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Summer Newsletter

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Summer 2019

STORIES

NOTES FROM THE JOURNEY...



DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Happy Summer! Another school year has come and gone and it's been a great one. For me, a couple of the highlights of the past few weeks has been hosting the Grad Celebration for the Woodrow Grads and their family and friends, and the privilege of spending the last day of school with the students of RRALC as we shared Jesus, worked a service project, grilled out and watched a movie at the Fargo Theater. What a way to finish up!

I am so excited to let you know about our fall event this year. November 21st at Bethel Church we are hosting Concert for a Cause with special guests Anthem Lights! It is going to be a great way to kick off your Holiday season and catch a glimpse of what God is doing at YFC. Check out Anthem Lights on YouTube and start getting excited now. It's going to be a fantastic night!

One of the big parts of this quarter's newsletter is celebrating the ministry of Linda Bass and Parent Life. After 25 years of ministry, Linda has moved to Oregon to be closer to her daughter Jessica, her family, and of course, the grandkids. We are excited for this new chapter for her but it also leaves a hole here. Please be praying for our next steps as we look to the future and how to best fill the available Parent Life

position. As we have said before, our staff are missionaries and so part of their job is raising support. That requires special people who feel called to what God is doing in YFC and it requires the generous giving of God's people. We would like to be able to seed this position for someone new coming in, so that the financial responsibility is not as great. If you would like to be part of that, please let us know.

Here's another big prayer request we have: The building that we are currently in has been sold and we are now looking for a new place to call home. Here's our dream...

We are looking for a place that will not only be our office but is also a space we can do ministry from. We dream of a space where we can hold clubs, mentor kids, run a drop-in center and overall be a space where we can build relationships with kids and introduce them to Jesus. It's a big ask and one that we cannot do on our own. Our budget for space is \$1200 per month, max. If the dream is to happen it will require the help of people or a business dedicated to reaching kids. That could be a building donation, rent as a gift in kind, discounted rent...who knows. Are you someone who could help? Do you

know someone who could help or who you would be willing to talk to with us? Do you have a building or space? Ideally it would be located within a reasonable distance to a middle or high school and because we are a North Dakota chapter it must be located in Fargo or West Fargo. We have a big God and amazing people that support this ministry so we are going to dream God sized dreams. If you can help, contact Greg at gregeverett@redriveryfc.com.

Please be praying for this year's peach fundraiser sale. It's only a few more weeks and peaches will be here. Pray that we are able to get all we need and that sales abound.

Thanks for playing such an important role in this ministry. Together kids are being impacted with the love of Jesus!



Greg Everett
Executive Director



PRESENTED BY:



NOVEMBER 21, 2019
BETHEL CHURCH
6:40-8:50

A N T H E M L I G H T S



TICKETS ON SALE
AUGUST 21ST

Parent Life Interview with Linda

What excites you looking back on the last 25 years of ministry?

One of the exciting parts about being in the ministry so long is seeing the original girls I worked with have kids who have now all graduated from high school. There are all these statistics about teen parents that say their children will do poorly academically, be more likely to end up in prison, etc. It is just one of the coolest things to see how they went on to defy the odds as their children graduated from high school and many of them went on to college.

What were some frequently asked questions by adults in the community?

"Don't they know how to parent? Don't they know any better?" If they never had involved and nurturing parents, they don't know what they were missing. If they were neglected as children they often provide the minimum for their children. It's not that they don't want to be good parents, but they model what they know. Another example is the drugs and alcohol. If their parents used their whole life and that is what they know, that's how they learn to cope.

When you envision what the future of Parent Life ministry looks like, what do you see?

More classes and programming as well as growth into the West Fargo community. More meetings outside the school system. Partnership with parent life programs like that of Woodrow Wilson HS.

