



IN THIS ISSUE

Meet our new team members

Wonderfully Made Recap

Next Step Challenge

Local School Programs

Summer Programs



Are you interested in volunteering with YFC London? Whether it's ongoing or event-specific, we love our volunteers!

Email info@yfc london.com for more information.



MENTORING MATTERS

By **JEFF STE. MARIE**

It was a random question posed to me while attending the recent Regional Staff Conference in January. Would I be willing to take on a young man in need of a fresh start, whom I'd never met before? After 30 years of teaching teenage boys in a high school auto shop setting, this was an easy question to answer.

Sam & I started communicating in March and began spending time together later that month. Our weekly E-Recycling run was the first activity we shared, which provided lots of time for some physical activity, as well as an opportunity to talk about how we can make better choices. Sam is talented, comes from a faith background and recently lost his father. Each of our lives has it's share of ups and downs, yet God is faithful and promises to be with us each step of the way, if we let him.

As the weeks went by and conversations went deeper, Sam saw the light at the end of the tunnel. The recently held ReBoot Men's Event provided a full couple of days of setting up, participating in the sessions, engaging with other men and helping tear down and pack up. Voices of doubt and shame were being displaced with words of grace, mercy and hope.

Sam's school year ended and he returned back home, but was recently in touch again. Could he come back to London and put in some more hours? He really likes hanging around the YFC London team.

The Open House at Glen Cairn Public School invited YFC to attend with a booth and the BBQ trailer. With 220 hot dogs cooked in over 2 hours, Sam saw a new side of the potential that resides in him. Words of affirmation from different sources were seeds of hope that displaced feelings of hopelessness.

CON'T. ON PAGE 2



MENTORING MATTERS (CON'T)

On my desk at YFC is the rear view mirror from an old convertible I used to own. I use it as a visual reminder that our lives are like driving; what is in the rear view mirror is important, but we can't spend too much time there. Our focus has to be on what's ahead, looking through the windshield - that's where we are going.

There have been numerous times in my life as a young person where I should have made better decisions. When my parents divorced in 1969, I was as lost as a leaf on a windy fall day. I'm eternally thankful to God that he brought 6 men into my life as a young teenager who did their best to keep me 'out of the ditch and on the narrow path'. I owe much of who I am today to their investment in me.

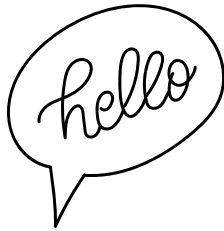
Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do, forgetting what lies behind me and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:12-14.

It's a great privilege to sow seeds of faith and encouragement into young lives, especially in this season of so many clamoring voices. Thank you for praying for us and standing with us in this mission of seeing every young person living fully in Christ.

**Sam's name has been changed*

SAVE THE DATE SEPTEMBER 25 - IRONMAN OF GOLF OCTOBER 30 - ANNUAL BANQUET

SAY



TO OUR NEW STAFF



Hello, I'm Dorothy and I've worked with community services groups for nearly 40 years. For the past 10 years, I've focused on connecting with local communities, partners and churches in the Glen Cairn and Pond Mills area and I love creating opportunities for others to discover, learn and create. I love to create delicious meals and treats then enjoy the conversations, laughs and meals together with my family. My sons, daughters-in-law and grandchildren are such a joy and blessing! I'm eager to use my skills and talents in my new Partner Development role at YFC London.

Hi, my name is Cindy and I recently joined the YFC team in a Partner Relations role. I'm excited to use my administrative & community-building skills and work with such an amazing organization. Over the years, I've worked for a number of not-for-profit and for-profit companies and now that my children are grown, I'm looking for a way to give back. I love hanging out and building Lego with my grandkids. I also enjoy crocheting and traveling with my hubby Scott.



My name is Leah and I will be spending the summer at YFC London working primarily as a Program Coordinator. I am so excited to be helping to run the summer events and programs here at YFC. In September, I will return to Heritage Bible College and Seminary for my last year of studying Religious Education. I love caring for others and sharing the gospel and hope to be involved in Biblical Soul Care after I finish school.



WONDERFULLY MADE

On May 26, approximately 100 people squeezed into our auditorium to enjoy our “Wonderfully Made” presentation. After weeks of preparation, the evening was a huge success! Many of our staff, volunteers and youth worked tirelessly to create this special evening.

Our goal with this event was to shine a light on the variety of talents within our youth and in the wider community, while highlighting the message that each of us is wonderfully and uniquely created by our Heavenly Father. With the help of everyone in the show and the work of the Holy Spirit in bringing the night together, we believe we achieved our goal!



LOCAL SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Mary and I were welcomed into Princess Elizabeth School for indoor lunchroom activities. Over twenty students, who had previously attended other events at our YFC facility, were excited to see us. Because the weather was warm, we opted to play games outside. As a few students began to play the big ball activities, more students wanted to be included and we adapted the games for the growing numbers. Students who did not know us asked what YFC stood for. This was a chance for us to make a positive connection in the community. Staff and teachers alike are feeling more comfortable with our presence in their school, and we will be continuing to connect during lunch hours. Please pray as God is on the move. **CAROLYN BAGNALL**

Thank you to Dorothy and the Café Connect Team for preparing some delicious snacks in recognition of Teacher Appreciation Day. Our local YFC team delivered delicious muffins & cookies to seven local elementary schools. What a wonderful opportunity to bless the teachers that work with London youth each and every day.

NEXT STEP CHALLENGE

The sun came out and so did our supporters for YFC London's Next Step Challenge.

We were grateful to see so many faces on Saturday, May 6th as teams participated in YFC's Next Step Challenge. They took to the streets of the Glen Cairn community and participated in fun challenges along the way. And what event would be complete without a BBQ?

Next Step Challenge was an awesome opportunity to connect with our supporters and raise funds & awareness for the programs we offer to London youth. Through our generous corporate sponsors and participants, we hit our goal of \$15,000! Thank you to all who participated or sponsored this event. We look forward to seeing you next year!



SUMMER PROGRAMMING

With school winding down, we are gearing up for our summer programs. On June 28 we are hosting our "June Jubilee" which will kick off the students' summer with a BBQ, yard games, and a campfire. Other programs over the summer include ukulele lessons, a painting workshop, bootcamp, volleyball and a unique combination of games and good works. Youth will enjoy some fun competition followed by serving in our community. In addition our girls are wrapping up their skating lessons and Compass Basketball training camps will happen in July.

VIDEO BONUS

Don't take our word for it. Listen as Becky's shares her passion for YFC London's programs and how her family has been impacted over the past year.



SCAN ME

Cafe Connect

Be sure to follow Cafe Connect on Facebook or Instagram to see what's on the menu. You can also check our website for the weekly specials, hours, etc. Join us for lunch or ask about our catering services. @CafeConnectYFC



PARTNER

With Us



Are you passionate about providing hope to the youth of London? We would love for you to partner with us. There are a variety of ways that you can support YFC London.

Volunteer - Connecting face to face with our youth is so rewarding. If you're interested in volunteering with us, please reach out. We can use extra help on a regular basis or for special events. Your level of involvement depends on your availability.

Prayer - You can support our team without leaving your home. Please pray for our youth, our staff, and our community. James 5:16 tells us "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

Give - Our programs and our staff need your financial support. Consistent monthly giving allows us to plan & budget more effectively and makes all the difference as we seek to add to our team and grow our ministry. Donations can be made by cash, cheque, credit card or e-transfer. To find out more information, please call or email our office.

