

The LCF Connection YOUTH TAKEOVER! May 2014

LCF Youth...Loving, Serving, Praising, Praying, and Growing

By Reginald Cooper



Welcome to all things LCF youth! Please enjoy this whirlwind tour of some of the things LCF Youth have been up to recently. Find yourself a cozy spot, kick your feet up, and enjoy the *LCF Youth Connection Takeover!*

First and foremost, we must give God all the glory, honor, and praise for such a wonderful youth group. A youth group with young people who have a heart for Jesus, a desire to spread his love, serve his people, praise his name, pray in all situations, and humble themselves to let the Holy Spirit grow within them; a youth group that has the support of loving parents, devoted leaders, and a caring church family. Simply stated, this youth group, LCF Youth, is AWESOME!!! The youth, parents, leaders, and you, fellow brothers and sisters are part of this awesomeness. Your love, support, and prayers are greatly appreciated, and we praise God for all that has been done and all that is to come.

A typical LCF Youth Sunday night begins with a time of praise, where we go around in a circle and thank God for all the blessings in our lives, and if we do not have a particular praise we can always say, "Hallelujah Amen." After giving our praise we get into our lesson.

Currently, the youth are learning about how to be spiritual leaders. Some of our lessons have been coming from the book *The Leadership Paradox* by Denny Gunderson coupled with activities and discussions that challenge us, teach us how to implement God's words, and help us build a stronger relationship with God. After the lesson, we go into our time of prayer followed by snack, and, oh yeah, GAMES! Youth Sunday Nights are something I look forward to all week.



This year, the youth enjoyed the worship extravaganza known as "Winter Jam," and we had tons of fun. We worshipped, we praised, we fellowshiped as the Holy Spirit moved through the place. The youth and their parents have also been participating in ETY (pronounced "e-tee") events. The purpose of the ETY events is to show our Godly love and support for the youth at LCF outside of the walls of our church.

The LCF Youth are also reaching out to the community. We are looking forward to our "Night of Sharing," where we invite friends and youth from the community to join us for a night of worship and fun. Also, to come this year is our summer trip filled with L.E.A.R.N.ing (ask a youth), coupled with outreach in areas surrounding London, and ending with a fun bonding experience.

I know God has a lot in store for LCF Youth. We pray that he prepares our minds, hearts, and spirits for his will. Please continue to keep us in your prayers!

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*Need a smile?
 The cartoon on the right was chosen by Shepherd Ndungu and Bryce Swartz.*



TEXTING WHILE DRIVING IS EXTREMELY DANGEROUS, SIR, AND IS AGAINST THE LAW



Congratulations Class of 2014!

Magdalena Beachy



I was home schooled all 13 years. I greatly enjoyed it and would like to thank my mom for being such an awesome teacher. I had a very busy senior year, with being a part of the Alpha Omega Speech and Debate Association in the fall and then beginning classes at Clark State in the spring. I also enjoyed volunteering, babysitting, and raising my ducks.

I will be continuing at Clark State in the fall and plan on majoring in early childhood education because of my love for children.

Let A Youth Pray for You Coupon

Let us pray for you after church. Present this coupon and your prayer request to one of the LCF youth and we will pray for and with you.

(No donations will be accepted)

Color it Coupon

Present this coupon to one of the LCF youth before or after church and they will color your hair for you. Do not worry it is washable hair spray dye.

(Donations will be accepted)

Grace Ndungu



It's crazy to think that almost five years ago I was landing in this great country and starting my 8th grade year at Fairbanks high school. Words cannot describe how thankful I am to God for bringing me thus far.

After finishing my time at Fairbanks High School, I plan on volunteering at some church camps and enjoying yet another mission trip with the youth group in the summer. I tend to include faith-based camps in my summer schedule because it gives me the opportunity to witness and be involved in how God is working in our generation.

In the beginning of the next school year, I plan on attending Rosedale Bible College where I will be pursuing a one-year Certificate in Biblical Studies and later transfer to a bigger college. My plans may not work out the way I want them to, but I trust in God to guide me through it all.

Challenge a Youth Coupon

Bring it on: Present this coupon to one of the LCF youth and choose a challenge from the ones listed below or offered by the youth challenged.

Roshambo, Tic-Tac-To, Thumb Wrestling, Pig, Staring competition, youth provided challenge
(Donations will be accepted)

Jessica Stewart



As my senior year draws to a close, I can confidently say that my last year in high school was not exactly what I pictured. Through the course of this year, God has continually been working in my heart and revealing to me that my plans are not necessarily what's best for me. God has shown me that even in the midst of daunting decisions and uncertainty, I can put my trust in him. I know that God's plans are way better than the plans that I attempt to piece together. Though I may feel uneasy about this unknown future that seems to be flying towards me, I am reassured that God's plans are flawless, and his timing is impeccable.

In the fall I will be attending Wright State University on a scholarship for both cross country and track and field. I am still undecided on what I will be majoring in, but would enjoy doing something along the lines of interacting with those that are disabled or in recovery from a life-altering incident. I cannot wait to experience the plans God has for me this coming fall!

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6

Danae Swartz



My senior year has been full of the completely unexpected- not necessarily the carefree, typical senior year that I had been anticipating. It was, however, full of invaluable lessons, timeless memories, and much more than I ever could have imagined.

