

I want to share with you a story from a recent night at the Garage. We have a young female student who has been attending for the last year and she has lots of baggage. By her own admission she has major anger problems and a strong alcohol and substance abuse dependency issue. She is a regular attender, listens intently, and wants better for herself. Ultimately, she struggles in giant ups and downs, driven by her anger which is constantly getting her into fights. She feels alone and will act out to try and impress people, but does it so often that she burns bridges with everyone leaving her even more alone.

**YOUTH
FOR CHRIST**

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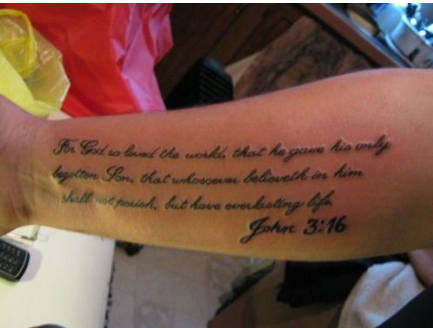
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A photograph of a two-story white house with a brick base, a red car parked in the driveway, and a small white building to the left. The house has a gabled roof and several windows. A red car is parked in the driveway, and a small white building is to the left. A yellow fence is in the foreground, and a sign is visible on the right. The scene is set in a residential area with trees in the background.

Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

You Just Never Know | Ruben Rendon as told to Steve Pausch

I recently spent some time talking with one of our long time leaders who ministers to kids in the Sandusky County Detention Center. He is there every Sunday, sharing a message and his time. One of the things he has done for years is to have the inmates memorize John 3:16. He will then periodically call on one of them to recite for the group. He told me about a young man who came in and seemed very angry and reserved. He sat there but didn't want to participate. He was asked if he believed in God and defiantly said NO! He continued to come to the group week after week and still seemed to have the same attitude. Then he was released. Many times, with this ministry we get a second and third chance to minister to these teens because not much changes when they get home and they end up back in the Detention Center from another poor choice. This particular young man returned and attended the group again. His demeanor seemed to be the same. In an attempt to get him to open up he was called on to recite John 3:16 just to see if he was even listening when he attended before. The whole group was in shock at what happened next, the young man pulled up the sleeve of his prison shirt to reveal a written out script tattoo on his forearm of the verse he was just asked about. He had the entire verse of John 3:16 tattooed on his arm and he read it to the group. He still seemed angry and reserved but there was something different. He had the love of Jesus written on his arm and you just never know what God will do. Thank you for making this ministry possible with your prayers and support.



Faith-Based Re-Entry in Fremont | Doug Bryant

Just this week I attended a "Faith-based re-entry seminar" in Findlay, Ohio with Herb Miller, our Fremont Juvenile Justice Ministries Director, and John Roush, the chairman of our board of directors. It was geared to give faith-based workers, who minister in juvenile detention centers and jails, strategies that will help inmates to "re-enter" society when released. The seminar was all day and very informative and inspiring. What was the most moving were the many many changed lives who spoke to us. There were several speakers who had come to faith in Christ through the love and support of ministry workers and their lives were forever changed. One worker said it this way, "Our programs are basically a load of sinners on the outside of the jail loving on a group of sinners on the inside of jail and we are all changed by the process." And when they get out its the same mentally: We are all sinners, but here is the Savior. One of the programs had a 96% rate of convicts not returning to jail. Amazing and inspiring stuff. Let us remember to keep pushing forward with our work and increasing our effectiveness through the Holy Spirit every day. Because the scripture says in Galatians 6:9 "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

Brunswick Update | Roger Seward

We're underway in our new year here at Brunswick Campus Life. We're back "Home" at Brunswick Re-formed Church now. The new school year started off with a "family sized" banana split for our kickoff meeting. Three new, energetic, (and tech savvy!) volunteers are joining our team. It's making it much easier for us to do small group ministry to our middle schoolers. We're seeing a new student face or two almost every week, and we're on the cusp of dividing our high schoolers into two small groups because it's getting too big. On October 29th, eighteen teens and staff "trick-or-treated" for canned goods for the Brunswick food bank. We dropped off over 400 pounds of food for families in need. On a side note, we divided into two teams and competed to see which team could bring in the most canned goods. The high schoolers beat the middle schoolers – by just four pounds! Middle schoolers vowed not to let this happen next year. We're looking forward to a special Thanksgiving dinner meeting with parents, grandparents, and siblings invited. It'll include activities for families as teams, and, of course, a game or two to pit teens against their parents! We'll have our usual large group sharing time, and a separate small group just for the parents. (The look on teens' faces when we talk of putting their parents with them in small groups is priceless!)



Thank You, Keith | Steve Pausch

A different call. This past month one of our long time adult leaders Keith Johnston stepped down from his position of leading our middle school outreach in the Wadsworth area. Keith didn't step down because the middle school students were so energetic, or often distracted easily but because God is redirecting his efforts. . Keith is president of Running2bwell, a group of dedicated local runners/walkers that meet regularly to encourage the use of exercise and healthy lifestyle changes to battle addictions and mental health issues. They are growing quickly as an organization and need more of his time. This is a great organization filling a huge need in our communities. We would often hear great stories of the success of **Running2BWell** at our staff meetings when Keith was there and look forward to hearing even more as he gives more of his time and energy to helping people. Keith will be missed by all of us but we are excited to see what God will continue to do through Keith's life as he takes the **Running2BWell** organization to a new level. Thank you, Keith, for giving so much of yourself to so many others and we pray that you will be able to help even more people get healthy through your ministry.

