

# Youth Coop

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## YOUTH QUOTES:

- "What rhymes with hero?"  
-Matt  
"One!" -Doug
- "Are you a turtle dove?  
Cause you look like a turtle"  
-Trevor, at the talent show, during a pick-up line contest
- "I'm teaching what I preach"  
-Matthew
- 

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## TRASHCANS, POND WATER, AND A LITTLE MISCHIEF

Written by Mikaila Tice

"Do you think I should go get the truck?" "I might have some rope in the back of my car." "Don't let them get away! Split up; let's go!" Contrary to what you may be thinking, this isn't a scene from a movie featuring kidnappers. No matter the year, chances are these phrases were, and will continue, to be uttered at some point Saturday afternoon at Youth Camp. As one of the most anticipated weekends of the entire year, Youth Camp has played a big role in the Youth Group as a whole and has always been a time for spiritual growth, unity, fun, and a few interesting surprises.

After arriving and getting settled in on Friday evening, everyone met up in the chapel for the first session out of four. At the end of the session all of us headed to the dining hall for some delicious pizza, games, and fellowship. Doug organized a group game similar to tag but with a twist. Each person wrote his/her name down on a slip of paper and gave it to Doug. Doug then gave each person a slip that had someone else's name on it. The point of the game was for each person to try and tag whoever was written on his/her slip. In other words, everyone was trying to tag a different person at the same time. Once you were tagged, you had to give your slip to the person who tagged you, who would then try to tag that name, and so on and so forth until there was one person remaining. After a long evening of fun, everyone headed to the lodge for devotions and much needed sleep.

If you aren't a morning person, like myself, you know it isn't fun to be woken up by various alarms and shuffling of feet early in the morning. Unfortunately for me, this is what happened as everyone woke up at differing times to get ready for breakfast at 8:00am. Eventually, everyone ended up in the dining hall, some looking more tired and groggy than others.

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## Birthdays

July 6th- Clinton & Kara Anniversary

July 5th- Caleb Lehman (YSC)

## Editors Note

Youth camp has come and gone, and yet again we are all left with an appreciation for each other and the great God we serve. This year youth camp came nothing short of what it's known to be. We had an amazing weekend with stretching moments. Thank you sponsors, and cooks (Melvin, Gloria, Brad, Twila, Sean, Marcia, and Abby) for making it possible!

A quick thanks to Anita and Mikaila for writing articles, Anthony and Anita for writing the Youth Leaders Update, and Miranda for drawing some more Tims! Also a big thank you to Lydia for being so reliable and getting me a youth profile finished and to me in two days! Stay tuned to next issue to hear about City Challenge!

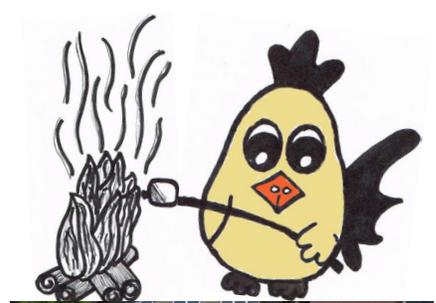
-Morgan, a.k.a. Freeman

# *Trashcans, Pond Water, and a Little Mischief Continued*

. . . Once our bellies were full, we spent some quiet time with ourselves and God, then went straight into the next session. After the session, we had free time until lunch. Right after lunch was when the long-awaited, or dreaded, depending on who you were, time of initiations began. For those of you who don't know, initiations are for any new youth groupers and consists of being dragged down to the pond and thrown in. Some choose to go somewhat willingly, though this year there wasn't a whole lot of that. No matter how each person chose to resist, whether by kicking and flailing, by running all the way around the pond, by hopping on one foot, or even by hiding in the woods, each "newbie" went into the pond eventually. Word of advice to anyone coming up to Youth Group anytime soon: you can run and hide, but remember that you won't be able to forever. Once the shenanigans were finished for the time being, we went into the third session. Afterwards was a time for group games and other activities. Doug led a few different team games that included finger fencing, trying to hit apples off of team captains' heads with water balloons, tug of war, and a game that required everyone to hold hands in a circle around a trashcan, all the while attempting to pull each other into the can without breaking hands at any time. We also had some fun with soda and Mentos... but I won't get into that. The rest of the afternoon was spent playing ultimate Frisbee, going swimming, and enjoying each other's company until it was time to eat. After supper, we went to the chapel for our annual talent show. This year's show was full of classic skits, funny videos, creative poems, musical talent, and a few embarrassing moments. Campfire was next on the agenda. Branden shared his testimony with the group, then opened it up for anyone else who wanted to mention something. It was a powerful time, to say the least, and I think I speak for everyone when I say it was an encouraging evening of sharing and worship. It was then time for some more food and socializing before separating for devotions and sleep. Things didn't go exactly as planned, though, because we ended up having a spontaneous late night sing-off between the guys and girls. Though we got to bed much later than planned, it was worth it.

