



FALL 2021

AN UPDATE FROM YOUTH FOR CHRIST WINNIPEG

# The Heart's Posture

## How has God been forming us?

"If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing."

- 1 Corinthians 13: 1-3

Our world is facing the fatigue that comes when acute challenges turn chronic. Things continue to be politically charged, and health complexities and global concerns seem to be a part of our everyday life. Healthy, compassionate dialogues are too often overtaken by a quest to defend who is right, or wrong. It can feel overwhelming at times.

This week I was brought back to a reflection on 1 Corinthians 13. God is concerned about our actions, but Paul reminds us that even if we do the very best thing, if we don't do it from a heart of love, we gain nothing. It is a pertinent reminder that God is concerned with how we do what we do. *The posture of our heart matters.*

It is true that the trials and tribulations of our day are substantial. We can't always control what comes our way, but we can choose how we respond. As we look back over these covid years, can we ask ourselves: how has God been forming us? What kind of people are we becoming? Have these trials been an opportunity for the fruit of the spirit - love, patience, kindness - to grow in our lives? Are we allowing the love and hope of Jesus to flow through us to those we encounter?

Over the course of the summer hundreds of youth and young adults came through our multiple day camps, drop ins, and work experience programs. Through these months I have repeatedly witnessed how valuable a posture of love and welcome can be. I am so grateful for our amazing staff at YFC Winnipeg and all our satellite locations who spend their days allowing the love and hope of Jesus to flow through them to the kids in their programs.

In this newsletter you will get to read stories from some of our summer programs and ministries. I invite you to spend time with these stories, and allow them to move you and encourage you. Your faithful prayer and financial partnership is what allows us to carry on with connecting with youth day after day. We are so grateful that you are a part of this.

If you ever want an opportunity to see or participate in some of the work we do firsthand, we would love to connect with you.

Pressing on in Christ,

- Cliff Heide, Executive Director



Cliff Heide, Executive Director



If you would prefer to receive this newsletter via email, please let us know at [info@yfcwinnipeg.ca](mailto:info@yfcwinnipeg.ca)

# North End Summer Jobs

Workforce brings training and opportunities to youth

When “connecting with youth” is your ministry’s forte, you can imagine how challenging grappling with the pandemic restrictions has made ministry this past season! That is why I am so thankful for the wonderful team of staff and volunteers, who made lemonade out of every lemon that was thrown at us this year. When we couldn’t meet in person, the team registered 35 youth for a creative online basic “Work Skills, Attitudes, and Behaviours” training sessions! When restrictions permitted small groups of five outdoors, the team planned work bees for teams of four youth and a leader! Before we knew it, July came and we were able to run our Summer Work Program with the 45 registered youth as normal (as possible). We would like to thank the local businesses willing to partner with us, while accommodating all the challenges of providing safe work placements.



This year Summer Workforce partnered with our local church (Living Word) to provide opportunity for our older youth to work in their garden and wood cutting business just north of the city. Although only a few youth participated, we are excited to cultivate this relationship to what it will grow into in the future! Thank you to all who support YFC with prayer and financial supports - we know this could never have happened without your support.

- Ian Croatto, Workforce Director



## Community Barbecues

Young Parents Program Creates Community



It has been amazing to connect with our young parents again through community barbecues! We have been able to host three this summer, and we have had new parents join us, as well as parents who have been part of our community for a long time. It is a lot of fun to watch the parents play with their children, talk with other parents, and blow a lot of bubbles!

If I were to list all the answers to prayer through these events, it would be a very long list! So let me share three amazing answers to prayers that happened recently - at our smallest attended barbecue so far! (God is working even when it feels like the apparent fruit ( ie: big numbers) aren't there)!



1. In spite of isolating social anxiety, one young mom came last night. She enjoyed herself, felt supported, and might even come again. This would have been much harder for her in a large group. God knew exactly what she needed, and we were able to support and encourage her.
2. They came for community, not even for the food! One young couple decided to take a cab to the barbecue, even though they had already eaten supper! They just wanted to be with us!
3. A benefit of supporting young dads is that it gives courage to young moms to join us again for group events. One young mom used to come regularly, but then couldn't work up the courage to keep attending, for various reasons. Now that her partner is able to join us for community events, it enables her to come and be part of our community again.

