

# YOUTH FOR CHRIST<sup>®</sup>

## ALBERT LEA AREA

Hi, my name is Greg Gudal, and I'm the Executive Director of South Central Minnesota Youth For Christ. I've worked with Youth For Christ for over 30 years. This last year, we worked with **400** kids. Right now, we have kids coming at 8:30 in the morning. Then they're there until 5:30 at night. We do a devotion in the morning before their schooling starts, and we may be serving breakfast and lunch. If we have a program in the evening, which our clubs are currently now going, our evening clubs, Campus Life is happening, and we serve a supper and a meal ahead of time. We're working on a lot of one-on-ones, kids are hanging out at The Rock playing ping pong and other games. Just like before, only wearing masks or shields and things of that nature.

This past summer, we were able to run two camps. And out of that group, **17 kids said that they prayed for the first time in their life to receive Christ. 50-some kids recommitted their lives to following Christ.** One of the cabin leaders shared that in their small group of boys, one of the boys didn't even know his dad. Another boy said that his dad was in prison. And a third one said, "My dad just got out of prison, but he doesn't want anything to do with me." **It breaks my heart sometimes when I hear the troubles and the challenges and the stories that kids go through.**

I mentioned that 17 kids had come to Christ at camp, but one young man who we'd kind of gotten disconnected from during the whole COVID thing when it happened. This was a student that would sit at the clubs, kind of be distant, kind of listen, never want to make a decision, wasn't ready to pray, to trust Christ, but he was sure interested in the message. After we were able to reopen during COVID, this young man came back in and he shared with the staff. He said, **"I decided to follow Jesus. I've tried everything else. I've tried it all. And none of it works. And I want to be a follower of Jesus now."** We're so thankful that we got to be a little bit of a part of it. And so

did you, as you partner with us. We appreciate your prayers and your support because it changes lives. God changes lives.

Somebody's got to share with the kids that are on the streets, the kids that aren't in the Churches. Somebody's got to share with the kids who don't have a chance to hear it unless we tell them, unless somebody tells them. **My heart is to help kids in any way that I can.** Whether it's food or schooling, to help them to be as successful as they can as an individual, but even more importantly, to know Jesus and to walk with God. So in the busy-ness and craziness of our world, don't forget about the least of these, the kids who need hope, who need the Gospel, who need maybe physical food and clothes. *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself."* Thank you for taking the time to hear a little bit of my heart, and what's going on at Youth For Christ. **We need to reach young people.** And we want to partner with the local Church and other like-minded partners to raise up lifelong followers of Jesus.

In place of our Youth For Christ Banquet this year, we've elected to do a Youth For Christ Fundraising Campaign to work on raising \$200,000 between now and the end of the year. We would ask that you would fill out the pledge card that hopefully you have in front of you (last page) or you can also give online (information below). Thank you for partnering with us. This ministry wouldn't exist if it wasn't for people like you, who wanted to see kids being reached and loved on. Because of your generous support this organization continues to move forward.

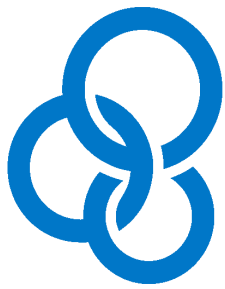
*Greg Gudal*

South Central MN YFC  
Executive Director

Watch at:  
[Facebook.com/yfctherock](https://www.facebook.com/yfctherock)  
Website= [scmfyc.org/give](https://www.scmfyc.org/give)  
Script from Greg's DVD



Robin & Greg  
Gudal



# YOUTH FOR CHRIST<sup>®</sup>

## ALBERT LEA AREA

You won't want to miss this—Watch the 'Campaign 2020' stories at [scmyfc.org](http://scmyfc.org):

Greg Gudal—South Central Minnesota Executive Director shares his heart .

# 5.19 minutes

Three Generations of YFC involvement—Lori Mayer (grandma), Heather Nielson (mom) and Cassie Nielson (current student at YFC).

