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WHAT'S A MINISTRY TO DO?

Each and every New Year's Eve they say the same thing. "They" are the festively-adorned people gathered on the streets in any number of cities and towns across the U.S. who are waiting to welcome in the New Year. It seems that in every interview they speak with hope about turning the calendar page on the difficulties faced during the outgoing year, while looking with great anticipation to the joy they believe will come in the trouble-free twelve months ahead. I'm old enough to have gotten to the point where I've realized that because we look to move on from every single outgoing year, we need to realize that we'll be saying the same on every future New Year's Eve.

HOPES AND DREAMS

The hopes and dreams people had back on December 31, 2019 sure haven't panned out. One of the funniest



T-Shirts I saw during the pandemic features *Back To The Future's* Doc giving last minute instructions to the young Marty McFly, just before Marty climbs into the time-traveling DeLorean: "Marty, *whatever happens, don't ever go to 2020!*"

Well, here we are. . . and we all know what's happened! Our churches, families, businesses, and

just about everything else that's functioned normally for so long have had to face major changes and adjustments. Here at CPYU, the "subtractions" we've had to make have been used by God to move us into making some "additions." Closing shop was never an option for us. Instead, the need for our ministry has increased as a result of Covid-19 and all of the cultural upheaval.

OUR FAITHFUL DONORS

Many of you have asked specifically about any financial hits we've taken. The good news is that our faithful donors have remained just that – faithful donors! We are grateful for the ways in which all the uncertainties of our times have not occasioned uncertainty among our ministry partners. The fuel of your prayers and financial support continue to fill our tank so that we are able to keep moving forward with even greater resolve and momentum!

In our last Partner Update I highlighted the launch of our online Coronavirus Resource Page on our cpyu.org website, a page which continues to be populated with all kinds of resources designed to help churches, youth groups, and families navigate the spiritual challenges of the pandemic to the Glory of God. I announced the release of our new Family TableTalk Devotions which were created in direct response to the pandemic, the additional time families were spending around the dinner table, and the need to develop the habit of spiritual nurture through family devotions.

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...Ministry Update Continued

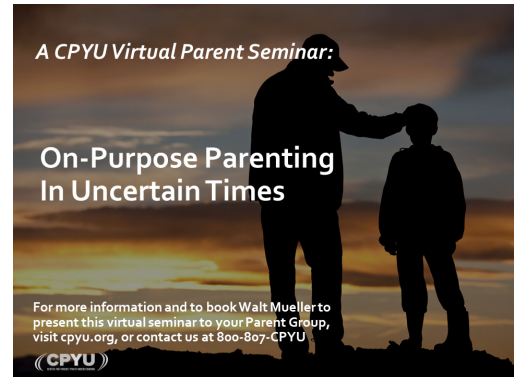
And, I made you aware of our move to book over 30 Zoom calls with parent and youth worker groups across the country, which gave us an opportunity to stay connected while specifically encouraging them on how to navigate the pandemic and the resulting ministry/parenting challenges, including responding to rising teen anxiety.

We continue to adapt to the new ministry realities of 2020 while knowing full well that it's highly likely that these same restrictions will continue through at least the first half of 2021. In addition to the aforementioned shifts, we are currently working to address two voids occasioned by the cancellation of all of our onsite seminar ministry opportunities.

The first void we're working to fill is the recovery of opportunities to minister to parents and youth. To date, we have developed four one-hour long online parenting seminars (see titles and descriptors on page 3) that we are currently booking through the spring of 2021.

The second void is financial in nature, as all the cancellations mean a loss of \$75,000 in anticipated honorarium revenue for which we had budgeted. Since it's realistic to assume that our online seminar bookings will only generate a small portion of that lost \$75,000, we will need to depend on our ministry partners to fill the void.

As we move forward, we have many other plans in the works. We will be sure to make you aware of these plans as they come to fruition. In the meantime, please continue to pray for us as we adapt, like you, to this new normal.



Meet CPYU's Intern



My name is Théodora Dillman. I am a member of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Lancaster, Pennsylvania and I am a Junior at Yale University. At Yale, I play on the varsity field hockey team and am a double major in English Language and Literature and the History of Art. My first two years at Yale were a wonderful rollercoaster: full of late nights studying and early morning field hockey trainings, exams that seemed to take forever and study breaks with roommates that flew by too quickly. And through it all, I learned the importance of having a biblical worldview as a solid foundation to head into college. In forms that I had not seen before or expected, I encountered challenges to my Christianity and to my biblical worldview. But rather than shake what I believed, these affronts only served to strengthen what I had been taught.

With the onset of COVID-19, I decided to take a semester off from Yale, hoping to let the dust settle. An open semester is daunting-- but God drew me to CPYU, and they graciously brought me on board as their intern. I had learned of their ministry through Westminster. I was drawn to their focus on worldview-- how they seek to embolden and equip parents in their efforts to bring up children in the truth of a biblical worldview. Having gone away from home, and encountered affronts to my faith and biblical worldview at Yale, I experienced first hand the importance of having been brought up in an understanding of the Truth, and wanted to be a part of developing this in others. My hope is that while I am learning and growing through my time with CPYU, I can in even a small way, contribute to their ministry of bringing up today's youth in the light and truth of God's Word, so that they too can stand firm, when they are sent out into the world. Here at CPYU I get a sneak peek behind podcast production, spend time researching up-and-coming topics in youth culture, write on different relevant topics to youth, and aid with the general upkeep of resources. I am absolutely loving what I'm doing. I am thankful for what I am learning from Walt and the rest of the staff at CPYU; it is an honor and a blessing to be under their guidance. God bless!