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# Youth Camp Photos



# W a x l e s s

Written by Anita Maust

Youth Camp is always a good mix of fun, seriousness, humor, worship, and encouragement. I enjoyed this year's speaker; his sermons were practical and encouraging and he used several interesting visuals to help explain his points. The first night he showed up wearing a suit and tie, making us wonder if he missed the memo that this was camp, not a funeral home. He soon revealed that while on the outside he seemed to be perfect, underneath he was torn up and mismatched. Another time he had some boys play twister while Morgan had to clean the chapel windows and sweep the floor.

Shannon Myers started our weekend sessions by talking about our sincerity. The Greek word, that was used in the passage, for sincere translates as "without wax." Now a days that definition doesn't make much sense, but back then to be "without wax" meant to be authentic and untainted. During that time, there were many merchants who would use melted wax to put pieces of old Greek pottery back together and they sold these counterfeit pots for a high price. This pottery looked perfect and complete, but when these pots were tested by the heat of the sun they cracked and broke as the wax was melted away. Shannon encouraged us to be without wax, to be genuine, and willing to show our brokenness.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. I have sung this so many times at KidStuf. Sometimes it's so easy to sing those words without considering what they really mean. Shannon broke it down by explaining that surrendering your emotions to God is how you can love Him with your heart. When your actions are of your flesh, you are not loving God with your soul; we need to surrender our desires and will to God. To love God with all your mind obviously points to your thought life. Other people can't see your thoughts, so sometimes it's easy to loosen your control of them, but we are accountable to God for every thought that we entertain.

"Don't Get It Twisted." In another session, Shannon spoke on how we cannot serve two masters (Matthew 6:24). That's where the twister game came in at. The spots on the twister mat represented different things that we often get caught up in like work, the internet, or boyfriends and girlfriends. While the boys were busy tangling themselves on the mat, Shannon asked Morgan to clean for him and she served him faithfully. When the Day of Reckoning came Shannon gave "to each person according to what he had done" (Romans 2:6). Shannon encouraged us with a couple more sessions and each night the boys and girls separated into their dorms for devotions which was led by one of the older youth groupers. Youth Camp is usually a time of refreshing as truth is spoken into our lives and we get to worship

together and pray for each other.

# Trashcans, Pond Water, and a Little Mischievous Continued

Sunday morning breakfast was a half an hour later than the previous morning, yet there was quite a few people who were late getting to the dining hall. They paid the price, though, and were forced to sing in front of everyone. It was then time for the fourth and final session. Lunch was then served and camp clean-up was supposed to begin. But sticking to the irregular fashion of the previous evening, everyone ended up outside on the porch for a beautiful, laidback time of singing. As I looked around the group, I couldn't help but feel God's presence and a strong sense of unity. Here we were, as a group of friends and brothers and sisters in Christ, all praising our Lord and Savior. I was reminded of how truly blessed I am to be surrounded by so many amazing and uplifting people who are always there to support one another, unified under Christ. Youth Camp this year was once again another weekend filled with unforgettable experiences, all with the crazy group of people we call friends. "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up" (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10a).

## Riddle:

"16, 06, 68, 88, ??,

98

What is the ??"

If you think you know the answer, see the editor to be mentioned in next issue.

## Youth Leaders Update

Dear Youth, What a powerful weekend at Camp Peniel, where we bonded, initiated, and most importantly were challenged to be sincere before God and others! So it's been a month...how are we doing? Let's continue to encourage each other to seek Him daily and to choose daily how we will live. In that, we demonstrate our love for God. Since He, in fact, according to Romans 5:8, "Demonstrated His love for us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

As we anticipate City Challenge and Canada, let's be in prayer about how God wants to use us and change us. And for those who have just graduated—Congratulations! We are praying for you as you make life decisions. May God bless each of you!

-Anthony and Anita

# YOUTH PROFILE: LYDIA SUE BENDER

**Parents:** Dennis and Machel Bender.

**Birthday:** October 12, 1999.

**YC:** Describe your average weekday.

**LB:** I really can't describe an average weekday because each day is so different.

**YC:** Do you enjoy life in Garrett County?

**LB:** I love it! I just wish it wouldn't stay cold for so long.

**YC:** What is your favorite meal?

**LB:** Ice cream.

**YC:** If you were a vegetable, what would you be and why?

**LB:** Why would I want to be a vegetable?

**YC:** Who has made the biggest impact on your life?

**LB:** I would have to say my friends and family.

**YC:** What is something most people don't know about you?

**LB:** The only thing that I can think of is that I have been stung by three scorpions. I know it is not that exciting, but it is the only thing I can think of.

**YC:** What is your favorite Youth Group memory?

**LB:** By far it would have to be the sing-off at Youth Camp!

**YC:** What was your first Youth Group event?

**LB:** A Bible study at Darren and Carmen's.

**YC:** What is something you've always wanted to do?

**LB:** Go back to the past and meet my family and see how different their lives are.

**YC:** Do you play any instruments?

**LB:** Some piano and guitar.

**YC:** Tell us about your family.

**LB:** All girls except my Dad, of course.

**YC:** What is your favorite childhood memory?

**LB:** This might sound weird, but after the flood when we were stuck in San Jose the only food available was a store that sold chips and cookies. So for the next couple of days, all we got to eat was junk food.

**YC:** Any last words of wisdom?

**LB:** Just leave everything up to God. He's in control of everything.

