

overtime

NO BOUNDARIES

NOVEMBER 8, 2013

Serving hundreds of students throughout
Southeastern Connecticut

STRATEGIC PLAN



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Introduction

THE NEED

Youth Culture Today

Many are missing Christ's call to save mankind from a life of wickedness and from the corruption of this world. Rather than being purified and doing good, people are turning to sin and destruction.



Youth in Connecticut are no different. A 2011 research study directed at Connecticut Public High School students found that:

- 41.5% of high school students had at least one glass of alcohol in the 30 days prior to the survey
- 6.7% of students attempted suicide in the 12 months prior to the survey
- 42.7% of students have had sexual intercourse
- 30.5% of students were currently sexually active
- 21.6% of students were harassed or bullied at school in the 12 months prior to the survey
- 24.1% of students used marijuana in the 30 days prior to the survey, which was higher than the national average of 23.1%

The above statistics reveal that there is a need for clear biblical teaching and input into our youth. The plumb-line of a life lived for the glory of God is being lost in the allure of a culture that increasingly rails against the very boundaries that God put in place. These boundaries were put in place by Him so that we may know Him and live life more abundantly.

The Media's Negative Influence

In addition to the above areas, we have seen the advent of mobile technology devices and the growth of social media platforms. Many youth make, share, and consume media quickly and easily. While this quick and easy access has presented opportunities, it has also presented challenges.¹

Research has shown that the average adolescent accesses some form of media for approximately 22.5 hours per week. As a result, exposure to media that depicts unhealthy practices and attitudes is highly likely. At the forefront of this issue is the overt sexualization of our culture. Media pornography and sexually explicit material has become more accessible than ever. Main-stream media is now depicting sexual behaviors without any mention of risk or responsibility, let alone where it fits in with God's will for us. This creates a challenge for youth who may be ill equipped to face threats to their purity in both thought and deed.

Have We Lost Our Kids?

National statistics indicate that 60% of youth stop attending church when they graduate from High School. This 'Young Exodus' means that 6 in 10 young people will leave the church permanently or for an extended period starting at around age 15. According to new research by the Barna Group, the generation now coming of age is more than the usual "driver's license to marriage license joy ride". Nearly a decade later, only half return to church.²

Summary

It is apparent that the youth of our nation are living with pressures that are unprecedented in history. The goal is to speak into their culture, temptations, and confusion, and to help them make sense of it from a Godly, Christ centered perspective. Today's youth are looking for something authentic. We believe that this authenticity will be found through a relationship with Jesus.

¹ <http://socialmediaweek.org/newyork/2012/02/15/youth-and-social-media/#.Ue1hzhad7nl>

² Copyright © 2012 by the author or Christianity Today/Leadership Journal. From Issue: Winter 2012, Vol. 33, No. 1 | Posted January 23, 2012

About

SE CT YOUTH LEADERS NETWORK

Doing More.... Together!

The Southeastern Connecticut Youth Leaders Network has been working together on projects and events since 2006. Although it is not primarily aimed towards planning events, Overtime has become a byproduct of sharing meals and praying together.

A Track Record of Teamwork

For nearly a decade, many meaningful events have transpired in Southeastern Connecticut as a result of the relationships that have been cultivated through the SE CT Youth Leaders Network. Youth groups in the community have joined together to raise money for important causes, worship in combined services, and even share Christ at outreach events.



Of these activities, the most successful of them is Overtime. With a growing number of over 800 in annual attendance, this event has seen hundreds of teens make commitments to follow Christ. Furthermore, it is the most consistent attempt at bringing churches in our region together.

The Southeastern Connecticut Youth Leaders Network is composed of an Executive Committee made up of leaders from the region. The key leaders on the team are Jason Pensa of Groton Heights Baptist Church serving as the Network Coordinator and Treasurer, Gary Campbell Jr. of Groton Bible Chapel, Christy Wright of Gales Ferry United Methodist Church, and Paul Fuller of Grace Fellowship Evangelical Free Church.

National Network of Youth Ministries (NNYM)

National Network of Youth Ministries is a loosely held network of youth leaders throughout the country. Their website, YouthWorkers.net, serves as a resource for individuals to get connected with youth ministry leaders when entering a new community. SE CT Youth Leaders Network is a proud member of the National Network of Youth Ministries and uses the national database as a resource for new leaders to connect with us in our area.



