



YFC
WINNIPEG

**Youth
Unlimited™**

Christmas 2021

AN UPDATE FROM YOUTH FOR CHRIST WINNIPEG

Praying Through the Christmas Season

Let there be light!

As we enter into advent we are invited to reflect on two different arrivals of Jesus. First, we remember Jesus' unassuming arrival in Bethlehem two thousand years ago. Secondly, we anticipate and prepare for Jesus' long awaited second coming. Each year we are invited to join with the historical and global church into this season of waiting in darkness and unknowing.

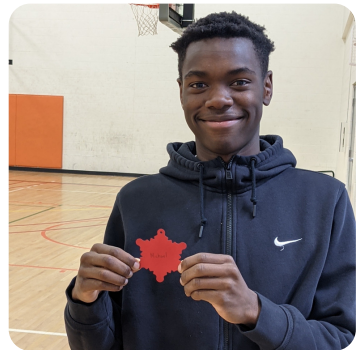
The image and symbolism of a darkness that longs for the light brings a depth to our waiting. Our world, then and now, groans in desperation and weariness. Yet, thankfully, from the beginning of time, our God has entered the darkness with the words, "Let there be light." The promise of light has come, and is coming again. Hallelujah. This holds both relief and rejoicing.

This year we long for each of the youth we serve to know this great light. Emmanuel, God with us, enters the darkest of spaces time and time again and is able to fill our desperate places with light and life. This is where we draw our hope and this season brings us to a place of expectation that in the lives of the youth we serve, God will show up, again.

This December at YFC Winnipeg we are once again inviting you to participate in our Christmas Prayer Ornament appeal. We hope you will use this opportunity to join with us in specifically praying for one of our youth and their families. Together we pray that they would know and experience the tangible light of Christ in their lives.

As we near the end of the year, we are so grateful for your prayer and financial partnership with YFC Winnipeg. May God meet you and your families in this season of waiting and preparing for the present, and coming, light of the World. Merry Christmas!

- Cliff Heide, Executive Director



Dancing for Jesus

This year, because we can't do our traditional singing carols, Masterworks dance students will be travelling in groups of 2 to 3 teams to visit members of our community to bring some Christmas cheer with dancing carols! Our hope is to perform for a neighbour in need, or to a group of individuals who we can celebrate our shared love of Jesus and dance. Praying for a warm night with softly falling snow to complement our efforts.



Connecting Over Coffee and Cookies

Coffee?... Yes, please!

And dessert?... What time? A story told by someone who lived to tell the tale?... I will be there!
All this AND a free book!?

Our young moms couldn't stay away from the offer of a coffeehouse to provide delicious indulgence to their stomachs, and a story full of twists and turns, with the hope of God poured into every corner. November 2nd we had a full house at our first ever coffeehouse event. YFC's own Judy Richichi shared her story and her book and our moms were so thankful. One of the young moms messaged me two days later to say she couldn't put the book down. For our moms whose own lives are full of twists and turns, Judy's story shared how the hope of Jesus carried her through very dark days and how Jesus can bring hope to their stories also. It was an amazing night that will bring many opportunities to share Jesus and His hope with our young parents.

This is just one of the ways we create connections with the young parents we support. As we look ahead to December we are excited to create Christmas memories with them as we embrace the traditions we weren't able to do with them last year. We will have an evening of cookie decorating and then enjoy a Christmas dinner with all the trimmings. This is always a special opportunity to build connections, have fun together, and share the hope of Jesus in a meaningful way.

- Deb Richards

Director, Young Parents Program



Kicking Into the New Season

YFC Soccer reaching youth from various backgrounds



We are excited to start our regular season this November and are looking forward to our new year's tournament in January. Many youth have expressed interest in participating in our league this year including two young boys from Lebanon who joined the program and also brought their younger brother to the Young Guns program (7yrs -11yrs) on Saturdays. It has been very exciting for us to walk with these two boys during our pre-season and to see the hunger in them for a place to belong, to play soccer and make friends. Coming from a Muslim background, they have been very curious during our God talks and very comfortable asking questions about Jesus and the Bible.



Our Young Guns program kicked off in October and we have had many parents and kids interested in this program. We have embarked on more skill development this year, especially for the 11 year-olds so that we can help them transition to the youth program next season. We look forward to having a full season this year and pray that it will not be cut short.

- Samuel Mwendwa

Director, Soccer Program

An Evening with YFC

Thank you to all who attended our virtual fundraising banquet on October 19. Our staff team really enjoyed being able to connect with you and pray with those who asked for prayer. It was wonderful to chat online with hundreds of our friends, family, partners, and sponsors to share amazing stories of how God is working in the lives of youth through YFC. If you weren't able to join us for the event, you can still view the video presentation on our website at yfcwinnipeg.ca

