose Red River Youth for Christ, and make your secure online donation. This is a great way to bless this ministry and double the impact of your gift.

Thank you for supporting this ministry and bringing hope to teens in the Fargo-Moorhead community.



Parent Life - Parenting Class

I met Sam while she was 5 months pregnant when she came to a parent life meeting. As I drove her home, she told me she did not want to come to the meeting but her social worker had "forced her" to attend. Sam was very angry about everything! She hated her mom, social worker, life, school, me, and anything else I brought up. Over time, Sam shared with me the abuse she had been through, her struggle with drugs, and her suicide attempt. Her life was out of her control and she was so hopeless. Over time, I shared with her Jesus' story and the hope He offers us. Sam did not trust anyone, and she was not about to trust Jesus either. When Sam went into labor there were complications. Miraculously, they both survived, and this was a turning point for Sam. We discussed how she is here for a reason, her baby is here for a reason, and what she is going to do moving forward. In time, Sam did choose to follow Jesus and she truly turned her life over to Him. She laughed as she told me that now that she has totally given up control of her life, she feels like her life is on track and going the way she wants. ~Linda Bass

Mentorship

I am starting to mentor a young man who is staying in a group home. He has no mom or dad in his life and has been placed several times, but none of these placements have worked out. He is just one of many we work with that have no family structure in their lives. No one to love them, take them by the hand, and walk through life with them. We pray that this mentorship leads to a lifelong relationship where we can love on him and continually point him to Jesus. ~*Mike King*

Because of your support, these stories can be continued...

RRYFC BOARD RRYFC STAFF

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