About

FAITH 2 FAITH MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

Mission

Faith 2 Faith Ministries International is mobilizing and equipping the churches of New England to proclaim the gospel to students in their communities, across the nation and around the world.



Vision

f2fmi is mobilizing the church and reaching out to students around the world through:

a). Pre-Evangelism

It is strategically imperative to prepare the ground before a harvest. In fact, a lot of work needs to go in on the front end before the ground can produce any fruit. Similarly, before a community hears the gospel, it is important for believers its members in a way that prepares them to hear the gospel. Pre-Evangelism prepares believers to become co-laborers in the work of evangelism and to build bridges in the community that will provide platforms for the gospel.

Jesus said, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field” (Matt. 9-37-38). It is our vision to see the body of Christ come alive and join our ministry in the work of sharing Jesus Christ with the world in a relevant way. We want to challenge both seasoned believers and young adults to share their faith with students in both word and deed.

b). Proclamation

1 Corinthians 1:18 says, “For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.” Our team believes in and will not forsake the proclamation of the gospel. We want to build a massive platform for the good news to be shared using innovative strategies, media, and gifted evangelists who are effective in calling students to respond to Jesus as Lord and Savior. We want to see thousands upon thousands respond to that invitation and receive the gift of eternal life!

c). Post Encounter Follow-Up

f2fmi exists for the local church. We want to see the church grow healthy and strong! However, one of the challenges that the church faces after attempting to evangelize is to follow-up with decision makers after an event. f2fmi wants to work closely with the local church to help new believers find ways to connect and grow in their new faith.

Strategy

REACHING OUR COMMUNITY IN WORD & ACTION



TNT Fireworks (June 19-July 5, 2013)

f2fmi will run several TNT Fireworks tents in SE CT to raise money for Overtime. Proceeds from this fundraiser will be used to purchase tickets for students in churches who could otherwise not afford to attend Overtime. Youth groups from the area will be encouraged to help the team sell the fireworks.

Youth Leaders Pool Party (July 20, 2013)

Over several years, f2fmi has invested a considerable amount of effort in bringing youth leaders together. This year, f2fmi continues in that commitment at its 4th Annual Youth Leaders Pool Party. What started as an opportunity for a few leaders to share a meal together as friends has grown into a region-wide celebration of their commitment to work together.

The 5 Friend Challenge

Students will be encouraged to make a list of the friends that they plan to invite to Overtime and to commit to praying for them throughout the fall. Youth leaders will be supplied with response forms so that they can issue the challenge and disciple their students to follow through with their commitment. The *5 Friend Challenge Tour* from the area's youth groups will train students to effectively complete the challenge.

Additionally, we will take the opportunity to train churches on this year's new registration process.



f2fmi Annual Benefit Dinner

Several weeks before Overtime, we will use our platform at our Annual Benefit Dinner to mobilize the church to serve at Overtime. We will also make an appeal to raise more funds for scholarships so students can invite their non-Christian friends to Overtime through the 5 Friend Challenge.

Overtime 2013 Theme: No Boundaries

by Gary Campbell Jr. & Ramin Salehi

Overtime 2013 promises to be the most exciting and fulfilling to date. Every year we get just a bit more insight in how to make Overtime the best ever. We're excited to be able to reflect that each Overtime has been better than the last. This year's theme is "No Boundaries."

Our understanding of boundaries as they pertain to life can be negative or positive, depending on our frame of reference. In a well known experiment regarding boundaries and children, a group of child psychologists sent a preschool class into a playground and then removed the fences. The response? The children huddled in the middle of the playscape and didn't move much.



The realization was that as human beings, we need structure and boundaries. Boundaries are gifts from our Creator. God's instilling of boundaries are less noticeable in Scripture than in human life. Going back to the Mosaic Law including even the civil laws of Leviticus, structure in civil life, in Spiritual life, and in community life were all ultimately about freedom. Boundaries provided the greatest framework for true freedom.

"In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." -Philippians 2:5-11

Our text for Overtime 2013 comes from Philippians 2, a well known passage by the Apostle Paul about the incarnation- the coming of Christ, God's Son as a human, one of His own creation. The limitless- the Divine- assumes the ultimate boundaries of human incarnation. This is all for the purpose of setting us free from the "boundaries" of sinful humanity, and freeing us to the limitless potential of the glories of Heaven, and even the abundant life Christ promised here on earth. The instrument of our freedom? The Cross at Calvary and the necessity of obedience to death.

