



# SAVE THE DATE!

Wednesday, June 19, 2024

BEARSPAW GOLF CLUB

The Youth Unlimited Golf Tournament is a fun way for Calgarians to gather and raise funds that build into the lives of our young people. It's together that we make an impact, and we are honoured to host a premiere event for golf enthusiasts.

Your partnership with this special event and your unwavering support continues to transform lives and strengthen our community. Thank you for making it all possible; we look forward to seeing you on the golf course!

For more information, or to inquire about Corporate Sponsorship, email: [yugolf@yfc.ca](mailto:yugolf@yfc.ca)



MARIA FRIESEN - ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



The articles in this newsletter, reflect the heart and soul of Youth Unlimited, each highlighting the challenges and triumphs encountered in reaching out to young people in need of God's love and provision. From innovative initiatives like Station One Eight, which transforms a truck into a mobile support space for youth empowerment, to the humbling experiences shared in Campus Life, where imperfect moments forge deeper connections, each narrative underscores the power of compassion and community. Youth Guidance demonstrates the transformative impact of love and understanding, while Keramiko's journey echoes the joy of seeing God's provision in forming supportive bonds among young moms. Worth Auto dives into the spiritual journey of a young man seeking meaning and belonging, and StreetLight reminds us of God's grace in our own lives and the transformative potential of walking alongside those in need. We hope that as you read these stories, you sense God's invitation to join us in ministry as partners offering your time and talent, to unite your heart in prayer, and to help in whatever way you can.



## RENEWED CHARACTER

growing in virtue

JOYFUL SERVICE  
learning to put others first

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS  
finding reconciliation and vibrant community

CLEAR PURPOSE  
discovering & utilizing gifts & abilities

ROOTED IDENTITY  
engaging life with Jesus



EXCITING UPDATES INSIDE!

### Our End Goal. Our Bottom Line.

Youth Unlimited is a faith-based organization that meets youth where they are at. We're about genuine relationships, supporting young people, and loving them without judgment.



COUNT ME IN!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

#### One Time Donation

Enclosed Cheque  Post-Dated Cheque(s)  Or Bank Transit #       Inst#   Acct#

Or Visa/Mastercard Number           Expiry Date     CVV#

One Time Donation Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Email My Tax Receipt To: \_\_\_\_\_

PRINT CLEARLY

For Monthly Pre-Authorized Donation Plan (Void Cheque, Bank Information, or Credit Card Information Included Above)

Total Per Month \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Transfer Date:  1st  15th Starting Month: \_\_\_\_\_

In Support Of (Staff/Program or Campaign Name) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

TESSA MCALLISTER

**NEW STAFF MEMBER!**



Hi, I'm Tessa, and I've been part of the Youth Unlimited team since mid-January, to help bring leadership to Youth Unlimited's exciting new ministry, Station One Eight. We're thrilled to announce that we're now in the fabrication phase, with \$130,240 raised, putting us at 65% of our \$200k goal! Our spring launch is just around the corner, and we're inviting you to join us in bringing this ministry to life in Calgary. Station One Eight is a unique concept—a truck converted into a mobile support group space that also offers youth barista training, enhancing their employability. Your donations are crucial for continuing fabrication and setting up this supportive, and safe space for youth. It's been incredible to witness God's provision through the generosity of people who share our vision. We've even received specific item donations which has been fun to see, like a stunning window from the Stella Foundation, which will make our space inviting and safe, and showcases us in the community. Thank you Stella Foundation! If you'd like to get involved in founding a new outreach here in Calgary, remember that every contribution, big or small, brings us closer to our goal of impacting the lives of youth. In fact, you might even want to check out Station One Eight's new website where you'll find a list of items you can donate in honour of someone special! Visit [Station1Eight.ca](http://Station1Eight.ca) and follow us on Instagram at [station\\_one\\_eight](https://www.instagram.com/station_one_eight) to stay updated on our progress. Join us on this journey of transforming lives!

**NEW INITIATIVE UPDATE!**

To stay updated on our progress, visit <http://www.Station1Eight.ca>

*campus life*

SARA WAGAR

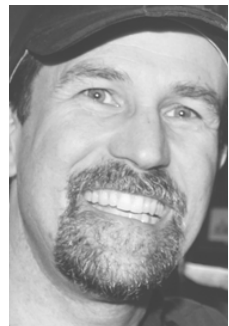


We had a really warm winter, but, as it goes, the one day a former student of mine manages to have enough free time to get together, it was -20. And, the heat in my living room was barely working due to the breeze coming in from the fireplace and all the windows that just don't seal quite tight enough. Another student showed up at my door the same day my dishwasher was broken, parts all over the floor and the landlord showing up intermittently to try to fix it. There are times in youth ministry (and maybe, in all of our lives) where I just want to feel put together, where I have the instagram-worthy home decor, where everything is clean and has a place, and I don't have my toddler's drool somewhere on my shirt. And no matter what I do, I can't seem to make that perfect image of myself happen. And yet, the girls and women I've worked with throughout the years never see it as a negative. On the day of the freezing living room, my student looked at the set up of patio cushions and towels we had covering the windows and figured that now she'd know of some options in case her heat ever went out. On the day of the broken dishwasher, my student asked about renting versus buying and what you do when appliances break. Neither was a life changing conversation, but no one asked me to figure my own life out before I could invest in theirs either. Working with teenagers has humbled me in a lot of ways I didn't expect, but there's also a lot of moments that have lifted me when I didn't know I needed it. Sometimes the messy human moments can draw us together more than a perfectly curated image ever could.

