Central NY YFC PO Box 362 Oneonta, NY 13820

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## **Meeting Times**

Laurens Thursdays

(6:30-

8:00pm)

Unatego Thursdays

(6:30-

8:30pm)

Walton Tuesdays

(6:00-

8:30pm)

Teen Center Saturdays

(6:30-10:00pm)

Inside Feb 21 Garage Sale (8:00-

Save the Dates

2:00pm)

Equine Banquet March 13

Teen Center/ March 14 Campus Life

Banquet

Talent Show April 11

Annual 5K April 25

Joker Run/Walk

# **January 2015 Newsletter**

# Wrapping Up 2014...

Towards the end of the year, the Teen Center was able to share the true meaning of Christmas to teens in various ways while they also had lots of fun. Some highlights of the times together included packing shoeboxes with gifts for Operation Christmas Child, caroling with Unatego Community Church around Unadilla, a "White Elephant" gift exchange, video clips about the 'Christ' in 'Christmas', the Teen Center band playing Christmas songs and a message about Jesus—the real reason we celebrate Christmas.

neboxes







"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."



### Praises!

The 2014-2015 YFC Catalog thus far has received the most donations we have ever had from this fundraiser.

Six teens went to the annual Excel conference this year.

Five teens from Valley Stream Mobile Home Park (Laurens) came to the Teen Center over Christmas break.

## **Prayer Requests**

Please be in prayer that those who went to Excel will grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ.

We are planning a presentation by Christians who have had crises in their lives for others facing hard times. Pray for interest and opportunities to make it happen.

Please pray for new teens attending clubs and events. Pray they would accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior and continue with us through YFC and church.

Pray for YFC to be able to cover the cost of our programs, staff salaries, and the Teen Center needs.

# ...And Unwrapping 2015

Happy New Year to everyone! After the start of the New Year I began compiling a long "to do" list and a list of events that are upcoming for YFC. As I looked at the lists, an overwhelming feeling came over me. There is so much to do this year, and yet, I am feeling excited about all of our plans for the New Year.

First, we will host a Pancake Breakfast to support the Teen Center on January 25th from 8:30-10:15 am at the Unatego Community Church in Otego.

An indoor winter garage sale is planned for February 21 from 8a.m. until 2p.m. at the Teen Center. This will be our first attempt at an indoor garage sale. We are looking for donations of items to sell. If anyone is interested, please contact Mike Knowlton @ 988-3006. Please stop in to shop and also to check out the Teen Center.

In March we will approach our fundraising banquet a little differently. Two smaller banquets will take place at the Teen Center: one on March 13 and the other on March 14. The first one will highlight the equine program and the second will focus on the Teen Center and Campus Life clubs. We will sell tickets for each of the banquets and are seeking businesses interested in sponsorship.

Our 2nd Annual 5k Joker Run/Walk will take place on April 25th. The course will be the same as last year, with the start at the Unadilla Elementary School and the finish at the Teen Center. Please spread the news to all the people you know who are runners or walkers.

These events are just a few that are on my "to do" list for the start of 2015. I am hoping that you can support Youth for Christ and take part in some of the events listed above.

During the Christmas break I hosted two Christmas parties for teens at my home. I usually read the Christmas story because many have never heard it. This year I decided to add a twist. I had my son drag a manger up into the woods just above the house and then make a Cross from sticks which we then placed by the manger. Next, we hung a light up in a tree just above the manger and Cross. I took each group outside and asked them to think about the true meaning of Christmas as they walked in the dark up to the trail leading into the woods. When we arrived at the place where the manger and the Cross were I had my son, who remained back at the house, switch on the light. A short devotional was read that discussed the true meaning of Christmas: that one must see it in the shadow of the Cross. Please pray that this adventure into the woods will be a lesson about Christmas that they will not forget, and that they will come to know the meaning of Christmas in a personal way. This is our prayer for all teens.



Snapshot of the Excel Conference

Thank you for the opportunity to serve God and to share Christmas in the shadow of the Cross with as many teens as possible.

Dorothy Davidson Executive Director



#### **Central NY YFC Staff:**

**Dorothy Davidson,** Executive Director

Mike Knowlton, Ministry Staff

Kristian Berggren, Ministry Staff

**Jody Wisse,** Office Manager