

From the Director...

Ron Riemersma, Executive Director

Growth Produces Change

As our organization grows, not only did our name change, (we are now called Badgerland YFC) other growth changes are occurring. The people who put the heart, hands and feet in our organization are shifting roles and moving on to accommodate the inevitable change that comes with exciting growth.

Karen, the solid rock of the YFC office for 24 years, is shifting much of her role to Bethany Guell, the newest addition to the behind the scenes operations of the program. Karen will be able to grow as a grandma to her newest family members. Bethany will add her fresh ideas and will have the opportunity to shape the procedures that will support the growing needs of our ministry.

Ali, who has developed relationships with students and led the present Fond du Lac Campus Life high school ministry, will be moving on to other endeavors.

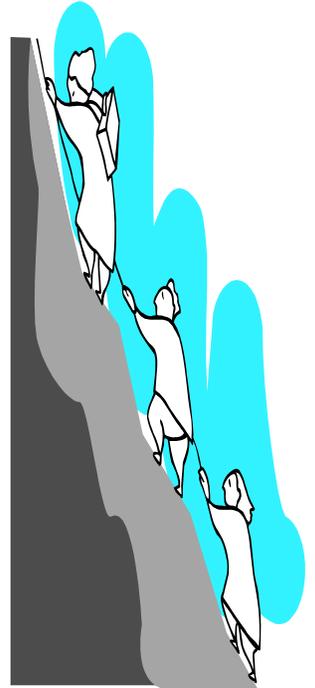
Scott will transition from Waupun Area Campus Life Director to Ministry Director, where he will encourage and support all ministry personnel as well as seek to grow new areas of ministry. This will include finding the right person for Fond du Lac Campus Life. Kim will step into the position Scott leaves and put her gifts and talents to work, in direct ministry to kids.

Hans, the Beaver Dam Campus Life Director will take on the role of "coaching" all the Campus Life ministries.

We are excited for Karen and Ali, as they move on to the next phase in their lives. We are encouraged by the new roles that Scott, Hans, Kim and Bethany are undertaking.

We appreciate Jerry and Misty as they continue directing the Fresh Start and Teen Parents ministries. And we are very excited to position YFC to be able to say "yes" to community requests, reaching more kids, in new areas.

Thanks for your continued prayers and support for our team and the kids we serve.



Love as Jesus Loves

Scott Ritzema — Waupun & Rosendale Campus Life Area Director



Scott and Sierra at Waupun Ice Skating

One of the things that I have heard said is that we as a staff, keep getting older while the kids stay the same age. It's funny if you think about it, but very true. I'm writing this update, near Father's Day. As I get older, I feel I'm viewed as a father figure for many of the area teens.

About a year ago I was talking to one of the girls that has been involved in our ministry, she looked at me and said, "Scott, you're like a dad to me." I knew that when she was very young her dad had passed away, but I could not think of anything that would prompt a statement like that. Later I asked her, "Why do you see me as a dad? I can't remember anything extra special that would put me in that position." She replied to me, "You didn't need to do anything special for me, you just needed to be there."

We are living in a self-involved world where people are so focused on themselves that they don't see those around them. Jesus said to us in John 15:12, "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you." Jesus loved us so much that He did everything for us, to the point of giving His own life. We need to follow His example of loving others, and by following that command we will make a difference in the lives around us. Thank you so much for investing in the lives of teenagers and the ministry of Badgerland Youth For Christ.

YFC-FreshStart A Great Night

by Jerry Wallendal
YFC/Fresh Start Director

Thursday night Bible study was a lesson devoted to hearing the voice of God and journaling. After a short teaching the youth quickly started to journal, some even separated from the group in order to focus more on God.

A few of the kids shared from their journals, we prayed and started to clean up for the night. That is when Sam* came up to me and asked me to read his journal. Sam hadn't been to Bible study in a while and he was back on a very destructive path. He often slept in a car or outside at night as he is homeless and his father is dying. His journal was a cry for help. He needed someone to talk to, someone who would care. He wrote that he didn't know how much longer he could go on.

I took him to Taco Bell and with tears in his eyes he shared his story. I got a much better understanding about Sam. I prayed with him and told him I would try to find him a mentor. God did an amazing work that night. God put me in a young person's life at a critical time.

We have many young people in need of mentors. If you have an interest in building a Godly relationship with a young person, please give me a call 920-948-1320 or contact Badgerland YFC at office @badgerlandyfc.org.

* Name changed for confidentiality

Please Celebrate with us the new arrival to Kim and Jon Venhuizen's Family



Jaina Rae Venhuizen, born June 12, 7lb 10oz and 20 inches long. What a blessing!

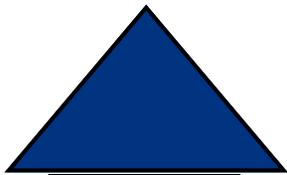


Beaver Dam
Hans Gochenaur, Director

What's New in Beaver Dam

As the school year ends and summer comes, schedules change and ministry adapts! Here are a few of the things happening locally.

- The ministry of BD-LIVES (a local combined ministry of churches in the area along with Campus Life) got started with our events scheduled for the summer. These events include a hangout at a park, a four week service project/ Bible Study, a scavenger hunt, and a concert.
- I'm mentoring a High School aged young man this summer, who wants to take his faith to a deeper level.
- Connecting with local returning college students.
- Working with our Student Leader team to explore creating a ministry to link local establishments with supporting our local food pantry. This project is called "Eat to Feed."
- Doing multiple fundraisers for the youth going on our YFCamp trip to Maryland July 13-20.
- Starting up summer training for Cross Country!
- Planning for the fall in ministry and filling some pulpit supply for area churches.
- Personally: Taking a vacation to Indiana to visit my folks for the week of July 4th and finishing the third floor of our house to create some space for our family which has grown.



RAISE THE ROOF Campaign



**\$122,000 raised in
10 months time!**

Praise God! Fabulous supporters of THE UNION Youth Center have donated generously.

We are only \$38,000 away from our total goal of \$150,000.

Work has begun and our interior is dry!

Thank you! Thank You!

Take me out to the Ball Game.

Please help us take kids to a Brewers game! Just fill up with 8 gallons (or more) at your local BP gas station and get your ticket voucher stamped. When it is full, send it to the YFC office:
303 East 9th Street
Fond du Lac, WI 54935.
We will redeem it for a free ticket!



For some youth this will be their first major league ball game. For others, the game is an anticipated highlight of YFC/Fresh Start activities!!!!

YOUTH FOR CHRIST'S Teenparents

Misty Winkelman — Ministry Director

Keauna Returns

A year and a half ago the court ordered Tia's two children to be taken from her because she had started having seizures and she was parenting them alone. Her son was placed with his father and Kiki was placed in foster care. Tia had to give up her dream of continuing cosmetology school, she lost her children, and all seemed lost — but she didn't give up.

Tia fought tooth and nail to comply with all that the court asked her to. We at Teen Parents partnered with social services and developed meetings that would count toward parenting classes for Tia. Week by week things came together with all her hard work.

Tia has been seizure free for over a year, and two year old Keauna has come home! We are praying that God covers this little family with peace in the midst of this transition.



Every young person... one at a time.