



# “REACHING OUT TO YOUTH”

## HIS PLACE Teen Center

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MATTHEW 9:12,13

**JAN FEB MAR 2008**

**(207) 743-9503**

## *Winter Weekend at Camp Fairhaven!*

Where in the world is Brooks, Maine? It is just a short distance from Belfast and is the home of one of Maine's premiere youth camps, Camp Fairhaven. We have been enjoying this location for 4 years now. This winter weekend was much different in that some of the youth from His Place Teen Center that are active in our Outpost Meetings, (formerly known as, Teen Church), put together the program. Youth, Aaron S., John P., and staff member Tiffany S. worked on the weekend activities, together with the aid and assistance of staff members, Brad Saunders, Art Hladik, and chief cook and bottle-washer, Ron Blake, and his faithful assistant, Russell Pike. These staff members helped tweak it here and there. The theme the youth chose was LOVE, and presented what God's love is all about.

We had with us for the first time the Oxford Advent Christian Church Youth Group with 13 youth, along with Randy and youth Director, Jen Olson, and staff member Eric, 15 youth, 5 male and female adult staff members from Faith Chapel Church in Buckfield, 31 youth and 11 male and female, adult staff from His Place Teen Center, for a total of 78 of us. We had a number of youth that had never been to winter weekend before. It was great to see them smile and having a good time with others. It was rewarding to see them interact with other youth also.

We had messages to communicate God's kind of love, and an altar call to give up what was keeping us from serving God more fully, by staff member Tiffany. We had successful and questionable dating tips, (whoops you can't find dating in the Bible), the closest thing you will find is words meaning



*This is just a few of the 78 people that went to Winter Weekend Feb. 8-10.*



*Connecting Rodz on the road at Winter Weekend. Plum Potter and some of the youth that stopped by.*

courtship. This was presented in a funny and clear way from Youth Director Seth Warren from Faith Chapel and a powerful message on Sunday from staff person Brad Saunders.

Art gave an altar call and a number of the youth responded to serve the Lord to the best of their ability and with God's help. We had a number of good musicians amongst us from these 3 groups and the worship times were mighty powerful even though they all had different styles. A special thanks to Brad Saunders, Glen Kilbreth, Jason Verrill, Jim Verrier and our friend Jeremy Smith that helped with projecting the words on the screen for all to follow. God was present as the worship went up to Him and the word was preached by youth and adult staff. We had great meals and a variety of challenging but fun games in the full sized gym and activities throughout the weekend. Of course we got more SNOW!! for the awesome sliding with youth and staff alike challenging each other to go further down the path than the previous one, some went snow-shoeing with staff member, Brad Saunders, while youth and staff worked and prepared the great meals we had during the weekend. We had a powerful time on Saturday afternoon where the men and women separated for a discussion of things applicable to each group. We furnished this great weekend to all for just \$15.00 a person. Thank you to Ron Blake, Russell Pike, Art & Kathy, Kathy Bonney and the youth that helped in the kitchen.

## *The Connecting Rodz Hit the road!*

On Friday February 8th, 2008 the Connecting Rodz hit the road. They trekked to the metropolis of Brooks, ME to attend (winter weekend) at Camp Fairhaven. Several Connecting Rodz members that attend the club at His Place Teen Center in Oxford, were present. Along with special guests from Buckfield Youth Group and Oxford Advent Youth Group.

Plum Potter, who heads up the car club, says, "some of these kids are sheltered. For example, they don't know about proper intake manifolds to run on there 57 Chevy's." One of the kids from Oxford Advent had never heard of a straight axle gasser before. Then again neither has this reporter. You see Plum has a problem, he is a gear head, and obviously he is a bad influence on some of these kids, cause now some of them are grunting when they hear about a 70' 340 Cuda with a 343 sure grip, "ooo"

On a serious note: kids worked on there model

cars, played with a race track, we had a lug nut challenge, kids got to use a real impact wrench and put stock car lug nuts on a stock car hub. Plum had to take the wheel to the garbage can to clean out the metal shavings from all the wear. Those lug nuts probably went off and on 150 times. Alex worked on his woody wagon, what a ride. Tiana is gonna be a body person some day, her 57 Chevy you can see your face in. Rob is a Lincoln man. Gabe knows all about Vette's cause he built one from the ground up. Many other kids worked on their cars.

Two prizes were won: Tiana won a 3/8 drive socket set, and Gabe won a tool set (the Connecting Rodz choice for building his car with the most determination.)

Our hope is that these kids will make a choice all through there lives to live for God and turn to him with all their needs. The car club is just one of the many ways His Place Teen Center reaches out to youth.

