



# QUARTERLY WINTER 2022

## Robbie Taylor, Hope Givers

Welcome to 2022! Another year to see the Lord's hand and work in the lives of the beloved teens we serve. It has been made clear to me by the sheer weight and struggle many teens have faced during these last few years, that the gospel of Jesus Christ is the most hopeful solution to many of the problems in their lives.

Perhaps for you reading this right now, the thought of a hopeful future doesn't go past the end of this month. Plans, goals, and dreams aren't as wide and high as they once were. For me, and many of you, I know that the promises of scripture and our eternal hope in Jesus allows us the strength to walk with hope and joy in any of our current circumstances. To reach a lost generation, and for them to see true hope in the world that comes from a God who knows the future and is with them always, is paramount. The Bible says God is the same today, yesterday and tomorrow.

We see the faithfulness of God daily, and the strength and provision from Him yesterday, that allows us to walk by grace today. And with Him, our eternal hope is that there is always going to be a tomorrow with Him. As we enter this new year and look to Him, I would encourage you that God's kingdom is at hand, that salvation belongs to our God, and that the gospel is the power of salvation. My heart is inspired for 2022 because the darker the world around us, means the brighter the light of Jesus shall be seen. And as the needs of those around us grow, the soul-searching questions for meaning and identity get louder. We have the answer. We have the mystery. We have the eternal hope to share with all. Our best year is ahead when we partner with Jesus at YFC and see young people discover the love and life of Christ. Be a part of the transformation this year. Be a hope giver. Be a part of the revival of young people here in the Comox Valley.

## Justin Streeton, Making A Difference

I have been a youth leader at my church for about four years now, and I hear a lot of leaders asking the question, "Are we doing enough in these students' lives, and are we really making a difference?" We hope that they will want to follow Jesus, and maybe one day make even more disciples. Yet still the thought goes through our minds: Am I doing enough to help them? That's where I believe God gives us opportunities to help students in everyday situations.

About a month ago a student phoned me and told me that he had missed the bus and needed a ride home. Unfortunately, I had another student coming for mentorship in about ten minutes so after I hung up the phone, I said a little prayer that he would find a ride. But I still couldn't get him off my mind, because I felt like I had missed an opportunity of helping someone when they really needed it.

Five minutes later the student coming for mentorship had to cancel, so I called the student who had missed the bus back, and told him that I could drive him home if he still needed a ride. We were able to have a great conversation and catch up. He told me that he had been waiting outside school in the cold, and both his legal guardians couldn't come because they worked nights, and he was so thankful I could come, because he had no one else to call. As I drove home, I thanked the Lord for the opportunity He had given me.

I have found that worrying over whether I am doing enough doesn't help at all, but praying for opportunities does help. So, when something comes up in a person's life, whether it be financial problems, their health, or a need of friendship, I pray for the Lord to help them find what they're looking for, because sometimes there are opportunities right in front of us, but we miss them because we are wrapped up in our own lives and worries. As Galatians 6:10 says, "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers."

## Rebekah Kenway, Legacy

Legacy. Such a weighty word! It's a concept where we think of building something in order to leave it behind for others to build upon. It's one of the things that grips me about YFC- the fact that I'm building upon years of work, love and support that have gone before me.

In November last year, at a weekly prayer meeting, I was joined by two couples who both happened to have decades of time committed to the YFC ministry- Deane and Grace Clarke, and Don and Leslie Beeler. It was in this session that we prayed for the floor hockey program that Justin started facilitating last year. Bringing it up made Don beam. He shared, "I was the one who started that program." Wow! I had no idea. What a legacy he left! A program that he began over three decades ago is still running on a yearly basis with up to 40 youth participating.

While it was out of Justin's comfort zone to facilitate floor hockey, not knowing how it had been done in the past, what amazed Justin was that the youth would ask him what happened to "story and snack time." It turned out that the last YFC facilitator used to bring snacks and share a Bible story during each session, and the youth missed it. Amazing! So, while Don may have graduated into heaven this past December, the work he started still carries on in the YFC ministry today, blessing hundreds of lives each year - both youth and their families.

This makes me think of the promise in Philippians 1:6, "I am sure of this, that he who started a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." Jesus has started many good works, and in this ministry-through prayer, partnership and support- I'm excited to see how He will carry it on to completion.



## Where We Serve



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CPC ELEVATE YOUTH  
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GLACIER VIEW: MEAL PROGRAM; STUDENT SUPPORT



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### Kaylee Crisfield, **Unhindered Attention**

Lately I have been reminded of the beauty that is hidden in the present moments we're existing in. So often, we talk about our desire for what is to come, and we lose sight of the potential and the beauty that is already present around us; we desire the greener

grass, the warmer seasons, the next semester, the next chapter of life. What might we be missing out on in the now because we are constantly seeking what's next?

