

Central NY YFC
PO Box 362
Oneonta, NY 13820

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Oneonta, NY
Permit No. 291

Return Service Requested

YFC Office Phone (607) 432-0594 (9am-noon, M-F)

<https://cnyyfc.org>

email: cnyyfc@cnyyfc.org



October 2024 Newsletter Summer 2024 + Upcoming Events

We have had an active 2024 summer with the teens in Unadilla!

Summer activities in Unadilla with our Youth For Christ teens included: campfires, foam slip & slide, soda geysers, tubing down the river, mini golf, and gardening! Teens helped to grow tomatoes, cucumbers, pumpkins, beans, and radishes. We harvested the crops and used them in the Teen Center kitchen for Wednesday night dinners to enjoy together. We had campfires out behind the Teen Center, where we roasted hot dogs, and s'mores, and enjoyed corn on the cob.

In our lesson time we have been studying God's love for us! We're using Francis Chan's book "Crazy Love" as a guide.

We had a good summer! Looking ahead...

Upcoming Events -Coming up we will have a **Nerf Event** - date TBD.

We have an **E-Sports Tournament** on **Oct 11th**.

There is a **Fusion Event** on **October 18th**. At the Oneonta Boys + Girls Club, 70 River St. This is when over 100 kids from area youth groups and YFC groups get together and have a fun large gathering.

One of our most important events coming up is the **Christmas Child Shoe Box Packing Party!**

"Operation Christmas Child® is a project of Samaritan's Purse®. It is a hands-on way for you to bless children in need across the world by filling shoe boxes with toys, personal care items, school supplies, and fun gifts."

"The mission of Operation Christmas Child® is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. Through this project, Samaritan's Purse® partners with the local church worldwide to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and make disciples of the nations."

This year's **Packing Party is November 16th** at the Teen Center. It is always a meaningful and fun time! The party starts with a meal together and next is the packing of shoe boxes. Items are set out on tables in different categories and the teens can choose what to pack into their boxes. Live Christmas music is played and a tree is decorated. Christmas cookies are baked, frosted, and eaten.

In a small way, this day of YFC teens packing shoe boxes for Samaritan's Purse® is a merging of two ministries. At the party, YFC teens are encouraged and disciplined by the adult volunteers, while they get to participate in the packing of shoe boxes. These boxes will be sent out to other countries to children in real need. And for many of these children, it will be their first ever Christmas gift, and likely the first time hearing the Good News of the Gospel. It's a special thing to get to be a part of, especially for the Youth For Christ teens.

In previous years, we have been able to pack 50 shoe boxes, which are prayed over before they are sent out with the gospel. I encourage you to get involved. One way is to pack your own shoe box (gift ideas and guidelines are mentioned below). If packing a box is not something you're able to do, there are other ways you can help. Much of the items for the shoe boxes we pack are donated by generous supporters. You can provide supplies or cash for supplies.

Here are some ideas for gifts -

1-Delight a kid! Start with a medium to large item that will capture the child's attention the instant he or she opens the box. Ideas include: Soccer ball with pump, Stuffed animal, Toys (puppets, trucks, etc.), Doll (baby, Barbie, etc.), Musical instrument, Outfit, Shoes

2-Toys: Include items that children will immediately embrace such as toy cars, yo-yos, jump ropes, balls, toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries), etc.

3-School Supplies: pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

4-Non-Liquid Hygiene Items: toothbrushes, bar soap, combs, washcloths, etc. Accessories: T-shirts, socks, hats, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries), etc. Crafts: Make your own items such as hair bows, finger puppets, and friendship bracelets. Age and Gender-Specific Ideas: Girls 2-4, Girls 5-9, Girls 10-14, Boys 2-4, Boys 5-9, Boys 10-14.

Our goal is to pack 50 boxes again this year and one of the biggest needs is the cost of shipping. Shipping is \$10.00 per box. **We need to raise \$500.00 to cover the cost of shipping.**

If you would like to help with dollar donations, please send a check made out to - Youth For Christ, P.O. Box 362, Oneonta, NY 13820. Add "Shoe Box" in the memo.

If you would like to donate items for the shoe boxes, please call 607-432-0594.

I encourage you to donate and help in any way you can with the Operation Christmas Child® shoe box ministry, whether that's giving financially or donating items. It's a powerful ministry. Thank you!

And thank you for your continued support of Central New York Youth for Christ as we reach out to area teens with the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Ministry Staff- Mike Knowlton

CNYYFC Staff:

Dorothy Davidson-Executive Director

Mike Knowlton-Ministry Staff

Susan Gielskie-Equine Program

Elizabeth Davidson-Equine Program

Jody Wisse-Office Manager



Praises- We are thankful for Karen Kropp who took care of the bookkeeper responsibilities for many years. Our new bookkeeper has taken over as of October 1st and our information has been transferred without any major glitches. With donations and grants in place, projects are being completed at the Teen Center. These include separation of the water supply from the Unatego Community Church parsonage next door, taking care of drainage issues around the foundation, exterior window restoration/exterior wood trim and other outside painting needs.

Prayer Requests- We have a busy October please pray for the staff and volunteers as they prepare for the following events-second E-sport tournament at the Teen Center on October 11th, the horse show in Laurens on October 14th, the Fusion Event at the Boys + Girls Club in Oneonta on October 18th and Dorothy as she speaks at MSBC on October 27th.