



August 2022

Lights, Camera, Action | Steve Pausch

Recently, we received a phone call from a producer of the Fox 8 TV Show “New Day Cleveland” explaining their segment called “Above and Beyond” and how they thought our Wrench and Ride teen workshop qualified as people going above and beyond the norm. Wrench and Ride is our program where we receive older bikes in need of repair from individuals, storage units, police departments and other places and show teens how to diagnose the problem and repair the bike. The teen then is able to take the completed bike home for their enjoyment. This program has been very successful. It’s popular with young people and it gives the adults who help ample time to talk with the kids.

The Fox 8 crew showed up just a few minutes before the teens and were quickly immersed in the activities of a day at That Place for Teens. The crew shot a lot of footage of adults showing teens how to repair bikes and interviewed some of the leaders. They interacted with parents getting release forms signed and asked a lot of questions about the ministry. The kids were so excited to be featured on a TV show, and it created a real buzz in the community about our center. You can view the segment on Youtube at <https://youtu.be/WQ7E9pbPMVl>

This summer we also did several cooking classes, a tie dye shirt day, carpentry, lego robotics, a bike ride, a gaming day, and several crafting classes. It has been a very productive and exciting summer for all involved. Thank you for making all of this possible with your prayers and support.

Where Are They Now? | Matt Mountjoy

Last month I shared with you all an exciting update on one of our former students. As we are gearing back up for another school year, I wanted to take the time to give you one more update on a student. Hailie was undoubtedly the best leader that we've had amongst our students. She was definitely one of the kids that I would refer to as a culture setter. Her fun (and loud) personality was like a magnet that drew kids to follow her lead and as she grew and matured so did her ability to help make an impact with the other kids in the program. She comes from a background with both a lot of love and heartbreak. She was an athlete playing tennis for Wadsworth as well as a high performer in the auto program. She also helped us by being a student representative speaking at fundraising functions. Most importantly, during her years in YFC she met Jesus and gave her life to Christ.

After high school, Hailie pursued the auto mechanic path for awhile, but it wasn't a great fit. So, she began selling insurance which created a really unique opportunity. I have a friend who owns an insurance agency and had been struggling finding a good new hire. He wanted someone young, driven, and passionate...and did I have the girl for him. Shortly after putting them in touch, she began working for the agency and is doing a great job there. She is doing such a good job actually that my friend's wife ALSO hired Hailie to be one of her trainers for her CPR training business! Hailie is also still committed to her faith walk and involved in her church. Often, when we talk she brings up her desire to continue to move closer to God in her life! Stories like Hailie's are some of the great uplifting things the God gives us to energize us while sharing His word! Please continue praying for YFC and how you can get involved to partner with us to help take part in amazing students stories like Hailie's!



Students from That Place For Teens recently used their car washing skills on a Brunswick Police Department vehicle! How's that for summer fun?!

Mentors | Laurie Beal

Being a mentor at the Garage or any of our Youth for Christ sites, is impactful in so many ways. I love to see the way God uses us to share His love with teens and families AND blesses us, too, in the process.

A huge blessing to me is my friendship with Leigh Sager, who has been serving alongside me at the Garage for 11 years. She is definitely the sister I always wanted! Here are her thoughts about helping at The Garage:

"I came to the Teen Mom group at the Garage 11 years ago because my daughter, who was in 2nd grade at the time, loved babies and wanted to be around them. It was around that same time I joined my first bible study at Freshwater Church where I met Andrea Caskey. She introduced herself and shared that she volunteers at the Garage for the teen mom group. She told me that they are always in need of babysitters to watch babies while the young moms hang out. I came that night with my kids to check it out and I have never looked back. For the first several years I came only to the teen mom group and over the last couple I have been coming to the middle school/high school night too. There are too many great things about the Garage to share them all so I will share 3. The friendships I have made over the years with the other mentors has been probably the best thing that has come from my time at the Garage. They have seen me at my best and my worst and love me nonetheless! We laugh together, cry together, praise God together, vent together, pray together... it's the best!! The next great thing about the Garage has been the friendships I have made with the kids and their families over the years. I am friends with some of the coolest, silliest, bravest, realest kids ever. I'm thankful for every single one of them and they make my whole day whether I see them at the Garage or at school or out and about in town! Finally the most important thing about my time at the Garage has been watching God at work in all of it all the time. God is doing amazing things in and through the Garage and I am humbled to be a part of a ministry that loves the kids and families in the community so well!"



We are always looking for more mentors to dive in with us. Could it be you?

The Ups and Downs of Ministry | Steve Pausch

Youth For Christ has been in the business of working with young people since 1944, and as an organization we know that ministry to teens is very cyclical. Some years we may have a majority of seniors from a school in a ministry which ultimately leads to a transition year or two the next year. We also have years with a lot of underclassmen and very large numbers in a ministry site for years to come. Siblings, cousins, and friends can sometimes be dominant in a ministry site which has an effect on who else comes to a meetings. We have seen just about everything over the years, and we have seen God's faithfulness each year in who He brings and calls unto Himself.

A few months ago we were seeing some difficult times with the teens who were in the Sandusky County Detention Center. The teens often didn't want to come out of their cell and talk with our staff. If they did come out, they were rude and disrespectful to our leaders and even the detention center staff. This continued for a few weeks and was a serious prayer issue for those involved and others around the ministry. We felt a bit discouraged and wondered what God was doing. After a month or so of this, out of nowhere, a young man who was in the detention center met with our staff and he gave his life to the Lord. And not only that, he started talking to two other young men who were in the detention center with him, encouraging them to give their lives to the Lord. Both of these young men ended up giving their lives to the Lord, and recently that first young man contacted our staff to share that he is involved in church and has a job. God was at work in these young men's lives when we had no idea if He was even doing anything! We praise God for His work.... His way. Thank you for your prayers sustaining us.

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