

# Northumberland YFC

P.O. Box 568, Colborne ON K0K 1S0  
330 Division St., Cobourg ON K9A 3R3  
News for the Northumberland YFC Family!  
Vol. 22 No. 01

ph: 905 373 4707  
fax: 905 373 7212  
E-mail <info@nyfc.org>  
January - February, 2006



One of the blessings of doing the Godstock concerts for five years was meeting Chris Greenwood, a.k.a. Manafest. Chris is a rapper who is passionate about using his music to share the Gospel with young people. He is energetic, funny, and extremely talented. We've had Chris in Port Hope four times in the past 2-1/2 years, and every kid who attends his concerts comes away loving him. (we've even had some adults who enjoy his music, surprised that they can actually understand the words!!)



On December 6th, we hosted a concert featuring Chris and the band 905 at Calvary Pentecostal Church's new building. Earlier that day, we received permission from the local junior high school to bring Chris in at lunch to do a free mini-concert in the gym. About 100 kids showed up to hear Chris share his music and his positive messages about bullying and the power of words to either build up or destroy another person.

About 80 people attended the evening concert. We were very encouraged by the fact that most of the kids there were junior high age and younger. Many of them do not regularly attend church, and so this was their first exposure to Christian music they can relate to. We were encouraged to see that almost all of the youth were from Port Hope. In past concerts, we would often find that 80% were from out of town.



Finally, and most importantly, we were encouraged and excited by the **16 young people who responded** to Manafest's invitation at the end to open up their lives to Jesus Christ. We have been in touch with many of them since and have given them youth Bibles along with information about local church youth groups.

Big events like this are always a lot of work, and they are always a little risky. You never know if enough people will show up to cover expenses. But when we are able to hook up with someone like Chris who is a true minister as well as a musician, and when you see the Holy Spirit doing His work in the hearts of young people, it makes all the effort worth it.

Jeff Snow  
Port Hope

## INSIDE

Pg. 2

- The Silverworks at Christmas

Pg. 3

- New on the Block!
- Reflections of the Heart

Pg. 4

- Lost and Found
- 2006 - a brief review

-----  
**Insert/attached:**

- Partnership Form
- Praise and Prayer



## A Silverworks Christmas

Only six days before Christmas and a festive spirit was in the air! All the “creatures” were gathering at the doors of the “Works!” The tree was decorated with pictures of “kids”, the goodies were all baked by wonderful “elves” (thanks ladies!) The music of Christmas was playing and the volunteers were ready ....just waiting for the stroke of seven . On Denis, on Dave, on Maryjane and Christine .... “Wait, hold steady..... here they come.....”

Our Christmas party at ‘The Silverworks’ this year was a great success! **We had 27 teens and 10 parents!** We ate, played games, laughed, talked, listened and when the evening was over we (the staff) felt like we had made some good connections with parents and teens alike.

Its been an exciting adventure this year at “The Silverworks”. We have seen approximately 50 different teens since September, with a regular core of 15. Ages 10-15, these teens have lots of energy and enthusiasm and they keep us busy planning activities that will keep them engaged. Our talk times are loud and boisterous and we’ve started asking for prayer concerns and they eagerly volunteer requests! With lots of activity it is hard sometimes to find the quiet moments to talk and listen one on one, but we do and at the end of the evening we are encouraged by the talks we have.



On Tuesday evenings please pray for the volunteers - Dave, Denis, Maryjane - and myself as we open the doors and build relationships with Conner, Fraser, Destiny, Helen, Margaret, Courtney, Brody, Andrew, Tammy and Katelyn to name just a few. Please pray that the teens might see Jesus in us and respond to His love.

**And if you are interested....we would love to open up “The Silverworks” a second night for older teens: ages 14 - 19. Please contact Christine at 905-373-4707 or email me at <christine@nyfc.org>.**

God Bless! Christine Moss, Cobourg

### **Regarding your Income Tax receipts**

For those of you who have supported the mission of Youth For Christ financially in 2006, your receipts will be in the mail mid February along with a brief update. The receipts are just about ready to go - we are doing those last checks to ensure accuracy.

Thanks for your support and prayers.

## NEW KIDS.....and NEW MISSIONARIES.....on the block!!

Greetings from Brighton! And hello from the new kid on the block! I know I'm not supposed to boast, but it's only taken me two weeks to realize that *I've inherited the best volunteer team anyone could imagine for our youth centre.*

We've got fix-it guys (and gals) to keep the place together, and everyone pitches in to make the place run well, (thanks, especially to Carla for coordinating everything for us the last few months!) They've got a great love for the kids, and everyone has something unique to give. Even when our toilet backed up all over the floor Thursday evening two weeks ago, we had Dan there to take care of diagnosing the problem for us, (not everyone's favourite work, I'm sure!)