**"Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them." (Psalm 139:16)**

Before our days were in existence, the Lord had a plan and vision for what they would be and He had intention and purpose for our lives. Why do we so often want to skip by what we see as the mundane into something exciting, when the days that we are currently experiencing- though they may look similar to days previously experienced- are days that we have never lived before? Does that not excite us?!

I pray that as I walk with students in the day-to-day life, that I would be able to exemplify this type of unhindered attention to the present moment. What would it look like for you to reframe your way of thinking so that you might also step into the now, the present, the perfectly orchestrated plan that the Lord has made for you?



### Sarah Nichol, **New Perspective**

As we enter a new year I enjoy spending time in reflection, walking with God through my experiences of the past year, through the challenges I faced and the surprises I delighted in. What I often am not able to see in the moment, now stands out.

I imagine God shining a spotlight on the lesson I learned through each of these experiences, and I feel grateful to know that God never gets frustrated with me, even when I am a slow learner! He lets me wrestle with my world and waits patiently for me to remember that I can trust Him with all my struggles, big and small. And when I turn back to Him in surrender, there is no "I told you so;" He just pulls out the spotlight and helps me see what I wasn't able to before - His fingerprints all over my life, working all things together for His good purpose.

When I take time to reflect with God on my experiences, I start to see that the things that I hastily classified as negative, or difficult, or unfair are actually beautiful moments that offered me growth, depth, and understanding. They helped me understand myself a little better, understand our God a little better, and develop a deeper compassion for those around me.

That disagreement with a family member helped me glimpse a new perspective about a youth's story. That challenge I faced helped me understand a part of myself I had been avoiding. The anxiety I shared with a friend brought us a deeper connection.

And so I have renewed gratitude for discomfort. My prayer is that this year we can all make space for reflection with God. This year, I invite you to greet your discomfort instead of turning away. And remember that God is ready with His spotlight, He's just waiting for your invitation!

### Taeryn Novak, **Keep Showing Up**

One my favourite aspects of my role at YFC is engaging with students in schools. It has been amazing to get to know these students over a long period of time, through lunch clubs or classroom help, becoming a familiar face and being a consistent presence. Sometimes it may be the only connection I have with certain students, but sometimes I'll see them again at a local youth group and they'll recognize me. We never know what impact our consistency and gentle friendship may have.

I've had the privilege of getting to serve at the local alternative school since the fall, and there is a great legacy of other YFC staff making a positive difference there. As I became familiar with students and staff at the school, helping with various things such as their meal program, a girls' support group, and an art club, I quickly felt welcomed and an important part of the ecosystem of the school. All of the staff there have such a heart for the teens, and a desire to see them thrive and overcome obstacles they face every day. Even with the darkness and brokenness that is present, it is also a truly beautiful place. Whether or not they realize it, I see God's love and desire for wholeness evident in what the staff are doing. And the students themselves are kind, welcoming, and courageous.

We can't ever fully understand the complexities of what young people (or anyone for that matter) are facing. But we can listen, we can keep showing up, and we can keep leaning on God's spirit to give us the words to say (or not say), the burden to act, and the ability to serve the needs of another person. Because believe me: my flesh, me on my own, would like to say no to more opportunities to serve. I am naturally self-focused and self-preserving, but thank God, he doesn't leave us in that place! He walks with us into every opportunity to help another person, and gives us joy along the way. It's not always easy, but there is grace and gentleness always available.



### 2022 SCHEDULE

**MON** Mentorship

**TUE** Creative Life 4-6  
Play On Games Club 4-6

**WED** Local youth groups  
Mentorship

**THUR** Girls On The Go 4-5:30  
Cumberland Floor Hockey  
5-11yrs 6:30-7:30 & 12-18yrs 7:30-8:30

**FRI** Scope 5:30-7  
Friday Nights 7-9

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THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALL THAT YOU ARE DOING FOR OUR SCHOOL. WE REALLY COULD NOT DO IT WITHOUT YOU. YOU HAVE BEEN INCREDIBLE SUPPORTS FOR OUR STUDENTS AND STAFF THIS YEAR.



ADMIN , GLACIER VIEW SCHOOL

### BI-WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING

TIME 9:30AM- 10:30AM / LOCATION YFC OFFICE

JANUARY 12TH & 26TH / FEBRUARY 9TH & 23RD / MARCH 9TH & 23RD

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