A very special Thank-you goes out to Maury Blake for the awesome sign she painted. Thank-you Maury! And by the way Maury, get back to Plum he would like to know the estimated horsepower of the Packard you put on the sign. Is it a Straight 8???????? Also to Brad Saunders for buying a woody wagon and a 62 t-bird for the kids to build. I know he doesn't want thanks, he just wants to see God glorified. Thank-you's also go out to Eric from Advent Christian for setting up the race track. Thank-you to all the people who I didn't mention that had a hand in making this a successful event. If you would like to contribute to this outreach they need model cars, now very hard to find and at a higher price of \$15-\$20.00 each. Contact them at Plum and Dee-Ann Potter, 40 Whitman St. Norway, Maine 04268. [jampott@roadrunner.com](mailto:jampott@roadrunner.com) or use our contact information for this ministry.



*This is one of our Praise and Worship Teams at Winter Weekend.*

# *Alpha & Omega Thrift Shop!*

“Where Junk becomes Treasure”! This is our new motto! Alpha and Omega Thrift Shop bigger and better, (now in a 24' x 60' mobile unit, (formerly used as portable classrooms around the state). This building came from Schiavi Leasing, just down the road from us. As the Executive Director, visionary, and fund raiser for this ministry, I went out and solicited the funds to purchase this unit. We are very grateful for the response to this request and believe this is going to be used to help with a more livable wage for Bert and Fran as Directors and also to help with the ever increasing cost of operating a ministry like ours. This mobile unit affords us with approximately 1440 square feet of floor space to merchandise the big variety of donated items, (consisting of everything from household items, general merchandise, furniture, baby items, clothes, books, etc.) This merchandise comes in from all over the Oxford Hills and surrounding area and is helping to meet a need in the community. We estimate we are taking 3-5 ton of merchandise that would have been disposed of out of the system each month. It is a win! win! for all of us!

It has been proven in other parts of the state that recycling with thrift shops saves the towns and tax payers money. We are seeing a great response to our efforts and thank everyone that has given items to us and that shop and save with us. Tell all your friends to come visit us at the Alpha & Omega Thrift Shop. Thank you all!!

## *Directions to Alpha & Omega Thrift Shop*

*The Alpha & Omega Thrift Shop is located (inside the Norway/Paris Solid Waste facility) on 39 Brown Street in Norway, Maine. Take the road (across from Amato's and on the corner of the Oxford Networks building and Cafe Corner). Go down Brown Street about 1/4 mile and drive through the NPSW facility and you will see us just down over the hill on the right on your way out of the plant. This is just a little over 2 1/2 miles from the teen center that is located on 254 Webber Brook Road in Oxford.*

*Our hours of operation are 10AM-4:00 PM. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. This makes us open every day the NPSW facility is open as they are closed on Mondays and Thursdays. We are closed on Sundays to honor the Lord.*

People from the Oxford Hills and surrounding area are welcome to come shop and to contribute items to us even if this is not your place to dispose of waste. Call Bert at 515-3000 if you need help. We also have items we give away, if we are not able to sell them to help recycle. This 24' x 60' mobile unit is located right along side the 16' x 24' building we have used since opening May 1st. It was obvious from the start that this small building was not going to be big enough for us and we quickly outgrew it. The smaller building will be used as an annex for

furniture and appliances and when needed storage. The response and acceptance of the Alpha & Omega Thrift Shop was more than we anticipated and we couldn't be more pleased with the results to date. The Alpha & Omega Thrift Shop is managed by Bert Rugg, along with Sue Bowen and is run by a volunteer staff of faithful people from the surrounding communities. Come visit and meet the volunteers, Tuesdays: Randy Marston, Julie Goodwin, Wednesdays: George Phinney & daughter Ellen and Sue Bowen, Fridays: Maureen Simmons and daughter Michelle, Saturdays: Mary Lovejoy, these volunteers really make this place tick. We are looking for more volunteers, even a 3 hour shift helps. We are pleased to be helping recycle good salable merchandise that would otherwise be thrown out. Thrift shops are very popular and cropping up all across the state. We have a 48' storage trailer the folks at NPSW have let us use to store merchandise in and another 48' storage trailer, we got from the folks at Schiavi Leasing for a low price. This trailer is located at His Place Teen Center where we store the furniture and better items that are donated to keep them safe. We are now accepting good salable appliances, stoves, refrigerators, washers, dryers, furniture, especially dressers, bureaus, beds, twin beds are in big demand, tables, chairs etc., kitchen items, nick nacks, toys, good clean clothes etc. We say if it will sell we can sell it! The thrift shop and our big yard sales on Rte. 26 really help us.

Another great thing about this outreach it provides a place for the youth to volunteer some time, learn a good work ethic and help us reach their peers.