BERNIE ADAM

The squeakiest wheel gets the meal. When a student swears, is aggressive and angry towards others in the program, that's squeaky. Then, when he is confronted, and he swears and spits at a leader etc. that's squeakiest. The volunteer who dealt with this student was not bitter, angry, or upset; he was filled with love and compassion toward him. This volunteer believed that something else was going on and that this student may have been hurting and in need of some extra attention and support, and he suggested that he and I should get together with this student soon. I reached out to mom (she works out of town), and I set up a time with her to meet with her son a few days later. When we picked him up he looked like he didn't want to meet with us. He was so disengaged, which made me think he may have been annoyed. He was likely preparing for how we would deal with him for his behaviour towards my volunteer and the students he had lashed out at in our program. We took him to DQ, and at the end of our meeting we graciously alluded to the conflict that had been going on. We let him know that we were not angry with him; we told him that we were concerned for him as we believed that there was much more going on in his life; and, we let him know that we are there for him if he ever needs someone to talk to. When we dropped him off at home after that meeting, it felt like a storm cloud had lifted. This youth by far he has been one of the most challenging students. However, following our meeting with him, when he attends our program he acknowledges us, and he does not avoid us the same way that he used to. Now, he says hi and even asks how we are doing and engages in small talk. He has turned a corner with us, which has been very encouraging. This is growth to celebrate, because now he comes with an attitude that allows him to receive both in the sports program and in the messages that he hears.

**YOUTH GUIDANCE**



KYRA LABONTE



We started out with one consistent mom attending our Moms group on Thursdays at the beginning of 2023. Over the course of the Summer, God continued to drop mom after mom into our program, and by the early fall, we had a consistent group of four moms meeting on Thursday afternoons with their kids. As more moms joined us, the more excited they would get to see each other each week. All of a sudden beautiful friendships began to form, and some of our moms started regularly hang out together outside of our program. One mom even helped another mom move apartments! God has been so faithful in answering our prayers this past year. Now, our moms who came to us looking for other mom-friends have started to form a community! We also want to take a minute to thank our incredibly generous donors who went above and beyond during our Christmas Hamper campaign back in December! This year, we were able to bless 17 of our young families with a Christmas dinner and gifts because of you. And also, thanks to your financial support, Keramiko bought a car seat! Our team is now able to meet a growing need amongst our families by being able to safely provide our moms with a ride to our group meetings! It's been amazing to see God's faithfulness - thank you for being such a valuable part of our impact!

**WORTH AUTO**

DOUG WAUGH



At the end of each week, we take a couple of hours to slow down and get to know the youth a little better, and we also share a little about ourselves with them. We call this time God Talk, and it's a special time where we're able to have more meaningful conversations about our lives and our worldviews. We often use the Youth Alpha program to encourage quality discussions about Christianity and the reality of Jesus. Recently, as we were having one such discussion, Cal revealed that over the past few years he's been drawn to Islam because of the Muslim friends he had in school and how their Islamic beliefs kept them from some of the vices that he and many of his other friends had. As the discussion went deeper, he confessed that deep inside he felt a spiritual vacuum and he believed that all along it was Jesus that he was lacking. Having that discussion was a revelation to him that all through his life Christianity was a kind of bedrock for him that he was introduced to when he was very young. He told us his dad had sometimes taken him to church when he was very little, and he could remember small parts of the gospel that stuck with him. Unfortunately, on that day he wasn't ready to receive Christ as his Savior, but he said he had a lot to think over. Cal hasn't been very regular attending Worth Auto, and since that day, he hasn't been there for another God Talk. I believe, though, that a seed was planted in his heart years ago when he was a little boy, and over time, God will allow it to grow into a wonderful relationship with Him. Until that day we pray, and we continue to speak life and love into him every chance we get. Won't you please join us in ministry and pray with us for Cal?



**streetlight** BRIAN DENNIS

**NEW STAFF MEMBER!**



As I write this, I've officially been on staff for a couple of days, which means that I'm now able to devote far more time and attention to StreetLight and the kids that we serve. And, although I haven't been a part of Youth Unlimited for very long, I've gotten to see momentum build as several new teens have become familiar faces. Not only that, but our teens are showing up with high energy and are far more willing to share their stories. It's very exciting to be a part of, as I get to see our kids in an environment where they are valued. From what they've shared with me about their personal lives, I don't think our teens have many places like that. This makes me all the more thankful that they continue to show up each week, as our ministry team is able to tell them the truth about who they are and how much value they carry. To be sure, the victories up to this point have been small, but I'm confident that God is active in what we are doing and is planting seeds for something bigger. I believe this for my own life as I witness how God paved the way for me to join Youth Unlimited. For those that have invested into my life, thank you. You've enabled me to have this opportunity to invest into the lives of those entrenched on the streets. I have no doubt that, as I continue to walk beside these kids, together we'll see God bring about healing in their lives and use them to transform the world around them.