

# SPECIAL THANKS

A huge thank you to the **Berean small group from Wadsworth Chapel!** They organized a supply drive and asked people to donate items from our website's Top Twenty list. They brought carloads of paper goods, food items, pop, water, diapers, wipes, etc. These items help us connect with the at-risk teens in our community. Thank you!!



We are so thankful to **Grace Church in Bath** for their continued support of Youth for Christ and our ministry site in Wadsworth, The Garage! They, again, included us on their giving tree project and collected MANY gift cards on our behalf. We will use these to take teens to lunch, buy practical items for teens, buy diapers for teen moms, purchase food for Hang Out, etc.! Thank you SO much for your partnership!

Thank you **Jimmy Moser** for offering to plow the Garage lot all through the winter for FREE! What a big blessing that is to us!



<p>Steve Pausch Executive Director</p> <p>Laurie Beal Director of Ministry- Wadsworth</p> <p>Barb Pfeiffer Office Manager</p>	<p><b>Local Ministry Directors:</b></p> <p>Doug Bryant</p> <p>John &amp; Barb Fehl</p> <p>Scott Hulet</p> <p>Keith Johnston</p> <p>Matt Mountjoy</p> <p>John Roush</p> <p>Roger Seward</p>	<p><b>Board Members:</b></p> <p>John Heese</p> <p>Barbara Moran-Engler</p> <p>Eric Pfeiffer</p> <p>Bobby Puls</p> <p>John Roush</p> <p>Kathy Stehno</p>
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# CONNECTED

YOUTH FOR CHRIST of Northern Ohio - Newsletter

January 2018

*Connecting Teens To Jesus Christ And His Church*

## Christmas Wish List | Steve Pausch

"Thank you for spending time with my son, he really appreciates it, although he probably never tells you!" This was a part of a conversation recently with the Mom of a young man one of our staff has been working with. YFC is a **relational ministry** and that means we are successful by spending TIME with young people. The more time we have with students, the more life changes we see, and the more effective our teachings are in their lives. When we spend time with students our walk with Christ is passed on by not only what we say, but how we live everyday. That impact is multiplied then through the many adult volunteer leaders we have working with kids across our ministry areas. These committed caring adults give so much of their time to help kids understand the value of following Christ and the impact they can have in this world. Thank you to all of the adult leaders who help make this mission of reaching young people possible.

This month, we celebrate the ministry impact that some of our adult leaders have had who have been in ministry for more than 5 years.

**In Brunswick:** Julie Nelson, Shannon Roden, Roger Seward, Mary Turos

**In Fremont:** Sarah Crist, Dave Davies, Barb Fehl, John Fehl, Walt Lamson, Rex Mason, Marilyn Missler, Ruben Rendon, John Roush, Beth Williman, Deb Yeagle

**In Wadsworth:** Scott Hulet, Krista Lee, Ashley Manfull, Tom Shurance, Robert Sinclair, Mike Smith, Cynthia Werle

**On the Board:** John Heese, Eric Pfeiffer, Bobby Puls, John Roush, Kathy Stehno

These individuals have been a blessing to so many young people as they serve the Lord in this ministry . Thank you for your commitment to seeing young people find the Hope and Love of Jesus by living it out in front of them with all you do! May God continue to bless your efforts.

## Tiffin Core | Dave Davies

YFC Core teens and adults volunteered as bell-ringers for the Salvation Army outside of the Tiffin Wal-Mart. It just happened to coincide with the first snow storm of the season. Great teens and great adults work to reach out to their community and train themselves to evangelize their friends!



On December 15 YFC Core teens and adults visited Tiffin's Autumnwood Nursing Center. They began the evening by singing Christmas Carols to the residents at the facility. The residents applauded their vocal talents! Following the songs, they met with several of the residents and helped them assemble Christmas ornament crafts that could be displayed in their rooms. It was a great evening for everyone exchanging joy, knowledge and smiles with one another.

## New Mentoring Program in Fremont | John Roush

It is always a blessing to get to report a prayer answered. About 20 years ago YFC volunteers began ministering in the Sandusky County Juvenile Justice Center. Even that early in the JJC ministry's history, the volunteers prayed for some way to follow up on the relationships they had established with the teens while they were incarcerated. Traditionally, the teens would often leave with many returning to the life styles that caused them to be in the juvenile justice system. Earlier this year Herb Miller, a new volunteer at the Center, felt the Lord was calling him to do something about teens who leave the Center. With help from old time YFC volunteers and YFCUSA's Juvenile Justice Ministry staff and their resources, Herb developed a new mentoring program in Fremont. He has recruited five mentors and provided training for them earlier this year. Praise God that Herb has received the willing cooperation of the Juvenile Judge, the Center's head of operations, and the head probation officer. Please join us in praying for the Juvenile Justice Aftercare program in Fremont. Please pray that the Lord will help mentors sustain relationships made in the Center as they seek to raise up life-long followers of Christ.

## No Sleep in Wadsworth | Laurie Beal

I have never been able to figure out why we call overnights...sleepovers or slumber parties?! We have had many overnight retreats for teens at GARAGE MINISTRY and sleep is not something that is ever too much a part of the event! Our recent retreat that we lovingly called "Blessings and Chaos" was no exception. We may not have had much sleep, but the night was full of blessings!

We loaded three vans on a recent Friday night with teens and headed first to Second Chance Village in Akron. It's a homeless community that is comprised of over thirty people living in tents right in the middle of town. This was our first stop on a twelve task scavenger hunt. The teens had each prepared a scarf with a hand written note and an attached granola bar and their mission was to tie it to a nearby pole or structure so it could later be found and bring a smile and warmth to someone in need. The weather was cold and we'd been hit with a sudden snowfall. All the kids, and probably adults, were complaining about how they were "freezing"...that is, until we arrived at the tent community. Perspective set in. All of a sudden, we all realized none of us really knew what COLD was. We had some conversations about how good it felt to bless others, how hard it must be to be outside living in the winter, and how we all have so many blessings that we take for granted.



After the "scarf bombing," each van headed out in separate directions to accomplish the other eleven tasks on the list. Lots of laughter and fun and strategic planning ensued, and a couple hours later we arrived at the lake house where we crashed for the night. The rest of the night included pinball, music from the record player, hanging out in the hammocks and lots of crazy shenanigans, as only teens can provide. The complaints about no Wi-Fi were short lived as they quickly just settled in to FUN.

One of the big blessings that came from the event was the impact that blessing others and sharing Christ's LOVE had on the teens. Several of the kids brought up other ways we could bless the tent community in the future and several more talked about other community service projects we could do. They ALL want to go back and we are already planning to visit soon and make a pancake breakfast for everyone there! It is a true gift to see teenagers excited about sharing the love of CHRIST!

"And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the holy spirit who was given to us." Romans 5:5