YOUTH FOR CHRIST
METRO MARYLAND
8900 Belair Road Baltimore, MD 21236

DATES TO REMEMBER

PROJECT SERVE MISSIONS TRIP
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
JUNE 19-27

THE VOICE HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT
CAPE HENLOPEN, DE
JUNE 20-25

HEATWAVE HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT
WILDWOOD, NJ
JUNE 25-29

PROJECT SERVE – DAYS OF SERVICE
BALTIMORE CITY
JULY 1-8

NORTHBAY MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMP
NORTHEAST, MD
JULY 16-20

CROSSROADS MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMP
CAPE HENLOPEN, DE
AUGUST 18-23

GOLF CHALLENGE
COMPASS POINTE
OCTOBER 3

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OUR MISSION
YFC reaches young people everywhere, working together with the local church and other likeminded 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.
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT MMYFC GO TO WWW.MMYFC.ORG

BRIDGING THE DIVIDE, TOGETHER
by Stephen Kaiss

What a great evening we had at the Annual Fundraising Dinner on May 9! The theme was “Bridge the Divide” and I sensed that by the end of the program, everyone was united that we must stand together to bring the gospel of Jesus Christ to the young people of Metropolitan Baltimore!

Back by popular demand, vocal artist Wintley Phipp created a beautiful setting for our program, with his amazing talent and spirit.

Our special guests Eric Metaxas, Megan Alexander and Kirsten Powers did a fantastic job sharing their faith and how important it is, wherever God has put us, to be a light in the darkness. They also strongly agreed that our youth are the future of this country and we need to make reaching them a priority.

The highlight of the evening though, was listening to the moving stories of the teenagers who shared how God rescued them from their tragic situations, through their involvement in Youth for Christ. Their words and painful honesty brought many to tears. How brave they were in sharing their stories.

We are still assessing how successful the dinner was financially but we are convinced that the YFC family grew that night with over 1,400 in attendance, many there for the first time! That means more people praying for the work and that makes all the difference!

Thank you again for standing with us! We look forward with you, to see all that God is going to do in this next year!
This school year marks the fourth year we have partnered with Patterson High School in East Baltimore, as a follow up to our Point Break assembly held there. The purpose of Point Break is to improve the behaviors, values and attitudes of high school students on their campuses and in their communities, intervening before acts of bullying, hatred or violence occur. As a result, better learning environments are created, relationships are forged and reconciliation begins.

The administration asked what other types of programs YFC had to offer, and when they heard about our work with pregnant and parenting teens, they asked if we could come back to meet with some of their students – and that was the beginning of Patterson Parent Life! Judy Phillips and I started out meeting with young moms every other week during their lunch period. The following year we realized that weekly meetings were needed, and we have continued to meet weekly ever since.

I had no idea what to expect, but by the end of the first day, I was blown away by the students. Girls who seemed so hardened and tough at the beginning of the day were amazingly open and honest and raw about many very difficult circumstances they faced on a daily basis and in their relatively short lifetimes. One young lady, an obvious “leader”, summed it up beautifully at the end of the day, asking for the microphone to tell the others that she never realized so many others were dealing with so many of the same issues as she was. She went on to say, “We need to stop fighting each other and have hope to feed them lunch and their souls, as we get to know them.

We were asked to meet with a ‘high risk’ group of freshman girls for another ‘lunch group’, so we have! We have been welcomed by them countless times. We are so proud of our students, and so thankful that we have the opportunity to be a light in their school and in their lives.

We have a fantastic teacher sponsor. We has helped us to coordinate summer picnics, a pool party, senior pictures and so much more. She even managed to get us our own room in the school. We have wonderful, loving and committed volunteers who speak into the lives of these young parents and resources as well. One of our goals is to build relationships with these young parents, and then to meet with and mentor them off campus so that we have the opportunity to feed them spiritually as well.

Patterson High has a huge immigrant population, with students representing over 30 countries and more than 20 languages. We have had students who were born and raised in Baltimore, as well as students from El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nepal and more. The language barrier has been an issue for us at times, but we have found ways to work through it.

“We feed them and they will come” is so true! Our group looks forward to coming together for lunch and good conversation. They know that we honestly care about them and that we will listen. As we share lunch together, we hear about how the past week has been, questions and concerns the moms and dads may have, and we share about different parenting topics and resources as well. One of our goals is to build relationships with these young parents, and then to meet with and mentor them off campus so that we have the opportunity to be a light in their school and in their lives.

We are the Parent Life class to bless the students and their school, but we have been incredibly blessed ourselves by them countless times.

While Parent Life has been meeting for four years, there’s a second group that began last year after our Point Break assembly. We were asked to meet with a ‘high risk’ group of freshman girls for another ‘lunch group’, so we have! We hope to feed them lunch and their souls, as we get to know them.

The need is so great! So many in the school are worn out and hopeless ... in need of God’s touch. I think of Matthew 11:28, when Jesus says “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”