

YFC Altona would like to thank all of our supporters and make special mention of our church partners for their prayer and financial support. Its because of God's stirring you to pray and give that allows us to continue ministering to the youth of our community.

New Developments

This year we were able to hire two summer staff due to receiving Green Team Grant from the Province of Manitoba. We started the summer out with Sarah Hildebrand and Josh Stewart. Midway through summer Josh was unable to continue the work so we hired Ashton Cornelson to finish the hours that were allotted to us. With these employees we were able to connect with many more teens during the summer months as well as develop a summer day camp for kids from grades 4-6. We call it the "Off the Rails" day camp. This year it was held in the first two weeks of August. Activities consisted of crafts (FIMO clay jewelry, t-shirts designs, etc), games and field trip at the end of the week. Week 1 we went to the Pembina hills for hiking and hotdogs. Week 2 we went Assiniboine Park and U-Putz (glow golfing) indoor mini golf. We had approx. 10 young people join us this year and hope to continue this next year.

As well there has been some significant changes to the building. New lighting, upgraded electrical work as well as additions to the kitchen (fridge, stove and dishwasher all donated) have all increased our ability to serve our teens. We are looking forward to some new programming opportunities as a result of these changes. Many thanks to everyone who donated time and resource to the completion of these projects.

Volunteers & Staff

One of our goals at YFC is to build into our volunteers discipling them to walk closer with Jesus. Every year we do a book study. This past year we read "The Jesus Manifesto" by Leonard Sweet & Frank Viola. The book highlighted the sovereignty and the supremacy of Christ being the fuel of one's ability to love others effectively. Having our hearts reawakened to the love of Christ becoming vibrant with the love to change the world around us.

In April we all attended the Volunteer retreat held at Cedarwood Camp near Lac Du Bonnet Manitoba. These retreats created more opportunities to continue learning and growing in our relationship with God. Our hope is for our volunteers to have vibrant hearts towards Jesus so they can pass the love they have experienced to others.

We also worked through a video series by Carl Meaderis called Muslims, Christians and Jesus. This gave us more insight into building relationships with Muslims and helped to develop a greater respect and sensitivity to those of the Muslim faith.

Our Current Volunteer Team: Marty Falk, Brad Fehr, Andrew Sawatzky, Garry Miller, Dallas Siemens, Jaimie Dueck, Josh Unger, Sarah Hildebrand, Katrina Schroeder, Katie Peters, Ashton Cornelson, Adam Peters, Larry Reimer, Odia Reimer.

Programs

Drop-in

We are currently open 4 nights a week.

Miss Mondays- 7-9 pm

Tuesday Drop-in- 7:30-10 pm

Wednesday Drop-in 7:30- 10 pm

Wednesday Night floor Hockey @ Parkside 6-7:30 pm

GOWI 7-10 pm

Saturday Night Skate Session: Every other Saturday in the winter months 4-10:30 pm

The Drop-in has had consistently increasing numbers of teens finding the Station to be safe place to hang out. We see 10-15 teens per night on a regular basis depending on the weather and hockey games.

***New Drop-in Night:** We are starting a new night for 18-30 year olds beginning Jan 17, 2014. The night will begin at 9 pm and go 12 pm. What we have found is a growing number of individuals that become to old to attend the regular drop-in nights but still desire to connect with the Station. We are hoping this reaches these individuals as well as many more new ones.

Skateboarding

We are continuing to reach out skateboarders in our community by taking them to the Edge skate park twice a month in the winter months. We continued these nights throughout 2013. Some of our attention was given to supporting the Bridge Skatepark development initiative which resulted in the construction of the skatepark east of the MEC. It is a beautiful facility that will give the teens of Altona many years of enjoyment. We are planning taking another skateboarding trip in the Summer of 2014.

GOWI continues to be a fruitful time of connecting with youth. These nights give us an opportunity to deal with relevant issues of faith and life that youth encounter. Our prayer is that the youth that come to GOWI would grow in faith in God and have their hearts awakened to the love of Christ. Pray for us as we grow together as friends and challenge each other to pursue Christ.

Miss Mondays

Sarah Hildebrand, Ashton Cornelson, Katie Peters and recently Katrina Schroeder have been giving leadership to this night. From baking cookies to service projects at Siloam Mission this night has proved to be an amazing connecting point for 10 + young females. They get into the real issues that young females are dealing with and provide a place for them to talk and process the challenges that they face.

Wednesday Night Floor Hockey

Oct and April to keep connecting with the teens interested in this activity. Currently Andrew Sawatsky and Brad Fehr are leading this night. We have about 6-10 young guys come out.

Fundraising events

We held a Fundraising Dessert night in February at Seeds church (The Exchange) 116 Main Street. We had "Against the Grain" as our guest musicians and Wilma Derksen addressed our guests. I was as great evening celebrating forgiveness and the vision and programs of the Station.

In June we had a golf tournament (known as the “Kielke Classic”) which drew 50 golfers into a “Texas scramble” style night of golf. We had rain at the start and midway through the event the weather was beautiful. We ended our event with a prize giveaway and an awesome kielke meal! It was great spending time with the golfers who have a heart for our ministry.

As well we partnered with MCI and put on the Notes of Gold Concert featuring Terry & Monique Mierau, Rick Heppner- Mueller, Larry Reimer, Tamara Franz, Marilyn Houser-Hamm. Around 70 people attended which was well below what we expected. All in all the performances were wonderful!! A great time was had by all! Many thanks go to Marilyn Houser Hamm for organizing the program of the event.

Prayer Items

We would love to expand our staff in the near future. We are finding that the ministry is growing as the needs of our community are increasing and believe that hiring more staff would assist us in responding to those needs. Particularly with the young females of our community.

Pray for the Volunteers of the station that their hearts would be drawn closer to Jesus as they build relationship and disciple the teens that come into the Station.

Pray for our board to have creativity in the visioning process of the ministry of the YFC Altona. Pray that God would focus our vision and give us clarity in our decision making.

Board members:

Abe Giesbrecht- Board Chair
 Harv Schroeder- Vice Chair
 Sandi Loewen- Secretary
 Anita Doersken-Treasurer
 John Thiessen- Member at large
 Henry Sawatzky-Member at large

Pray for our Volunteers that their hearts would grow in love with the Lord and the the teens they are influencing would be drawn to that love.

Fundraisers for 2014. Fundraising Dessert night 7 pm March 4, 2014 at Seeds church (The Exchange) 116 Main Street. We will have Against the Grain as our guest musicians and Wilma Derksen will be coming to speak as well.

God is faithful to provide for us an so we need continued prayer for finances to come to help continue the work at the Station. As well for wisdom in how to best use these resources the God will send us.

All in all we are excited about the ministry that is taking place here and the continued support that is felt in our community. We always want to keep in focus the mindset that it’s God’s kingdom that is being established and that we are partnering with Him. God Bless you and thank you for your prayers and financial support.

On behalf of the Board of Directors:

Larry Reimer
 Director YFC Altona



