

Dear Friends & Family,

Well our summer activities are finally over! It was a summer filled with lots and lots of fruit, frustration, and some more fruit! However God kept his promise in so many ways of providing to our ministry. We were forced to rely heavily on Him in details that are normally set in stone. As frustrating as that may have been, it grew all of our staff and I believe was best for all of us. Carmen's and my Summer included us celebrating our first year of marriage, lots of family time and traveling, and finally lots and lots and LOTS of Portillos along the way... (If you know, you know). Carmen has started her second year at Liberty where she is trying out a new style of teaching. There have already been some ups and downs during that, but she is finding out this is what's best for the kids and is determined to make it work for her students! Life at church has picked up as we have started Life groups again. I am playing the drums a couple Sunday's a month, and I have also been asked to consider the possibility of being a host and making announcements during the service. Carmen is also meeting with the women of the group to go over a book together and grow their relationships together.



With summer fruit sales being over, this means that ministry life is back in the full swing of things! I am going to be continuing going to Dakota alternative school on Tuesday's to play basketball with the students. As a team we are also going on Wednesday's to serve a community lunch, and I also play basketball with the students once that is over. I am currently in the Detention center a couple times a week. I have a Monday Bible study/hangout time with the kids, and we will also be having "Church" for the kids on Wednesday nights. There have been multiple kids asking for one-on-one opportunities due to the Monday night gathering. This has led to many deeper conversations, and even one resident making contact when he got out! After weeks had gone by of silence I had just assumed just like others, promises were made but once out those promises didn't seem appealing. We will be at Liberty middle school for the second year now. Last year brought a lot of newness and challenges as we tried to navigate where God was leading us. After a few meetings with the school we have decided



A previous Liberty student & mente visiting our peach stand this summer.

to change the route a little bit and have a true 1-1 mentorship opportunity for the kids. This will allow us to be able to have deeper level conversations, as well as have open and honest communication. We are still in the waiting period to start this program as the school is working diligently to figure out which kids need this help the most. Please be praying for the school, as well as the kids that are chosen for us to work with. Pray that God is in the decision making and that he will make it clear who we should have! We also will have some changes with the lunch help this year. Instead of just walking around the lunch room making sure kids are following the school's expectations, and having slight conversations with kids. We have decided it would be best if we used that time for small group lunches for kids that

may struggle with the craziness of the “normal lunch”. This will allow us to really get to know kids in a relaxed environment where we can talk about things outside of school matters. It will also help the students stay out of trouble and make better choices along the way. I also have started the FCA at the school. While not having a great turn out the first week, I can already see how God is working. Please be in prayer for the bible study to have the kids God wants to be there, and for us to be used to reach them where they are at! Lastly I accepted a 7th grade football coaching position at the school. It has been quite interesting to say the least. A number of the kids on the team had Carmen as a teacher last year. God definitely allowed those relationships that had started last year to blossom into more as I’ve gotten to know each and every one of them deeper. As they called me “Mr. Visitor” when I was in the lunchroom last year, I have now become “Coach Visitor”. I ask for prayer for the kids on the team to see me as more than a coach, and hope that some will choose to start coming to FCA as the year goes on!



Deb & I at a community event.

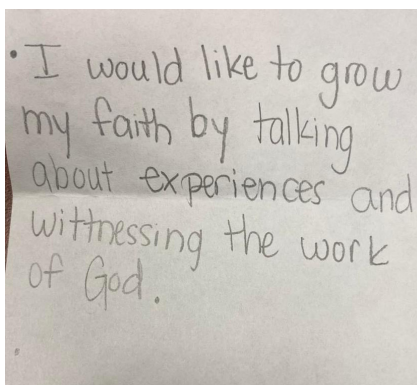
Some other prayer requests I have are for our ministry in whole. We are seeking to find volunteers in the various ministry sites. While we are able to fill all the needs as a staff, it would be such a blessing for us not to have to rely heavily on the staff. Also be in prayer as we have our Concert for a Cause event coming up in November. For God to provide financially, as well as spiritually as we share about the ministry to the city!

I just want to thank everyone who has generously donated to help support myself and the Youth for Christ ministry. I’m so grateful to have friends and family come alongside me through prayer as well as financial gifts. Currently, I have \$1,200.00 committed per month towards my \$1,500 goal. However, I have also been so blessed through one-time gifts. I ask that you would prayerfully consider joining me as a monthly donor whether that’s through financial gifts or even prayer gifts. Donations can be given online at: <https://redriveryouthforchrist.givingfuel.com/giving> and by selecting the “WL” option or through the enclosed envelope.



Or scan the code to take you directly to the donate page.

William Lawyer
Youth for Christ Ministry Staff



A student’s note in reference to our YFC/FCA Bible study from Matthew 13.



YFC/FCA Bible Study at Liberty



Summer staff retreat brings you this awkward photo of our team.