Parent Life Through the Years

One 14 year old girl found out she was pregnant and was absolutely set on adoption. She told me, "I can't even get a job at McDonalds at my age, how am I going to raise a child?" Her boyfriend was 13 and his family wanted him to have custody of the baby. They put pressure on the mom for custody. She knew he partied and drank and did not want her baby to grow up in that environment. She felt like she had no choice and was the more fit to be a parent, so she kept the child. She had this beautiful baby girl while being a child herself. She didn't like being touched and wasn't a nurturer and it's almost as if she resented it all. She wouldn't even look the baby girl in the eyes while she was feeding her. The stress of parenting became too much for her and she ended up attempting suicide. She always dated these losers and would say things like, "if he isn't a jerk, he doesn't really love me." Later when her daughter was about 15



she met a nice guy different from her previous "type." They got married and I attended her wedding. When I saw her she gave me a hug which was weird since she wasn't previously much of a touchy person. She said, "My husband is a hugger, his mom's a hugger, and now we're all huggers." They later had three more children as well as her adult daughter. She has grown up to be a godly woman who prays for people, hosts women's gatherings, and is well known in her community. It is so fun to see how far she has come and grown in her faith. ~Linda Bass

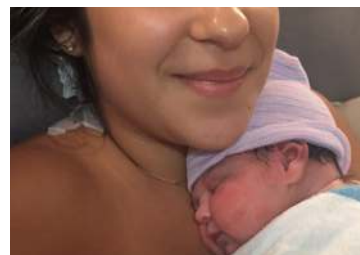


**THANK YOU FOR
25 YEARS OF
LOVING KIDS**

I met Elise when she was 15 and pregnant with a little girl. Her boyfriend was part of a gang. I ended up finding out that one of the other girls in our group had a boyfriend from a rival gang. We had to be careful that neither men knew the girlfriends were both part of this group. (This was back when gang population was really on the rise in Fargo.) Elise lived with her mom and sister who were mentally ill. A year after having her little girl she found out she was pregnant again. She wanted to finish school, but at that time, had to be working to get daycare



assistance. So, she worked, went to school, raised her two kids, and managed to graduate with her class. Jessica and I attended her graduation ceremony. We were walking in when she ran up carrying her two kids and asked Jessica and I to watch them. She didn't have anyone else to watch them during the ceremony. She was always very quiet at group and I never really knew why she came because she wouldn't interact much. She later asked me, "You knew why I came didn't you?" She replied that it was because of me. She told me I was the one who cared about her and she came every week because I cared. This was so humbling because all this time I had no idea this is why she was coming. She went on to school to become and RN and later to school again to be a PA. She is now married with two girls and a boy. ~Linda Bass



Peaches 2019

Interested in ordering, but did not get the orange flier in the mail? Visit our website at www.redriveryfc.com/events/peaches/ to print your own order form.

Purchase & Pick-Up Location:
Scheeles Home & Hardware
3202 13th Ave S, Fargo, ND 58103

Expected Hours:
11:00-7:00 PM Tues-Friday
Or Until Sold Out

RRALC Students Completing a Service Project in their Community



Red River YFC Board & Staff Serving Lunch at Woodrow Wilson HS

Juvenile Justice Ministry

One young lady in particular has touched me in such a way that I know why we do what we do. My heart breaks every time I sit with her. I met her at Red River Alternative Learning Center over a year ago and now she is at West Central Regional Detention Center. She has absolutely no family in her life. Her case worker has primary care of her. She struggles with her



Student of the Year

temper, which gets her in trouble on a constant basis. I have had many opportunities to sit and have one-on-one conversations with her. She has hopes and dreams and I pray that God brings someone in her life to guide



Out Hiking Around

her and walk through life with her. When she was in shelter care, we were able to take her to church and lunch on Sundays. God has given us the awesome opportunity to love on her and point her to Jesus. I ask that you pray for this young lady. Pray that she surrenders her life to Jesus, we have more opportunities to love on her, and that God would bring more people into her life to love on her. She is just one of many kids with the same story. Thank you for your love and support of this ministry.

~Mike King

Our Mission

YFC radically loves and brings hope to teens by working together with the local church and other like-minded partners to raise up lifelong followers of Jesus who lead by their Godliness in lifestyle, devotion to the Word of God and prayer, passion for sharing the love of Christ and commitment to social involvement.

YFC provides a safe and friendly place to learn leadership skills, to think about important issues and to develop quality relationships with peers and with caring adults.

YFC's 5 Ministry Essentials:

-  WIDESPREAD PRAYER
-  FAITHFUL BIBLE TEACHING
-  LOVING RELATIONSHIPS
-  ADULTS WHO EMPOWER
-  COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

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