# 2.47 minutes

Youth sharing Jayden & Makayla

# 2.38 minutes

Youth sharing Jose

# 1.50 minutes

RELEASED ON DECEMBER 18th

Youth sharing Reiner

# 1.58 minutes

RELEASED ON JANUARY 12th

Youth sharing Cassie & Lexi

# 2.01 minutes

RELEASED ON FEBRUARY 12th

WEBSITE for stories:

# [scmyfc.org](http://scmyfc.org)

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REACH KIDS  
CHANGE LIVES  
DEVELOP LEADERS



Youth hanging out at The Rock



Please note some pictures pre Covid



Small Group fun



Helping others



The Rock youth at PRC doing a Thrivent work project





**YOUTH FOR CHRIST**<sup>®</sup>  
GIVE LIFE TO YOUR STORY



## Three Generations

[Cassie-youth] I thought it was cool that it went from my grandma to my mom and then to me.

[Lori-grandma] I got involved with Youth For Christ back in the 1980s when my kids were in high school and we decided to open our home to youth for Youth For Christ, so that they would come to know Christ and find more meaning in their life and direction.

[Heather-mom] Last year was my first year volunteering as a driver. So in the winter time when it's cold out, I go up there and give kids rides home.

[Cassie] I am a student volunteer during the school year and then in the summer I become a Summer Intern. The difference that it's made in my life is knowing that I do have a good support group that is there. They just have an open heart and open ears to listen and give me the advice that I need.

[Heather] It makes me feel wonderful as a mom to have her involved with positive people if she needs somebody to talk to other than mom or grandma, you know she can look up to those mentors or people that she trusts.

[Cassie] It's kind of helped me grow as a person and like helped me mature a lot more.

[Heather] Over the years, that's boosted her self esteem.

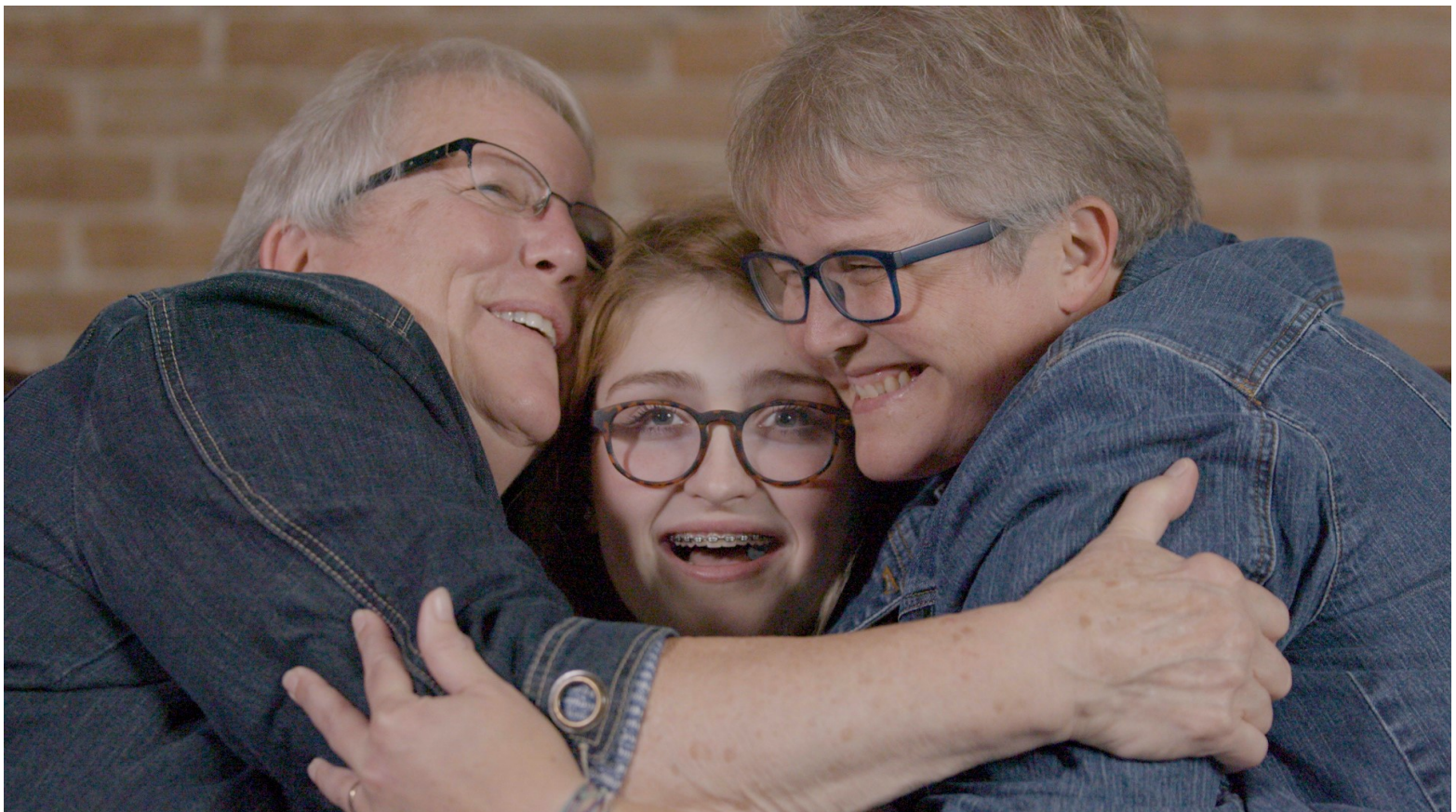
continued on next page | Three Generations



