

Meeting Times

- Teen Center **Saturdays**
(6:30-10:00pm)
- Laurens *October 1
Thursdays
(6:30-8pm)
- Unadilla **Thursdays**
(6:30-8:30pm)
- Walton * October 6
Tuesdays
(6:30-8:20pm)
*First Day of Club

Future Events

- McDonald's Sept. 29
for dinner (6:30pm)
(Walton YFC)
-Meet @
McDonald's
- Horse Show October 10
(Boys' ABC
@ Davidsons'
House)
- Word Of Life October 17
Team @
Teen Center
- Christmas Nov. 14 @
Shoebox Party Teen Center

September 2015 Newsletter



Bike Trip 2015 – YFC's 35th Annual Bike Trip

Of my four bike trips, this year's was definitely the most impacting and memorable. In saying this, I think I speak for a lot of those who went this year. Some things did remain the same. The support crew was just as encouraging in their helping and cheering as they have always been. The views of the lakes and rivers were as spectacular as ever. And although we had several rainy days and nights, there was not a shortage of those who were willing to help others with putting up tents and showing many other acts of kindness. The worship was fun and Christ-centered, and even though I was not supposed to have any meatballs this year...they were still fantastic!

But the meat of this bike trip was what made the difference. Before going this year, I had this intense feeling God was going to do something huge. I had short-changed Him and just assumed it would be me leaving with the "spiritual high" that many of us get when we go away on events. These are times when we are surrounded by believers who are intent on seeking God. However, this was not what I felt at all this year. The testimonies that were shared were unbelievable and with everyone who spoke, you could see in their faces, right in front of the crowd, that they were calling on God for strength in that moment. Each person was uncomfortable sharing the hardships and unimaginable darkness that God had led them out of, but they were still willing to let God use them and let His strength shine through all that weakness.

Praises

YFC summer programs were safe and successful!

Volunteers were able to consistently be available for helping out throughout the summer.

Prayer Requests

Clubs starting this school year, teens attending and hearts to hear God's word.

Enough volunteers to cover events/clubs this year.

Staff to be enabled to start intentional communications with kids about spiritual life.

Boys' ABC at the Davidsons' house, currently happening.

The Regional YFC Staff Conference, a time for spiritual growth and becoming more equipped to reach our teens.

Mike Knowlton's family and the loss of his mother-in-law.

Central NY YFC Staff:

Dorothy Davidson,
Executive Director

Mike Knowlton,
Ministry Staff

Kristian Berggren,
Ministry Staff

Jody Wisse,
Office Manager

I know I am not alone in saying that those testimonies changed many of us on this bike trip. It has been over a month now since returning from the trip and I am still thinking about all of the testimonies. This is not because I felt like I had heard someone's juicy story, but it was because I felt sure that through those testimonies, Jesus showed up. Through those who shared, God convicted me to be more open about my own struggles, and not just be burdened by them and bottle them up. He has helped me realize that going through a hardship or dark place is not evidence that He does not love me, but in fact, quite the opposite (Hebrews 12:5-11). I thank God deeply for this bike trip and how He has used it in the lives of so many for 35 years. I also thank those who, year after year, adjust their schedules to put this together and in faith, let God use them on this bike trip.

No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.
Hebrews 12:11

Saira Danielle
YFC Volunteer



Beautiful Things

As David O'Brian says, "The Bike Trip is the best week of the summer," and I agree. The scenery was filled with beautiful sunrises and sunsets, lakes and islands. God really makes the best pictures. Servanthood is always present on the trip. The praise and worship is always so real. God kept putting the song, "Beautiful Things" in my head, and He reminded me that was how He saw the teens, as "Beautiful Things." Gathering during the meals presented a great time to reflect on the day that had passed, and that encouraged fellowship, unity, the one-big-happy-family vibe.

There were games like Ultimate Frisbee and volleyball, and there was plenty of swimming. Hearing God's Word through the speakers each morning and night has always given me new insight. From the powerful testimonies shared, we saw how God helps us through anything, and that was very encouraging too. The main thing for me was spending time with Jesus. When you step away from your everyday life, listen to God, and make Him the focus of your week, you can only have the best week of the summer.

Mike Knowlton
YFC Ministry Staff



He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.
Ecclesiastes 3:11