**If you would like to contribute good salable items or would like to volunteer to help us with the Alpha & Omega Thrift Shop or yard sales please contact me at the office 743-9503 or my cell phone (515-3000).**

**First yard sale for the season  
April 23-29th,  
on Rt. 26 by the Fish Market**



*Grand Re-Opening Celebration at Alpha & Omega Thrift Shop, our 24' x 60' mobile unit in background. A great success.*

# *Building Update!*

## HIS PLACE TEEN CENTER PHASE II UPDATE

### KITCHEN:

\$500.00 (\$200.00 FOR TILE FLOOR IN FUTURE) TO COMPLETE ROOM, WALLS, TRIM & PAINT ECT.

### SNACK BAR:

\$500.00 (BUILD 12' UNIT WITH 30" COUNTER).

### MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM:

\$1,000.00 PAINT FLOOR, TRIM OUT REMAINING DOORS, . EMERGENCY LIGHTS, DOOR CLOSERS ETC.

### GAME ROOM:

\$ 300.00 PAINT GAME ROOM FLOOR.  
\$ 500.00 PUT IN FIRE DOOR & HARDWARE.

### WOMEN'S BATHROOM:

\$ 400.00 TRIM OUT DOOR, WINDOWS, 4FT. ELECTRIC  
\$ 300.00 HEATER ON WALL. GOOD EXHAUST FAN.  
\$ 300.00 BUILD WALL DIVIDER AND HANDICAP FIXTURES.  
**\$3,800.00 TO COMPLETE THESE ROOMS!**

## *His Place Teen Center Phase II Update!*

We are pleased to have received a generous donation of \$3,800.00 recently to go toward completing our Multi-Purpose Room, Kitchen, and Women's bathroom. This had been in our newsletter for months and someone gave us the money to do this work. We are presently working on this project. We also have the money, that was donated by our friends at the Norway/Paris Kiwanians to put in the men's bathroom. We recently did some plumbing and have ordered the toilets and plumbing supplies to begin this project. It is my goal and aim to have the men's bathroom in place by the end of March or April.

This will make our facility more user friendly for programs we have planned and for other organizations to use our facility for functions. As I have always explained we do the work ourselves, saving us dollars, except in cases where we need professional help, like plumbing etc. The plumbing has been done by our friend, Joe Lynch, that has been doing the plumbing for many of our friends and has done the plumbing for the new Cross Stone Restaurant and Conference Center, opening in early spring, next to the Molyocott Motel and Spa in West Paris, ME. Thank you Joe!



*Phase I a 26' x 52" two story Gambrel building with Game Room. Opened on March 16, 2001. Phase II our new 36' x 70' addition began Nov. of 2002 (We need less than \$30,000.00 to finish the entire building). PTL!*

## *His Place Teen Center Goals!*

We are less than \$30,000.00 from completing our Phase II addition. Once this is complete we will have built a (\$500,000.00 facility) replacement value, all paid for with no mortgage in just 10 years since we purchased our property in Sept. of 1998.

It is our goal to complete our commercial kitchen with a new expanded counter in our snack bar area, put down a good tile floor, trim, paint et. We also plan to complete our Multi-Purpose Room with a good tile floor as well, trim, paint etc. This room is being used a lot now with the Outpost meetings, Thursday Night Mentoring Program and Friday night activities. We also want to complete our ladies bathroom and received \$2,500.00 from the Norway-Paris Kiwanis Club needed to put in our men's bathroom. I want to believe for our central heating system to be put in this year before cold weather. We also have our food pantry off the kitchen to get in place and the hallway and entrance area where people enter the building. We have a little more work to do outside with some vinyl siding and closing in the eaves out back etc. If we complete this work it will leave our Fitness Room with showers, this is located just off the Multi-Purpose room and has been in the plans for years. This will most likely be done next year unless funds are provided earlier. We also will have a 16' x 20' room over the Multi-Purpose room and another 16' x 14' class room upstairs to build.

If we are able to complete all this by the end of August 2008 I believe this will be a great goal and we will be ready to minister to the youth and put all the programs in place we have dreamed and envisioned since beginning in August of 1992.

*If you would like to contribute to our building fund please make out your check to His Place Teen Center and tag your check building fund and mail it to His Place Teen Center, 254 Webber Brook Road, Oxford, Me. 04270. Thank you!*

## ***Big Canoe Trip in Algonquin Canada!***

This year we will be doing something different in our first ever big canoe trip to Algonquin Canada July 18-26. This is being headed up by staff person, Ron Blake.

We have room for just 18 people and the list is filling up already. We will have more on this event next April, May, June issue. F.M.I. call Ron 743-5156.



