## YFC MONTHLY NEWS





## **JUNE 2025**

YFC ENGAGES LOST TEENS IN CHRIST-SHARING RELATIONSHIPS

**FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** Recently, one of our staff members asked Chat GPT, the AI chatbot, the following question: "If you were the devil, how would you destroy the minds of the next generation of youth?" Here is (in part) what the Internet responded:

"Distraction over Depth: Constantly bombard young minds with superficial entertainment, social media, and constant notifications. This keeps their attention fragmented and makes it difficult for them to focus on meaningful long-term pursuits. It's easy to live in a cycle of instant gratification and dopamine hits, which keeps people from developing deep passions or meaningful skills."

"Erosion of Authentic Connections: Use technology to replace genuine human interaction with shallow digital connections. Social media, online gaming, and virtual realities could slowly replace real-world relationships, causing loneliness, mental health issues, and a lack of understanding about what it truly means to be connected with others.'

"Normalize Relativism and Nihilism: Promote the idea that "truth is relative" and that everything is subjective. If young people are taught to believe that there's no objective truth, they'll struggle with finding meaning and purpose in their lives. This might lead to apathy, where they stop caring about anything because nothing really matters anyway."

"Overload with Information, Underload with Wisdom: Flood them with endless streams of information that seem important but are actually irrelevant or shallow. The constant consumption of trivia or "viral" content can make it hard for young minds to discern what is truly valuable."

## And in closing, Chat GPT said:

"But, just to clarify, this is purely a thought experiment and not something I'd ever support or encourage in reality." Hmmm. Really makes you wonder....

YFC exists to combat these trends in kids' lives through <u>authentic relationships</u> - modeled by the only name under heaven by which we can be saved: Jesus Christ!

**CAMPUS LIFE LEGACY EVENT -** The Barn's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary! This BBQ was held on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Campus Life Barn teen center in Granite Bay. Over \$80,000 was raised toward our \$150,000 goal for the event. While we didn't achieve our grand goal, we are so grateful for the funds given to support Campus Life programs and cover summer camp scholarships for more than 100 students. We must always



make known our mission: To give kids the opportunity to become followers of Jesus Christ, and to become part of the local church. We make efforts to raise funds for our staff and programs out of relentless love for kids and their salvation! Donations can be made and designated at yfcsacramento.org/give. Thanks for your generous support!

**GENERATIONS IN CHRIST:** From Kendra and Nathaniel Williams: "We had the best night with two of our former students/interns in Campus Life. Emily just graduated with a Master's Degree in family therapy; Anthony is a youth pastor at North Coast Church and almost finished with his MDiv! It is so good to follow the lives and generations of our Campus Life kids.





Years ago at one of our Campus Life clubs, we encountered a 15-year old student - a teenage mom. She gave her life to Christ after club one night. I sat with this young teen mom as she had her baby, Kiera - praying that God would bless this new life. Fast forward 12 years and Kiera began attending our trips and camps. She said YES to Jesus on a beach camp and has been walking with Him! Another 6 years forward, and Kiera, her mom, and little sister were just baptized at one of our local churches. God is SO good as he is in the business of redeeming the lost and broken!

Now, we are praying for Kiera's little sister Rylan, that she would also be able to join us at camp this summer, and at clubs next year, as she is just entering high school. It is a privilege to see the fruit of ministry years later, and to get to continue working with families as they walk with God over the long haul. What a great testimony of God's faithfulness through generations."



**STAFF CHANGES:** Stephanie Gillespie has joined our team! A Jessup graduate, and a mentor for Bayside Church Thrive College, she'll serve in Placer County Campus Life at the Granite Bay Barn and will lead our Del Oro High and Granite Bay High Campus Life clubs in the fall. Welcome, Stephanie!





Our Placer County Campus Life Director, **Osama Abasi**, passed his California Bar Exam in the Spring, finished the semester well, and just accepted a position with a law firm in Woodland, CA. You may remember a recent newsletter which highlighted Osama's work with the Mock Trial team at Del Oro High. He has had a great time of service this past +/- two years at YFC, and feels that his time has helped fill "the YFC shaped void" in his heart! We hope to see him around here and there for various youth events! *Congratulations, Osama!* 

**Blair Maynard**, our faithful Sayonara Center staff member, is getting married! He and Nellie Jones will celebrate the gift of holy matrimony on June 7<sup>th</sup>. *Congratulations Blair and Nellie!* 

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- June 16-19: Middle School Summer Camp at Camp Santa Cruz.
- **Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>: 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Jack DeBord Memorial Golf Tournament** in support of YFC. DeLaveaga Golf Course, Santa Cruz. Email Jim at jedebord14@gmail.com.
- **Saturday, June 28th:** 1st Annual **YFC Pickleball Tournament** at Picklr Rancho Cordova. Morning event. More info to come!
- July 29-Aug. 1: High School Summer Camp at Daybreak Camp in Felton
- Tuesday, Sept. 9th: YFC Golf Challenge at Winchester CC
- Friday, Nov. 7th: YFC Dinner/Auction at River City Christian Church

Together for kids,

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