



# CENTRAL OREGON YFC

GIVE LIFE TO YOUR STORY

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Above: Just some of our guests at the City Life Ugly Sweater Party. We had a blast!

Below: The End-of-Year Fundraiser ends in just a couple days. Will you take the next step in partnership?



## How Can You Pray for Us?

- Pray for our students whose families are struggling this holiday.
- Pray for students going to Winter Camp and the experience they will have.
- Pray for relationships to grow and develop, especially with students who are hesitant to connect and open up.



## What's New?

**-Receive your newsletter via email!** Visit our site to sign up.

**-Donate when you shop!** Visit the 'Get Involved' page on our site for info.

**-End of Year Fundraiser:** Through December, we will be calling to talk to you about giving an end-of-year gift. We are working to reach a \$3,000 matching gift!

**-Annual Banquet:** February 20th 6-8 p.m. at Cornerstone Baptist Church.

Seasons Greetings,

It was just a few words within a few interactions, but I saw it. I saw the change, the change that happens when a relationship with a student goes from withdrawn to just a little more. It was the most hopeful moment I had at our Ugly Sweater Party.

For the last five months, I noticed this student and her friends. Out of the five, I had the sense that this is the one who I might actually be able to connect with. She is quiet and follows her friend's lead, though, so I knew a connection wouldn't happen by itself. So, every time they showed up I decided I would seek them out, greet them like a friend, ask how they are, and fight to get them involved in activities.

Honestly, most weeks all I would get is a smirk or a single smile if she was having fun, and all I could do was pray God would be active in those moments. However, on December 18th, God continued to prove He is who He says He is.

That night, this student came to our Ugly Sweater Party, we had fun, we had awesome cocoa, and we chatted several times. Now, that may sound insignificant, but it wasn't just "how is the weather" chatting, but the excited

chatting you have with someone when you are comfortable and having fun. This was the first time this student interacted with myself or volunteers in such a way. It was a sign, a sign that the connection had just gotten stronger. Maybe only one step stronger, but that is still progress.

This is only one example of many students we see who are afraid to be real with others, who have learned to distrust adults, who don't know what it's like to be in authentic relationships. It may take weeks, months, or even years to see much or any progress at all, but every moment is worth it. So, we fight for those moments, the moments which give us a chance to move the relationship even one step forward.

Our fight is long and challenging, but we press on to win the race set before us, for we have One who has ran before us and showed us how to run. May God guide us on our race, and may He use it to bring our students into the race as well.

Grace and Peace,

*Zach Lewis*

Executive Director  
Central Oregon YFC





## Drop-In

Mondays 8-10 a.m. and Tuesdays & Thursdays 3:45-5:15 p.m., at 18 SE D Street in Madras. Enjoy our rock wall, play pool, air-hockey, video games, and do homework. On Mondays we serve breakfast. It is a great time to hang out before and after school.



## CITY LIFE®

Mondays 3:45-6, at the Free Methodist Church, there is food, games, and a discussion about God, His Word, and how we fit into God's story today. The church is located at 976 S. Adams Drive in Madras.



## CAMPUS LIFE®

Wednesdays 1:30-3, at Culver High School, there is food, games, and a discussion God, His Word, and how we fit into God's story. We are in room 3, and the school is located at 710 5th Street in Culver.

### Upcoming Events!

- End of Year Fundraiser: November - December
- Heights Winter Camp: January 13-15
- Annual Banquet: February 20th

Visit our site for more details on all upcoming events!

### Central Oregon YFC on the web!

- Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/centraloregonyfc/>
- Instagram:** centraloryfc
- Twitter:** @CentralORYFC
- Website:** <http://centraloregonyfc.org/>

### More moments from the last month



**Left:** Who knew recycling could be so fun?! **Center:** spicing up the drop-in center with a very festive Christmas tree. **Right:** Our ugly sweater party winners - Abigail (left), Katie (center), and Ashton (right).

### Financial Support:



Central Oregon Youth for Christ is 100% dependent on donor support. Everything we do is because of people's partnership with this ministry. If you are currently supporting us I want to take this opportunity and say thank you. Because of your generosity, you are able to impact lives of young people. Our vision is to be a vibrant light in our youth culture today. Please pray with us as we pursue making this dream a reality.