



August 1, 2013

Dear GLBYFC Supporters,

*"No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us." Philippians 3:13-14*

We chose to start this letter with that verse because it really describes the heart of Great Lakes Bay Youth for Christ right now. Many of you received a letter stating that our Executive Director has stepped down from his position with GLBYFC. Matt will be deeply missed in this ministry. At our last team meeting with Matt, he shared, "This ministry is not about me, it is not about Allie, it is not about Jon; this ministry is about bringing the life changing message of Jesus Christ to young people." There should be no reason to argue or complain at that point; he is 100% correct! That is why we are involved and that is why you are involved as well. June and some of July were challenging for our team as we waited on God and His timing to move forward, or cease to exist as a ministry. We used that time to make one on one appointment's with students, choosing to keep moving forward until we received further direction from the board.

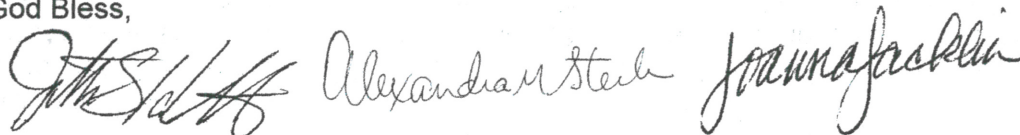
Through some extra planning and having passionate hearts for lost teens, we had a very successful Cedar Point trip on what seemed to be the hottest days imaginable! It was our first time managing a trip without our Executive Director leading the way. Our group was smaller than normal with 12 students and several volunteers. This gave Allie and me some great experience planning a trip all on our own. It was worth it to hear shy students around the campfire share intimate details of their lives about anorexia, cutting, divorced parents, and parents that struggle with drug and alcohol abuse. One student shared with Jon how spending time with Allie on the Florida trip has made her WANT to be more like Jesus. This was a great reminder of 1 Peter 2:12 "they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation." As we turn the page to the next chapter of GLBYFC, you may be wondering, "What's next? Who's in charge? Where is my financial contribution going? Can we trust you to use our gifts wisely?"

First, GLBYFC is committed to maintaining our current ministry sites. Jon will continue as the Director of Saginaw Campus Life and Allie will continue as Director of Campus Life at Bay City Western. Because of the changes, both Jon and Allie will require extra financial support as they work extra hours to maintain and grow current operations. Joanna will continue to use her gifts as office administrator, and has truly been a blessing to all of us through this entire transition. Gary Labadie, our Board Chair and Dirk Case, Associate Field Director with YFC/USA will be working closely with our team to provide encouragement, guidance and wisdom as our team moves forward together to reach lost kids for Christ.

The board has energized us to move forward with their commitment to this ministry. Our whole team is looking forward to growing our current ministry sites as well as expanding Campus Life to include other schools in Bay City and Saginaw. God has used YOU to encourage us to stay the course and keep us in the race, through your generous giving, faithful prayers and encouraging words.

Next, YOUR financial support will allow us to continue in established relationships with students. Those relationships have taken some time to form and build. Many of you have been in this race since the start of Great Lakes Bay Youth for Christ, and our hope is that you will continue to push this ministry forward with your generous giving. Jon, Allie, Joanna and the Board of Directors are excited to continue to partner with you. If you have questions or concerns or would like to hear more, please do not hesitate to contact us. We would love to share our passion of reaching the lost through the ministry of Great Lakes Bay Youth for Christ in person.

God Bless,

 Jon, Allie, Joanna