And the kids are fascinating! Hardik and Sam have a fierce competition running for "Master" of the pool tables (sometimes these guys wait for nearly half an hour to get their turn), and we love teasing each other. **Nineteen precious young people aged 12-17 spent lunchtime with us this past Monday**, and we had a great time.

On the other hand, we see the down side, too. I had half a sandwich left over one night and was surprised when some of the girls offered to finish it for me. **They were obviously hungry.** And when you hear so much rough language from a **twelve year old** as they're smoking their third cigarette of the evening (outside!), you do wonder if you'll be able to be a good influence on them before it's too late.

So here we are, befriending these kids, trying to encourage them with the love of a God they are not sure even exists, and many of them living in a context where they have been broken and bruised in terrible ways. What a blessing it is to know that there are lots of people partnering with us, helping to reach out to youth like them! - **Andrew Fortier, Brighton & Campbellford**

---

### Reflections Of The Heart

**Sometimes you meet a young person who captures a piece of your heart....**

**You see her potential.... You see her hurt.... And you are determined to do whatever you can to help her find wholeness.**

**Sometimes you pour hours of one-on-one time into him... Even more hours thinking about how you can serve him better.... And more hours still, praying for him.**

**Sometimes she seems to be on the brink of disaster... And you despair.... But by the grace of God she pulls through and you have another day to love her in Jesus name.**

**Sometimes he seems to be doing so well you wonder how he got to this place... You wonder if he's even the same young person... I guess in some ways he isn't.... And you are so proud of who he is becoming.**

**Then sometimes you have to let her go.... And you don't hear from her for a really long time.... Or ever....**

**You remember their potential, their hurt, their disasters and their joys.... You remember who they are.... Because they change who you are and they change how you love....**

**That young person who captured a piece of your heart resides within you still, even when they've turned away and you have to let them go.**

- Sarah Stanford, Cobourg area

## Lost and Found

by John Fischer @ <[www.purposedrivenlife.com](http://www.purposedrivenlife.com)>

The world is not wrong as much as it is lost, and “lost” is the operative word here.

For some time now, it seems to have been very important to many people in the church and in Christian circles that the world is wrong. As a result, a good deal of effort has been put into trying to fight the wrong in order to overcome it and make right prevail. This has been unfortunate in some ways for our mission in the world, which is to spread the Good News of Christ’s forgiveness to all because of the cross, and invite people to become followers of Christ. As a result, a confusing mixed message has gone out. Something like: We love you and want to let you know that Christ died for your sins; we really don’t like you unless you see things the way we do.

Unfortunately, I’m afraid the second message has been much louder than the first. It’s become more important to make society Christian than to make Christians in society.

There’s one way to a quick attitude change that will help us get back on track with our mission. Think of the world as being not wrong as much as it is lost, and “lost” is the operative word.

When someone is wrong, the other’s job is to set that person right. Do you have anybody like this in your life – someone who is out to set you straight in some area? How happy are you to see this person as a general rule? This attitude creates a very conditional relationship and one in which the person who is “right” is always better. In contrast, when someone is lost, the other’s job is to find that person, and believe me, someone coming to my rescue is a much more welcome sight than someone coming as my judge.

Jesus stated his mission was as one coming to seek and to save what was lost (Luke 19:10). He loved the lost. He told lots of stories about lost things: a coin (Luke 15:8-10), a pearl in a field (Matthew 13:44-46), one sheep among a hundred (Luke 15:3-7), and one son who was lost – who when he came home, was not touted for being wrong, but was celebrated for having been found (Luke 15:11-27)!

God’s heart is really big. He’s already dealt with the right versus wrong thing on the cross. No need to spend a lot of time proving what we already know about everyone, including ourselves: We’re all wrong. Let’s get back to finding people who are lost and the joy of being found ourselves (because we were lost, too). I think that will be much closer to our mission.

=====

### Our mission of seeking out the lost in 2006 included:

- Contact with an average of **200 youth per week** across Northumberland County
- Engaging **6 missionaries and over 80 volunteers** in active outreach to youth and their families across the county
- Active support of the local schools, in particular **4 high schools and 2 elementary** schools.
- Assisting other agencies through **active partnerships** with Youth Probation and Parole, Alpha House, Northumberland Restorative Justice Initiative, numerous churches and ministerial associations, food banks, Northumberland Women’s Shelter, and more...
- The opening of a whole new division, “**Embrace Birth Doula Services**” providing non-medical support to pregnant young women. Learn more @ <[www.nyfc.org/doula.html](http://www.nyfc.org/doula.html)>
- Four youth centres; **The Outback** - Port Hope, **The Silverworks** - Cobourg, **The Fishing Hole** - Campbellford (until fall 2006), and our newest youth centre in Brighton - **The Beacon**.
- We know for sure of 16 youth who have made deliberate decisions to accept the person, work and values of Jesus for themselves, and we see gradual change in dozens of youth as they experience the positive influence of the adults who pour their unconditional love into youth.
- A month-long international mission to Ghana West Africa, where young people served very hard.