Virtual Parent Seminars

Understanding and Addressing Anxiety In Your Kids

Because they're growing up in a perfect storm where developmental, relational, and cultural pressures have converged, our kids are experiencing anxiety and mental health issues at epidemic rates. What is anxiety? What can we do to ease the stress in their lives? And, how can we help guide our kids into responding to stress and anxiety in ways that bring honor and glory to God? Walt will launch parents on a journey into understanding and addressing the growing tide of adolescent anxiety.

Cultural Forces Shaping Children and Teens Today

Our kids are growing up in a world that powerfully shapes and mis-shapes their values, attitudes, and behaviors. What are the major cultural forces that are influencing the worldviews of children and teens today? How can we begin to temper the negative influences that present challenges for Christian parents? Walt will pull back the curtain on a handful of the most-influential and often-overlooked trends which parents can and must address in the home.

On-Purpose Parenting Through Uncertain Times

Over the course of the last several months, life has changed in big, big ways. As parents, we find ourselves having to navigate difficult uncharted waters as every member of our family adjusts to new ways of living. In addition to facing a pandemic, culture has been changing at breakneck speed and many parents are left scratching their heads at how to best respond. Walt will invite parents to catch their breath and regroup as we consider together some of the best God-honoring practices we can embrace during our parenting journey.

Tech-Smart Parenting: How To Help Kids Flourish In a World of Smartphones and Social Media

Our kids are increasingly tethered to their technology and social media. And while these tools can be used in healthy ways, they can also very easily undermine the well-being of children and teens. It's our parental responsibility to teach them how to live a responsible, balanced, and healthy life with smartphones and social media. Walt will take you into the world of kids and their hyper-connections, looking at why the connections are important, how those connections shape their lives, and what we can do to nurture them into living to the Glory of God in their hyper-connected world.

An Extraordinary Way to Help CPYU

November 20, 2020

This November 20 we ask you to go the EXTRA mile for CPYU. On that day, we are again participating in the Extraordinary Give, Lancaster County's largest day of giving. For 24 hours only, visit www.ExtraGive.org and make a tax deductible donation and designate your gift for CPYU.

Every dollar that you donate on November 20 will be stretched by a portion of at least a half million dollars from the Lancaster County Community Foundation and their presenting sponsors.

Since this online day of giving began in 2012, over \$160,000 has been raised for CPYU in these previous 8 special days of online giving.

Since this event is online only, you can make a safe and secure online contribution from anywhere in the world. You don't need to be from our home base of Lancaster County in Pennsylvania to participate. Many of CPYU's faithful supporters from across the country make a special gift to us that day – and we hope that you will mark your calendar to participate!

Past gifts in previous years have been used for our *Youth Culture Matters* podcast, making our *How To Use Your Head To Guard Your Heart 3(D)* guides available for youth centers and schools, and having our resources translated into Spanish.

Please prayerfully consider making a special contribution to CPYU on this special day!

Watch your e-mail and check out cpyu.org for more details.

THE EXTRA
ORDINARY
GIVE

LANCASTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION | Rodgers & Associates HEALTH ADVISORS | HIGH FOUNDATION

NOVEMBER 20, 2020

You Can't Quarantine A Podcast!

Thanks to the generosity of our CPYU donors, a pandemic can lock us up but it can't quiet us down! Our well-equipped on-site recording studio allows us to connect to virtually anyone on the globe to record our bi-weekly **Youth Culture Matters Podcast**. Our Director of Media Resources here at CPYU, Chris Wagner, engineers and produces each episode. Our recording schedule continues without pause and we now have 117 Youth Culture Matters podcast episodes available for free on our site, cpyu.org.

If you're not already a regular listener to this long-form podcast, you need to avail yourself of the rapidly accumulating goldmine of information, analysis, and practical-guidance that's available on Youth Culture Matters. Already this fall we've recorded and posted these practical and hope-filled episodes, with more to come:

Episode 114: "Youth Culture Trends Of Summer 2020." On this episode a roundtable group of some of our favorite youth workers will open your eyes to some of the most current trends influencing children and teens today.

Episode 115: "Sabbath" with A.J. Swoboda. The command to remember and keep the Sabbath has long been forgotten in both the culture-at-large and the church. In this episode we chat with theologian A.J. Swoboda about his new book, "Subversive Sabbath: The Surprising Power of Rest In A Non-Stop World." This one is so timely as we are busying ourselves and our kids to death.



Episode 116: "Girls Over the Brink?" with Dr. Leonard Sax. In this conversation with a repeat guest, we talk chat with Dr. Sax about his new book "Girls On The Edge." If you know, minister to, or are parenting girls, you won't want to miss this conversation about the pressures our girls are facing in today's world and how to best respond.

Episode 117: "Another Gospel" with Alisa Childers. Having gone through a process of de-constructing and then re-constructing her faith, Alisa talks to us about the alarming trend of Progressive Christianity that's creeping into the evangelical church and our youth groups, and her new book "Another Gospel: A Lifelong Christian Seeks Truth In Response to Progressive Christianity." You won't want to miss this one!

Be sure to subscribe to Youth Culture Matters, post a positive review on your podcast provider, and share the podcast with friends.



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