[Lori] Her faith has grown a lot too, I can see that it has. I guess that's been an answer to my prayer too that our grandkids would get involved in some kind of program that shares the gospel.

[Cassie] I definitely want this to be around for my kids when I get to that point. I think that it would be a good place for my kids to go and for them to experience what I experienced, what my mom experienced and what my grandma has experienced.

[Lori] Oh, it's got to have an impact and a long-term one because anytime Christ comes into your life, He's with you, you know, He lives within you for the rest of your life if you allow Him to be there. And it's just been pretty neat how I've seen these kids in their journey, just growing in their faith. So hopefully that'll continue to be passed on to the next generation. That's my wish and my prayer that God has used us in the past to continue on in the future.



REACH KIDS

CHANGE LIVES

DEVELOP LEADERS





I was raised by my mother, Michelle. She's currently in Illinois. I live with my grandfather. The people at The Rock are very different.

They're very kind.  
Generous.  
They go above and beyond

That really changed how I feel about God.

for the attendees at The Rock. Camp was a lot of fun. I learned a lot about God that I never knew. People shared their stories and how God has changed their life. The most impacting part of camp was worship and devotion, I'd say. That really changed how I feel about God. The time I spent at The Rock brought me closer to God. They love you a great deal.



**YFC reaches young people everywhere, working together with the local church and other like-minded partners to raise up lifelong followers of Jesus who lead by their godliness in lifestyle, devotion to the Word of God and prayer, passion for sharing the love of Christ, and commitment to social involvement.**

YFC MISSION STATEMENT







It's a fun place to hang out and plus it takes off the mind the things that are happening at the house. Life was, **it was okay**. But there was a lot, we were not doing so good, like as a family. And there was a lot of drama happening.

I went to The Rock, it would be a place that me and my sisters would take the drama that's going from home and then just give it to God.

We felt like it was like a second home to us, me and my family, because back then we didn't have a lot. The Rock provides food for us and also Bibles and clothing.

When I go to The Rock, you always have somebody greeting you there and always making you feel welcome. It **feels overwhelming in a way**. They made a really big impact in my life. They helped me so much and they were leading me to God. So the day I decided to follow Jesus, I was in sixth grade and I was not in

Story to be released on video December 18th.



a good place. I was pretty depressed and I was getting bullied. So I **decided to give myself to Christ**. The difference feels really good. I **probably wouldn't have known Christ if The Rock wasn't here**.



REACH KIDS  
CHANGE LIVES  
DEVELOP LEADERS

High School Summer Camp at PRC





*And He really just changes your life, like flips it a 180.*

Story to be released on video December 18th.

They (The Rock) don't care where you come from, and they don't care what you look like. **They just care about touching your life and being there for you.** From preschool to fifth grade, I was bullied. It was tough, and I never had friends. I was always by myself or always with my mom. And so I would see my sister get invited to all these birthday parties and get invited with all these friends, and I would just be at home.