- Deb Richards

Director, Young Parents Program

# Neighbourhood Focus

## First-Ever Community Soccer Camp in Osborne

This summer, we are thanking God for allowing us to run our first-ever community soccer camp. We partnered with the staff and volunteers from YFC's soccer program to host a three-day soccer skills training camp in South Osborne, at Christian Fellowship Chapel. It was an excellent way to meet more youth from our neighbourhood - there were nine campers who attended, and seven of them were kids we hadn't met before!

We had great discussions with them during our God Talk times at lunch, and they were also able to develop their soccer skills and teamwork. We hope to continue building relationships with these new youth by inviting them to programming in the fall and sharing more about the good news of Jesus with them!

- Derek & Kirsten Reimer

Community Youth Ministers in South Osborne, Wpg



# Ready to Listen

## YFC Selkirk Brings A Listening Ear To Teen Girls

Our summer staff offered an "I'm Listening" weekly event for high school girls, because we know that there is a need for our youth to process the events of the last year. Two of the girls that attended then asked our staff if they could also do a Bible study every week, studying the book of John! Our staff happily agreed, and supplied a Bible (from Give the Word) for one of the girls that didn't have one. This teen in particular has been through a really rough year--she had a single mom, and her mom passed away. She moved away to live with her aunt, and then returned to our town this spring to live with another aunt when her other living arrangement didn't work out.



Our summer staff have now offered to continue to lead a Bible study for these girls throughout the school year, and the girls attending have requested to attend church with our staff. Praise God! Please pray that the seeds planted through these Bible study times will result in a deep, lifelong relationship with Jesus for these girls.

-Teresa Galashan, Selkirk YFC

# Thank You!

Golfers enjoy a day of golf  
in support of YFC



Thank you to all who participated in the YFC annual golf tournament! We are pleased to announce that \$70,000 was raised to help youth in our community.

**Special Thanks to the following sponsors. We couldn't have done it without you!**

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# Forward Together

## How You Can Get Involved

### Pray

*"We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed. We are perplexed, but not driven to despair." 2 Corinthians 4:8*

Please pray for our Ministry leaders, Staff and Volunteers as we continue to serve youth that are facing anxiety and uncertainty. Pray that our ministry leaders would be renewed and encouraged as they have had complex conditions for over a year now. As fall begins and youth try to get back into the rhythm of school with restrictions, pray that we are able to serve well and be the place of safety, healing and support they need. Pray that our activities, programs and resources can help youth experience the hope of Christ.



### Volunteer

*"God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another." 1 Peter 4:10*

As we embark on opening up more programming for fall we are in need of volunteers for many different roles. We have a spot for you to use your gifts to serve youth in everything from mentoring youth, administration, hospitality and recreational programs. We are in need of caring responsible adults (young and old) to help run our programs. Learn more about how and where you can serve as a volunteer at [yfc.ca/winnipeg/volunteer](http://yfc.ca/winnipeg/volunteer)



### Join Our Team

*"Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!" Mark 1:17*

Right now we are hiring for a number of key positions on our staff team. Maybe God has been nudging you with a call to serve in ministry, or you may know someone that is looking for a ministry opportunity. Right now we are looking for full time staff in the roles of Camp Cedarwood Director, Camp Cedarwood Program Staff, Communications Director, Hospitality Director, and more. Check out all the positions on our website in the Career option [yfc.ca/winnipeg/careers/](http://yfc.ca/winnipeg/careers/)



### YFC Virtual Banquet

Join us for an online event celebrating YFC Winnipeg! Hear stories of lives changed, see the ministry in action and experience YFC from the comfort of your home.

OCTOBER 19, 2021  
7:00PM - 8:00PM

Sponsor a virtual table for \$400 and receive a gourmet pizza dinner delivered to your home\*

**REGISTER ONLINE**

[www.yfcwinnipeg.ca](http://www.yfcwinnipeg.ca)

\*Winnipeg residents only



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT  
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