



At the beginning of this year, I read a short devotion that outlined how the Christian’s life is constantly made up of battles and blessings. Often these two things occur simultaneously pushing each other for our attention and, truthfully, in many cases the battles will win out.

At YFC Victoria and Nanaimo, we also face these battles. Sometimes it’s within our families, sometimes in our ministries, and sometimes in the communities that we belong to. Over the past few months, we have seen battles in every one of these areas. BUT, we’ve also seen some incredible blessings. We’ve seen young people give their hearts to Jesus, ask to get baptized, overcome significantly difficult situations in their own lives and start to choose healthier lifestyles.

We write these newsletters not to ignore the difficulties of life, but to re-focus our eyes on all that God doing in our midst. It is the encouragement we need to believe for new miracles and healings, and at times, it’s just enough to rejoice together for all He has done.

Thank you for being a part of this ministry through your support and prayers. Together, we will see victory in the battles and the blessing of God in our region!

Lindsay Hodges, Executive Director

MEET THE YFC VICTORIA/NANAIMO TEAM



Lindsay



Claudio



Janique



Dave



Neil



Cam



Jessica



Rick



Jayden



Jenn



Katelin



Paul



Shelley



Kurt



Ryan



David



Chessa



John



Victoria



MOBILE OUTREACH - RICK WISMER

In multiple scriptures we hear Jesus say, "Follow me." Why? People became His disciples by going with Him and doing what He did. At both our Summer Serve Day and Christmas Serve Day we called upon youth, "Follow us, as we demonstrate the love of Jesus." In July, we went to Chip and Sam Seymour's (Quw'utsun' Tribes former Chief) home to do yard maintenance. The youth worked hard in the summer heat and had not only the satisfaction of a job well done, but more importantly, they were showing God's love. One of the youth commented, "This is fun!" I think their hearts were warmed by Chip and



Sam's gratefulness. We finished with water balloons, games and yummy pizza. In early December, we met youth at New Life Church in Duncan to make Christmas cookies. Of course we had to sample them to make sure the quality was up to our standards. Then we visited Quw'utsun' members to present the gift bags, with freshly baked cookies included, and sang "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" on their door steps. While the youth felt good showing this kindness, my prayer is that they were captured by a desire to follow Jesus. After all, we are Youth FOR Christ - we want all youth to become His disciples. Thank you for partnering with us!



OPEN ARMS - JESSICA NELSON



"Hanging out with you is the highlight of my week. It lets me leave behind the chaos and just be me for a couple of hours. Plus, my life has gotten so much better since I met you." These beautiful words were spoken to me by a lovely girl named Catt. Catt is a young, single mom and she is trying to do her best to raise her 6 year old son. Through consistent time together over 2022, Catt has been able to secure housing, find and keep her employment, and her son was returned to her full time care. I love that Jesus has called me to relationship building with vulnerable youth and, through support, lives are changed for the better.

CAMPUS LIFE - CLAUDIO ARANCIBIA

The school district in which we have our partnerships opened a brand new middle school in November of last year. The team of principals had reached out to me in September to invite us to add their school as one of our partner schools. Even before the school was ready to open they said that they wanted Campus Life to be part of setting up the culture of the new school with our presence. Victoria Blenkin, who has been in a part-time position with Campus Life, began working with the new school in January. She is running a daily Breakfast Club and a daily Futbolito Club (mini-soccer) with room to add more programs. We are now partnering with three middle schools in our school district!



We are now into our 9th year of partnering with schools, running our Breakfast Clubs, Futbolito Clubs and one-on-one student mentorships. We have principals inviting us in as crucial workers in their schools. We have connections and interactions with hundreds of youth in the Westshore Communities. God has opened doors for us and we feel so blessed to be able to walk through those doors and speak life into the lives of young people.



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