

FALL 2022

Summer Highlights

As summer comes to a close we soak in the gratitude of being able to serve youth through this season with day camps, parenting resources, job opportunities, summer camp experiences, and many one on one moments of sharing the deeper things of life and faith through relationships.

It's exciting to share a small look into what has been happening at YFC through these stories and some of the amazing ways God has shaped hearts this summer. We hope this newsletter is a source of joy and encouragement for you. Thank you so much for your prayers, encouragement and support. These stories are a direct result of your partnership with us through prayer and financial gifts. We couldn't do it without you.

Join us in prayer for the youth we serve as they move into the fall season, return to school, and look to find stability in what was so uncertain and unpredictable last year. Pray that we can be a practical support to the holistic health of each youth that connects with YFC, engaging with care for their mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual well being. Pray that each young person can experience the hope of Christ through the connection, community and companionship of our staff and volunteers.

Campers Return

Finally some summer fun

One of the biggest highlights from this summer was that we were able to run Camp Cedarwood again after two years off due to pandemic restrictions. Our new camp director, the staff, and volunteers worked really hard to make it happen. "We had eager staff that jumped right in whenever we needed help and they worked hard all summer right to the end" said Devin Ollinger, Camp Director. Camp Cedarwood has struggled and continues to be challenged by the number of staff and volunteers available but the good news is that we were able to host roughly 400 young people at camp this summer where they got to hear about the good news of Jesus! Please pray for the many open staffing opportunities at Camp, that God would bring more people to serve in the ministry of Camp Cedarwood.



Discovering Potential

A week of meaningful impact

Watching our young mom's faces light up with pride was one of the God moments we had prayed for that week. Knowing that our moms operate in survival mode most of the time, it felt like God's light was shining bright on them. They had an assignment to find a fact about their child's development in their guide books that they didn't know yet., when they realized they already had this knowledge, a huge smile of pride grew across their faces. One of them could hardly utter the words "I'm proud of myself", so we said it for her. And we were incredibly proud of her, and of all the parents that came to parenting classes that week says Deb Richards, Director of the Young Parents Program.



Four of our young moms came every day and grew in skills and confidence, in knowledge, and in community. We had been praying for God to show up in lots of big and little ways. He certainly did. There was the time the moms were learning how to make playdoh and one of them said "this makes my momma heart leap with joy" - especially poignant as she had told us months ago she didn't think she was made to be a mom. The childcare room was full of God's joy as the volunteers taught the children songs and dance, did activities, and comforted them. The moms and the kiddos grew as they learned to be okay without each other for a little while.

On the final day, we were finishing off our parenting class by sharing what we needed currently to help us be successful. As we shared, the moms were helping fill in those needs for each other and it was a beautiful display of community, meeting each other right where they were at. We also gave out completion certificates, and while we didn't think they were a big deal in preparation of the class, they definitely were. Even though we were a small group, we presented each mom with a certificate like at a graduation, and one mom started crying tears of joy and pride.



These young moms are going through a lot. It can be easy to look at them and see what is lacking, but it is so beautiful to walk alongside them and see all that they already are, and what they are working so hard to accomplish as people and as parents. This is how God looks at us - he sees our hope and our potential and he calls it out of us. These young parents have so much potential, but they often feel like they are without hope. We are here to offer that hope and to help them build on their potential, growing as people and as parents into who God has created them to be.

Please pray for the Young Parents Program and the parents that God has called them to love and serve. Pray that these young mom's and dad's would understand how deeply their heavenly Father loves them and wants to see them thrive. Please also pray that God would bring more people to this small but growing community both to serve and to be served.

Finding Hope

Summer Work Force team making life-changing connections

Our Work Force team has spent the last three months, 4 days a week, with youth in the North End. Completely immersed in the unique culture it brings: the messiness, and the hope that is resilient through all things. This youth's story has impacted us greatly and we hope she can be an encouragement to you as well!

One young lady showed up to our program and she clicked right away with Dixie Naylor, Summer Work Force Program Coordinator. As they bonded over their love for candy and the group's work projects Dixie began mentoring her. It was soon discovered they were actually next door neighbours! There was one memorable conversation in June where Dixie asked her if she had ever prayed before. "Only twice," she replied. Once when her dad was dying she prayed that he would live. He lived! And another time when she had tried to kill herself, she heard God's voice telling her that He was not finished with her yet. What an amazing testimony that the only times she had ever prayed, God showed up with a miracle for her.

As the summer went on Dixie watched this young lady's faith grow. On the last day of Summer Work Force, Dixie had the privilege of baptizing her along with two other youth at Birds Hill Beach. As they were walking back to the shore the girl said. "I feel like a huge weight has been lifted from my shoulders. I think this is the best decision I could have ever made."

This young person, like almost every youth that the Work Force team met with this summer, comes from a completely broken home. She has parents who struggle with drug abuse every day, siblings who are serving time in jail, and her life is constantly being displaced due to financial shortage. On top of that she is only 14 and just trying to deal with the challenges that come from being a teenager. Yet, God is working a miracle in her life. Dixie says, "I am so proud of the decision that she made to walk with the Lord as He continues to pursue her."

This has been a summer of hope and redemption for the Summer Work Force team. God is good! Please pray for the young people that have received Jesus into their life this summer, that they will continue to grow closer to their Heavenly Father and be a shining light for Him.



Thank you to everyone who took the time to join us at Glendale Golf & Country Club on July 26 for our Annual Golf Tournament. We had a beautiful sunny day on the course together and were blessed by perfect weather.

We were able to raise \$70,000!

A special thank you to the following sponsors.

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YFCWINNIPEG.CA/EVENTS

Forward Together

How You Can Get Involved

"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

Pray

Please pray for our Ministry leaders, Staff and Volunteers as we continue to serve youth that are facing anxiety and uncertainty. And that our activities, programs and resources would be effective in showing the hope of Christ to youth in our communities this coming season.

Volunteer

Consider using your gifts to engage and equip youth to know and follow Jesus. We have many amazing opportunities for those looking to serve in a volunteer capacity. To discover areas to get involved or to apply please visit:

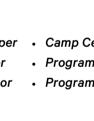
yfcwinnipeg.com/volunteer

Join Our Team

Has God been nudging you to start a career in youth ministry? Currently we are looking to fill a number of key positions on our staff team:

yfcwinnipeg.com/careers

- Turning Point Counselor
- Events Coordinator
- HR Coordinator
- Accountant/Bookkeeper
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Hospitality Coordinator
- Camp Cedarwood Staff
- Program Director The Rock
- Program Coordinators



Sponsor An Upcoming Event



TUES. OCT. 25

WED. OCT. 26

sponsorship and meal opportunities are available.

October 27, 7:00pm

The online event is free to watch, but

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