So, how do you view boundaries? Does the term "no boundaries" convey a rebellious, even rogue attitude to you, or do your thoughts turn to unrestrained opportunity and limitless potential?

For Overtime this year, our answer is BOTH!

We live in a culture that incessantly preaches a dogma of "no boundaries" in every sphere of life. When this dogma is followed in youth, it yields an adulthood full of unwanted boundaries and baggage. Yet, we serve a God who embraced the most restricting boundary in the incarnation and the most heinous in the Cross to set us free. He has established boundaries that when adhered to allow the potential for us to soar to the unrestricted heights of Heaven itself, while allowing us to live a lives filled with peace and joy as well as hope and meaning.

When we proclaim this message of No Boundaries! to the hurting world around us in both how we live and what we say, we have the potential to change the world with the help of God! The Bible says, “He [God] is able to work in you to do abundantly more than what you can ask or even imagine!” (Eph. 3:20).

This year at OT2013 we hope you will commit to saying “no” to the idea of no boundaries in the world, while at the same time saying “yes” to no boundaries in your potential in Christ, whether for the first time or with a renewed sense of (commitment).

We hope that this dual message in a single theme will fire you up for Jesus and give you resolve to live for Him.

Music & Speaker

The Andy Needham Band is at the forefront of New England’s burgeoning Christian music scene. The group’s national debut album, *Lifted High*, produced by GRAMMY Award-winner Mitch Dane (Jars of Clay, Bebo Norman, Brandon Heath), is a combination of original proven favorites and fresh new offerings. From the buoyant debut single, “Open Arms” — a bright reminder of God’s unending love— to the earnest, guitar-driven title track, Needham and bandmates Joel Rousseau, Jonathan Mason, and Andrew Picha deliver a smart and accessible modern worship collection. With a passion to equip and encourage local church worship leaders, the Andy Needham Band created the groundbreaking Simply Worship Conference. Designed to offer practical and affordable biblical training for volunteer worship leaders, musicians, and tech teams, the group will present three conferences in the northeast this year.



Tom Miyashiro is an author, speaker and radio personality. He has a passion for making a difference in the lives of teenagers and has dedicated his life to this purpose. Additionally, Tom is an evangelist, CEO and founder of f2fmi, and Schools Work Coordinator for LifeFAQs, an organization aimed at improving the lives of students through character education. Tom loves to proclaim the good news that Jesus

Christ is alive and that He alone has the power to conquer suffering, sickness and sin while offering us the gift of eternal life.

Budget

PROJECTED INCOME

Item:	Tickets:	Amount:
Golden Tickets @ \$25	150	\$3,750.00
Full Scholarships @ \$50	20	\$1,000.00
Part Scholarships @ \$25	20	\$500.00
Ticket Sales @ \$25	20	\$500.00
Ticket Sales @ \$45	400	\$18,000.00
Ticket Sales @ \$50	150	\$7,500.00
Volunteer Tickets @ \$25	10	\$250.00
Other Fundraising	0	\$2,275.00
Total:	770	\$33,775.00

PROJECTED EXPENSES

Item:	Cost:
Event Materials & Postage	\$3,000.00
Music	\$2,500.00
Speaker & Other Entertainment	\$1,600.00
Travel & Lodging	\$900.00
Sound	\$1,250.00
Lights & Screens	\$1,250.00
Honorariums	\$330.00
Dinner for Crew	\$350.00
Photography	\$325.00
Prizes	\$800.00
Limo	\$500.00
Food & Drink for Carnival	\$1,000.00
Inflatables	\$6,000.00
Galaxy Roller Rink	\$1,500.00
Holiday Bowl	\$2,250.00
Renegade Sports	\$3,300.00
UCONN	\$1,050.00
Video Game Truck	\$570.00
Lifeguards	\$200.00
5 Friend Challenge	\$250.00
Follow Up	\$500.00
Network Meetings	\$500.00
Event Insurance	\$500.00
Credit Card Fees	\$350.00
Administrative Fees	\$2,500.00
Surplus	\$500.00
TOTAL	\$33,775.00