

Oct 25, 2024

Hello friend,

One of my favorite books as a youth was *The Hobbit* by JRR Tolkien. It's a story about a little fellow called Bilbo who—much to his dismay—embarks on a journey full of challenges, adventure, and perils he had never dreamed of. Throughout the story, we hear that Bilbo is "... thinking once again of his comfortable chair before the fire in his favorite sitting-room in his hobbit-hole, and of the kettle singing. Not for the last time!" Although the world Bilbo faced was dangerous and full of nasty things that sought to take him down, Bilbo took comfort in the fact that through it all he had a cozy home to return to at the end of the day. As our youth navigate a world full of perils, new challenges, and adventure, youth often don't have a "favorite sitting room" to return to at the end of the day. [So as the snow began to blow in Three Hills, we closed the windows tightly, started our kettle, and opened our doors to the Youth of Kneehill County to join us in our own sitting room - The Hideout Youth Centre.](#) During that first week of programs, we welcomed forty-five different youth into our space—and of those forty-five, thirty-seven attended our programs more than once that week.

While I was sitting in a room full of kids during our first Bible Study of the fall, I was suddenly struck with gratitude that the Lord had done what He promised He would do. We were sitting there, sharing the word with students and inviting them to take their own next step towards Jesus. Although many of the students were from homes with parents that believed, there was one student in particular that stood by the door, just watching and listening—not yet brave enough to fully enter the room but summoning all of their courage to simply "come and see." [Watching them, I knew that the Lord had thoughtfully connected this student with us for a purpose, and He has so much more to offer them in the future.](#)

Some of you have already chosen to "fully enter the room" and become involved in the ministry God has called me to be a part of in Three Hills. Whether by volunteering, giving, baking, praying, or more than one of these things, I am grateful to have you engaged and "in the room" with me. Others of you are content standing in the doorway and observing what is happening, deciding whether you want to get involved. If this is you, I would ask you to consider whether it is time for you to take a step deeper into the room with me and become a part of what the Lord is doing in Kneehill County through this ministry. Whether the Lord is asking you to step into involvement with the Youth Centre here in Three Hills or inviting you to take a step forward into something else entirely, I challenge you to consider which figurative room He may be inviting you into! I pray that you would hear the gentle prompting of the Lord this Christmas and find peace as you follow him. And to each of you as we venture together into this Christmas season, thank you for journeying with me—and thank you in advance for any steps you may take in supporting me in the days ahead.

Your support and friendship is a blessing!

Skye Wilson

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Skye Wilson".

Youth Engagement & Site Lead | Three Hills



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[www.cayu.ca](http://www.cayu.ca) | 403-789-2298 | 5025 50 St Lacombe, AB T4L 1X9