I just remember coming home crying so many times. The people at The Rock have **made a big difference in my life.** They made me feel really, really good about myself. And the staff there really build me up, and I feel like I can tell them anything. **It really makes you feel at peace knowing that someone is there.**

I chose to serve at The Rock because I just love kids so much. When I was younger, I never really thought I would impact someone as much as I have now. It feels really good. And I think it's so special knowing you changed someone's life. If The Rock wasn't there, I don't think I would have found my self-confidence. I don't think I would have had the friends who I have now. And I think that's just really, really cool how God just works in those miraculous ways. And He really just changes your life, like flips it a 180.







Someone was like, you should go to The Rock. I was like, What? The Rock? Like? There's rocks at my house. What are you talking about?

**That's where my life changed, big time.**

I think as a kid, as a young kid, I was struggling, because I was took, I was took from my house, from my mom, by DHS. And, for so long, I was so mad. And I felt like, like in foster care or foster home, **no one loved me**. Like, a lot of stuff was going on in there.

Someone was like, you should go to The Rock. It's a fun place where people are always hanging out over there. That's where I felt safe. That's where I felt loved. That's where I felt like I mattered.

After years and years of, you know, abuse and all that stuff. It takes a lot of time for you to trust people. As soon as I went there, I instantly trusted everybody there. They just, they welcome you with open hands. As I was going to The Rock and going to camp and all that stuff it **made me understand my worth**, but also made me understand that Jesus

Story to be released on video January 12th.



Christ died for me and that I can be forgiven for every single sin that I've done. He's always there for me like even when I'm struggling. I think that helped me become a better person and more caring and realize that, like I said, **I have a worth, I have a purpose here.**

**REACH KIDS  
CHANGE LIVES  
DEVELOP LEADERS**

Currently when able (due to Covid) he is engaged in men's group at Bridge Community Church, where he also is apart of the worship team. He remains in long term extended foster care and has a loving' dad'.





It makes you feel like you're part of another family. What I like about Youth for Christ is just being there and hanging out with the kids and the other staff. The difference that it's made in my life is knowing that I do have a good support group that is there. They just have an open heart and open ears to listen and give me the advice that I need. Michelle, she is the Drop-in Center staff person. There was one day where I couldn't sleep because my best friend had passed away the day before. And I just sent her a message, and I was like, "I can't sleep." And **she just answered and was there and just was talking me through everything.**

I can always count on the staff there to be there and listen to what's going on, I can count on them to be like my second family. I am a student volunteer during the school year, and then in the summer I become a Summer Intern. My favorite thing about serving at The Rock is honestly I would just say just being there for the kids. Just showing them that there is someone there that is listening to them and will always be there. Knowing that these kids don't have anybody there for them, then being there for them makes me feel good, because I'm **giving them what was given to me.**



Stories to be released on video February 12th.



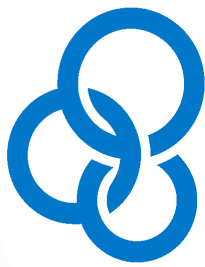
My favorite thing about the people at The Rock is how outgoing they are and just how fun they make it. The first time I came to visit The Rock was probably when I was like, maybe like five. Ever since then I've been going there. I really like going there. **The Rock has changed my life** with helping my family with food and stuff and blankets and just like a whole bunch of other things. It's actually helped my family a lot. It feels like they actually care about us and want to help us and want us to succeed in life. That's why I really like The Rock, 'cause it's a really good place to go to.



**Small group outing**







# YOUTH FOR CHRIST<sup>®</sup>

## ALBERT LEA AREA



### BECOME A TEAM YFC MEMBER

**A three year monthly faith commitment of** PLEASE MARK

\_\_\_ \$25.00 \_\_\_ \$100.00 \_\_\_ \$500.00 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**A three year annual faith commitment of** PLEASE MARK

\_\_\_ \$1,000 \_\_\_ \$10,000 \_\_\_ \$25,000 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to contribute in other ways** PLEASE MARK

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Frequency: \_\_\_\_\_ Length of time \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_ Annually # \_\_\_\_\_ years OR  
\_\_\_ Monthly # \_\_\_\_\_ months  
\_\_\_ One-time only

PLEASE MARK

◇ \_\_\_ Check enclosed. Payable to **YOUTH FOR CHRIST**

◇ \_\_\_ I gave on-line.