Highlights of my year included but were not limited to: a sprained ankle in the summer, a broken toe during my soccer season, participating in homecoming court, spending Christmas break in the hospital with an infected cyst, missing a week and a half of school after having that cyst removed (and all the good times that followed), challenging classes, and much more. Through all this God has been so faithful- patiently teaching me more and more about myself and about the person that he wants me to become. The simple lyrics of the song "Good to Me" that I heard at a concert by Audrey Assad have been constantly running through my head as I have experienced God's indescribable love and faithfulness in new ways this past school year: *"I put all my hope in the truth of Your promise, and I steady my heart on the ground of Your goodness. When I'm bowed down with sorrow I will lift up Your name, and the foxes in the vineyard will not steal my joy...Because You are good to me, good to me."*

My current plan after graduation is to attend Wright State University where I will study nursing and minor in Spanish. I eagerly await all that God has in store for me and I am so grateful for the knowledge that I can trust him with my future no matter what lies ahead.

Harmony Troyer



Harmony is graduating from Shekinah Christian School is still undecided about what she will be doing next.

David Perkins



David graduated from Columbus College of Art and Design and is sending out lots of resumes and praying that God will help him find a great job!



Paint it Coupon

Face painting: Present this coupon to one of the LCF youth before or after church and get some cool face art.

(Donations will be accepted)



Justin Scheffel

So, lots happened this year. I played my last high school basketball game, which is going to be sort of hard for me to leave behind. I'll miss it a lot. I went to Ecuador just last month with my senior class. It was cool being able to experience another culture and participate in random touristy activities. I especially enjoyed having the Ecuadorians laugh at me because of my very limited Spanish.

These days I guess you could say I'm unofficially playing baseball. One of the players can't play till later in the season, and I'm filling in for him till he's able to. I plan on working for Tyler Knief and his lawn care business again this summer. I have a sort of strange addiction to mowing, so it's a good job for me.

Apparently I'm graduating next month too, which I guess is sort of a big deal. I have mixed feelings about it. Unlike most teenagers, I enjoy high school (definitely not the schoolwork part though) and I'm not too excited about "growing up." But I suppose it's time for something new. At this point I plan on going to Rosedale Bible College next year. I've heard that's the thing to do if you're a Mennonite. It's a huge step for me cause I'll be living a whole 300 yards from my house! It's terrifying! No not really, but it will be different.

It's cool to be able to look back and see how God's hand has guided me and helped me get to where I am today. I often get caught up in wondering why nothing seems to go the way I want it to in life. But then I look back and understand, because if life would have gone the way I wanted it to the past eighteen years, I probably wouldn't be too well off these days. God's taught me that's it's important to be content with whatever's happening in life and not whine and complain just because life isn't real fun sometimes. So yeah, that's what's been going on in my life. Hopefully after reading about me you'll be inspired to do great things, like bake a cake or eat lots of cheese. I will have made the world a better place.

ETY Youth Group Events

By Kendra Scheffel, Gabrielle Cocanour, and Stephanie Cocanour

Something new that we have added to our youth group is ETY events. Most of us youth participate in sports so that is usually what our ETY events consist of.

Now, you're probably wondering what ETY stands for! It stands for "Embarrass The Youth." These events give us as youth the opportunity to go and embarrass (in a very nice way) our fellow youth members. Not only do we embarrass each other, but this is one way to show our support for each other. I think ETY could also stand for "Encourage The Youth." 1 Thessalonians 5:11 says, "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

This spring we have already gone and "embarrassed" Bryce and Justin when London and Shekinah played each other in baseball. We also hope to get to go support Natalie, Jessica, and Shepherd at a track meet, Stephanie and Layne at a softball game, and Gabrielle with her beach volleyball.

Gabrielle talked about something else that encourages her in sports. "Philippians 4:13 says 'I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.' This is a great verse for everyone, especially in sports. This is one of my favorite verses because it motivates and encourages me to do my best for the glory of God! As an athlete it's important to remember that God has given these gifts to us and we can use them to glorify him in everything we do! This verse reminds me that I can achieve my goals because God gives me that strength I need to succeed." It's great to know we have a youth group that is there to encourage (and sometimes embarrass) us, and a God that cares about every aspect of our lives!

Pictures taken at recent ETY events



Note from a New Youth Group Member

By Natalie Cocanour

As a new LCF Youth member, I feel so blessed to be part of such an amazing youth group. It is so nice to be able to learn about God and apply it to our high school lives. Recently, we have been learning about leadership and what it takes to be a good leader. This topic has been a challenge, being a freshman at a new school. I think it is important though, because in order to make a difference and bring people to God, you have to learn how to be a good leader. In order to be a good leader it is important to be open to what God has in store for you.

Being in the youth for just a short time, I can honestly say that I have experienced some very fun and life changing experiences. The prayer walk, Winter Jam, and the fundraiser were just some of them. Everyone was so welcoming when we came into the youth group. I look up to all of the upper classmen in the group as role models. Reggie had done a great job as being our youth group leader. I look forward to the great experiences to come!

The LCF Connection

A monthly newsletter designed to enhance communication at London Christian Fellowship
This month's issue was planned out and written by the youth of LCF.