

Hello everyone!

Since the school year started and programming picked up again in Sylvan Lake, we at Incline have had the privilege to watch God do some pretty awesome things, and I get to share them with you! Throughout the fall we have consistently had many youth coming to our drop in times and using our living room for games and activities—not just somewhere with wifi and couches. Because of this, it has been easier for us to build relationships with youth, both new guests to the space and veterans of Incline. To top it off, several youth have already made new and life changing commitments to God!

This year at Incline, we have been trying to embrace and focus on discipleship. And it's very exciting to share that there are youth coming regularly with a hunger for God's word, reading it on their own and returning with questions for us. There are some who have found God and started attending youth groups or churches. **God is doing something amazing, and it is a blessing to get to be a part of it.**

Let me share a couple of highlights to give you a picture of my work:

I have started playing cribbage with one of the girls; almost every evening, we play a round or two (she's very lucky though and almost always wins). I love getting to talk one-on-one during a game. She became a Christian this year, and her life is slowly changing because of it. One day, she came in and admitted to having smoked earlier, so we got to talk about Jesus's forgiveness and how it applies.

Another youth was helping do a puzzle—we found out this year that puzzles are really good for engagement weirdly—and upon placing the last piece, he grabbed it by the edges and pulled the puzzle so smoothly and suddenly off the table and into individual pieces which scattered across the room; my coworker and I both burst into laughter. It was a moment of utter chaos and childishness, and laughter was the only response we could muster.

Finally, I was invited to attend a celebration of life by one of the youths who regularly attends. Her grandma had passed away, and it was a very significant loss for her. **I feel very blessed to be invited into a sensitive part of her world like that.**

For all of the exciting things that are happening, there are many hurts in the lives of the youth. Drugs and alcohol are misused and abused by almost every one of our youth, there are several filling community service hours and sorting out court sentences, and healthy families are almost unheard of. I don't share this to put a discouraging twist on the letter—just to ask that you continue to pray.

As Emily and I move from summer to winter schedules, we are starting to find a rhythm. Her camp work and horse projects are becoming more regular, and my own hours are less dedicated to finishing up leftover summer projects. We are doing well and are hoping to find good rest in these coming months with more time focused on family and studying or writing. As you pray for us, please consider the youth, that God will continue to change lives and give opportunities to share. Please pray that Emily and I will be able to pursue God well with our changing schedules. If you would like to pray for individual youths and hear more of their stories please ask, it's important to keep details private, but I'll tell as many stories as I can. Sharing about what God is doing is one of my favourite things to do.

The last thought I have to share is something God is teaching me even while I share about it at Incline. A paraphrased Matthew 6:26 says to consider the birds: they don't store or reap, but God provides for them. How much more valuable are we? **And so I have watched the birds, and sure enough, God is good to them, and I can only thank Him for how much better He is to me.**

Thank you for all your support and prayers,



Jonathan Reimer  
Youth Engagement | Sylvan Lake