PLEASE be sure to give us your contact info.

◇ \_\_\_ Please contact me about an automatic, recurring gift.

◇ \_\_\_ Please contact me about a gift of stock, property or an estate gift.

◇ \_\_\_ Please contact me about YOUTH FOR CHRIST staff sharing at my place of employment, club or Church.

◇ \_\_\_ I would love to visit The Rock for a tour, please contact me.

◇ \_\_\_ I have thoughts to share, please contact me.

◇ \_\_\_ My company will match my gift.  
Company name : \_\_\_\_\_.

◇ \_\_\_ Please sign me up for the weekly Prayer Request, email me at: \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_.

**Please attach a mailing label here with your info. OR**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_.

Phone (cell preferred) : # \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_

# THANK YOU VERY MUCH!



## WAYS TO GIVE

1. Scan here:



2. Go to **scmyfc.org/give**

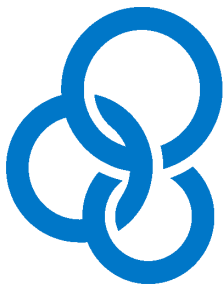
Enter info. & click "give now".

3. Drop off OR mail in (envelope enclosed).

**Youth For Christ** 116 West Clark Street,  
Albert Lea, MN 56007

SCMYFC is a qualified 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, all donations must be postmarked by 12|31 for a 2020 tax-donation.





# YOUTH FOR CHRIST®

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PRC Camp fun; note the rainbow of food during the 'God Sees My Mess' event!



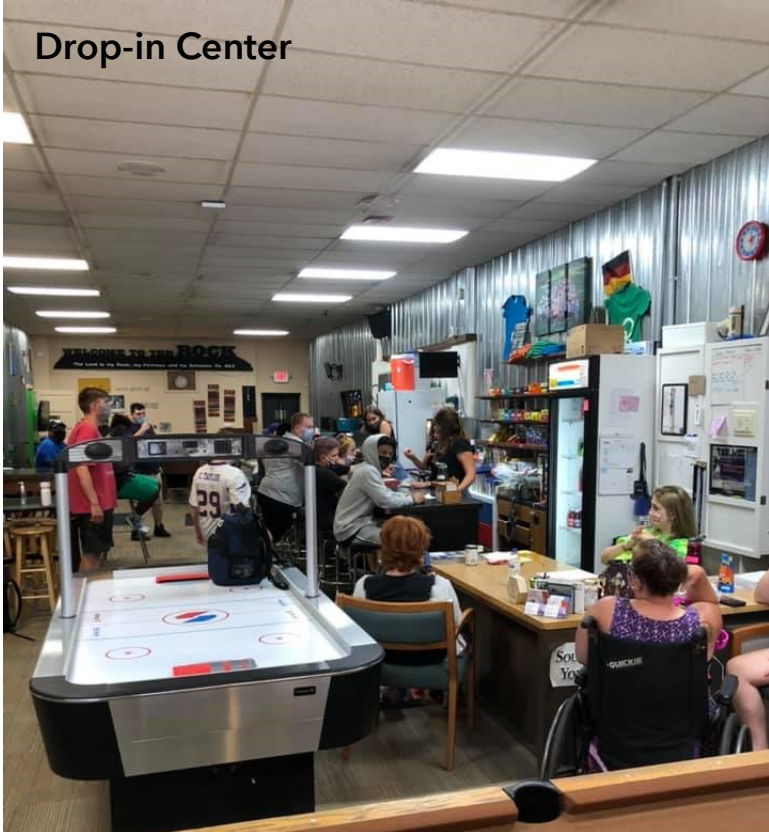
Drop-in Center game time



Skating fun

German Interns farewell

Drop-in Center



Last Thanksgiving meal served.



We covet your prayers and your financial support. We continue to pursue sharing Jesus with the young people of this and outreaching communities. We know He makes a difference; for eternity!