

Summer Fun Events

Teen Center	Saturdays (6:30- 10:00pm)
Adventure Programs w/Helena Salati (Jefferson)	July 27-30 & Aug 3-6
Bike Trip	Aug 3-7
YFC Bake Sale/ Lawn Sale @ Christian Retreat Center (Oneonta)	Aug 15 (Donations And Volunteers NEEDED!)
*Afton Raceway	Aug 21 Meet @ TC (5:45pm)
Walton Campfire	Aug 25

*Remember your signed permission slips!

Praises!

The Unadilla Carnival of Sales events raised \$1674.10 for YFC! Very successful! Thank you to all who took part!

July 2015 Newsletter

For the Kids...

July 13-17, Youth For Christ hosted a 5-day Vacation Bible School at Mark and Dorothy Davidson's home in Laurens. It was very successful and the Good News reached the hearts of three children who accepted Jesus as their Savior!

The West Oneonta Baptist Church, along with children and grandchildren, provided the crafts, refreshments and a Prize Store for children to spend points earned throughout the week.

Teen missionaries from Child Evangelism Fellowship in Afton, NY provided Bible lessons, songs, games and a missionary story each day to fifteen children from the Valley Streams Park community.

Loretta Huffman
Volunteer

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." (Matthew 19:14)

Stories To Be Told

A couple weeks ago, I attended a graduation party for a girl from the Laurens area. This teen had been involved with YFC for many years, including the Campus Life Club at Laurens school and the equestrian program. YFC, throughout the years, has participated with horse show teams at the Otsego County Fair and the State Fair in Syracuse and this teen participated as a groom. After helping for many years in her role as a groom, her opportunity finally came to participate as a rider. She rode our horse Dakota and competed at the Otsego County Fair. She was very excited on the day of the horse show and enjoyed great success at the competition.

Displayed at her graduation party was a poster of her achievements. As I was looking at the poster, I noticed that she had ribbons from the County Fair show. Even though she had not been over to my house for horseback riding in a long time, her accomplishment on that day at the fair was important enough to be placed on the poster. That event was included as a part of her life story.

Of course, these stories are what we are about at YFC: our story, the teens' stories and God's story. How do we get the teens to see that all three stories are connected? We know that the riding program is part of her story because we saw it on her poster and we

The Davidson Bike Trip was amazing!

(See details in letter body)

We got a good deal on 90lbs of hamburger and volunteers to help prep food for the Bike Trip. God provides!

The Raceway events and taking teens out to eat has helped build good relationships between them and staff.

Prayer Requests

Pray for our fundraising/outreach opportunities coming up.

Please keep in prayer the Annual YFC Bike Trip and all that God will do for His glory before, during and after.

Central NY YFC Staff:

Dorothy Davidson,
Executive Director

Mike Knowlton,
Ministry Staff

Kristian Berggren,
Ministry Staff

Jody Wisse,
Office Manager



hope and pray that God is connected or will become connected to her life story. We continue to pray for all the kids whose YFC activities are becoming a part of their lives, and therefore, their stories. We also pray that they will see the connection to God's story and that He will become the most important part of each of their personal stories. Join us in praying for all the high school graduates that YFC has connected with over the years, pray for their continued journey in life and that God will be an important part of it.

Also, my husband, Mark, and son, Kyle, biked from Oneonta, NY to Melbourne Beach, FL. This 1,400 mile adventure was a challenging 100-mile-a-day father/son bonding time. Their secondary cause was to raise money for Central NY Youth for Christ. Enroute, they connected with other YFC chapters and raised awareness of our chapter as well as those between here and there.

Dorothy Davidson, Executive Director



How in the world can I summarize this epic 2 week adventure?! By the numbers, we biked 1450 miles in 14 days, with the longest day being just over 150 miles, the shortest-60 (every day, more than initially anticipated). We averaged about 10 MPH when you factor in stops. Our bikes weighed over 70 lbs each (except the last day when we lost the panniers). We visited 5 YFC directors along the way, slept in 2 teen centers, 3 times we tented (2 campsites/1 back yard) , 2 couches, shared 1 good friends' queen-size bed, 6 hotels-3 of which were graciously donated).

We ate at numerous restaurants, 3 home-cooked meals, several missed meals, numerous gallons of ice teas and soda, and 4 "Slushies". We had 4 ½ flat tires, only minimal mechanical issues, hit innumerable potholes (most of which were in PA), had endless miles of "rumble-strip" (the rumble-strip was obviously spawn of Satan, from a biking standpoint). Much road kill, including 2 dead alligators, but only 1 casualty caused by us. There were so many potential times we could have been killed or injured that it's impossible to even tell. With busy roads, terrible intersections, bad drivers (the worst were in SC), but only God knows how many potential accidents He protected us from. I credit all of those to prayer!

We raised awareness of YFC in hundreds of people, had multiple followers on the gofundme account and Facebook (Thank you Kristian for all the technical aspects of keeping the sites updated). By the end of the trip, we raised \$1,115 for Central NY YFC on gofundme (a little shy of our \$30,000 goal, but **IT'S STILL NOT TOO LATE TO DONATE!**) also, several donations that went directly to the YFC office, and 4 complete strangers who donated food or drink directly to us for "our cause". From a spiritual standpoint, we grew closer to God understanding his divine protection and love for us, and the generosity of fellow believers in donating selflessly, especially in their prayers for our safety!

Personally, I don't want to be too mushy and gushy, but the time I got to spend with Kyle will stay with me as the most precious time we have ever had together. We supported each other when the other was weak, we spoke of inner feeling (as much as two men can) we endured hardship and enjoyed humor. I feel honored to have seen the transformation of Kyle from kid into a God-fearing, self sufficient MAN. I can't protect him forever from all the potential dangers and pitfalls "out there", and I know he will have setbacks and failures, but I can rest assured that he, with God's help, will be able to make good decisions. I LOVE YOU KYLE, and will treasure this time we had together forever!!

And thank you all who followed, who donated to YFC, who assisted in SO many ways, and especially for your prayers.

God Bless, Mark Davidson