## ***His Place In Another Area?***

We are looking into the idea over the next couple years to see if there is interest in starting another His Place Teen Center in another small town in Maine. There seems to be interest and people have seen what we are doing here in Oxford. This is only in the exploratory stage right now. We need a lot of lead time to do this. It took us over 8 months to put our ministry in place and believe the preparation time was what gave us the longevity we have enjoyed. This would be totally separately funded from the ministry here in Oxford. We would be looking for a group of people from their town's area churches to form a committee and see what the interest really is. If you have interest in this idea please contact Bert at 743-9503 or Cell 515-3000. It is a very big commitment but the rewards are great! We will keep you updated to the progress we make in this endeavor. In this two year period we will have finished the facility here in Oxford and will have many if not all the planned programs in place we ever dreamed of. In September we will celebrate 10 full years since we purchased the property. We will have built a \$500,000.00 facility, (replacement value), in less than 10 years, all paid for. Praise the Lord!!! In 2012 we will celebrate 20 full years of ministry and if plans work out we will be in the stage of planting other teen centers in small towns around the state. This is a big goal, but we serve a BIG GOD! Amen!

## ***His Place Wish List!***

~ Looking for someone that has a burden for reaching the young kids ages 5-10 for a Kid's Club Program. If interested in this please call Bert. 743-9503 or 515-3000.

~ \$20.00 a month donations to purchase up to date Christian Music CD's.

~ Christian books needed for our library. Youth and family oriented in particular.

## ***His Place Teen Center!***

His Place Teen Center going into 16 full years of ministry reaching out to youth in the Oxford Hills and surrounding area. Phase I that opened in March of 2001. A 26' x 52' unique two story gambrel style building, with our new Phase II 36' x 70' addition (less than \$30,000.00 to complete) located on a 2 1/4 acre lot on 254 Webber Brook Road in Oxford. We're open every Friday night from 6:00-9:00 PM.

We then have our Outpost starting at 9:15 PM and is open to anyone that wants to attend. The first Sat. night of every month 6:00-8:00 PM Outpost, no games). All are welcome to attend. For those that are new to us, His Place is a safe, yet well supervised place for youth ages 11-18 both boys and girls (NO ADMISSION FEES). We offer 2 pool tables, ping pong, foose ball, air hockey, Playstation I & II video games, various board games, and of course loud kicking music, with free refreshments. We also have a snack bar with very reasonable prices. We have a softball field, horseshoe area, a 30' x 60' paved basketball court and a 30' x 50' volleyball pit. We provide a safe place for the youth to meet new friends. We currently have about 40-50 youth in attendance and growing every Friday night. We have qualified, dedicated men and women staff that really enjoy being with youth. (WE ARE LOOKING FOR MINISTERIAL STAFF, MEN & WOMEN. CALL BERT & FRAN AT 743-9503 OR ARTIE HLADIK AT 336-2710. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS OF HIS PLACE TEEN CENTER :

Bert Rugg  
Fran Rugg  
Ann Harvey  
Corinna Bartlett  
Howard Munday  
Glenn Davis  
Bruce LeBlanc



(This is the present Executive Board that keeps us on mission & goal at His Place).

## ***Another Special Weekend!***

God has given us at His Place, many opportunities to do many unique, fun, challenging things over the years. On the weekend of April 19 and 20, God has allowed us another grand event~ maybe our grandest. At His Place, we have 19 of our Outpost youth and staff members traveling to Blueberry Mountain Bible Camp in Weld for a prayer weekend we are calling a Seek Ye First Weekend. In fact, we will be fasting the first day too! No games, no skits, no movies; just 19 people with a firm desire to meet with God. When first planned, we thought we might have six to eight people. nineteen people seeking God's will and plan for growth in their lives signed up. Closer to Him is what this weekend is all about. With great anticipation I know God will be right amongst us, front and center. Thank you all for your prayers for us, Art.

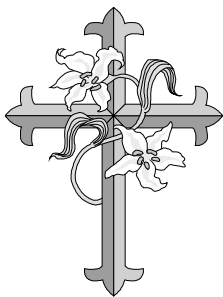
## *The Outpost!*

This is the name of our Worship service formerly known as "Teen Church". "The Outpost" on Friday nights just passed 4 full years on Friday Sept. 14th. Jan. 5 we celebrated 3 full years of Sat. Night Outpost Meetings. Artie Hladik, our leader and pastor for "The Outpost" just taught on the subject....Why do we do the things we do.... as Christians? He has also taught us that living the Christian life does have a cost, but the rewards are eternal! We will be in heaven with Jesus forever and forever!

We invite anyone in the Oxford Hills and surrounding area to join us. We welcome you (any age group) to join us at "The Outpost" If you are a young person already attending His Place Teen Center, or have come across our website feel free to invite your friends, your parents, their friends, or anyone that is not already in a good Bible believing church service on a regular basis to "The Outpost". If you are looking for a place to learn about God, the Bible, have good fellowship with others consider "The Outpost" every Friday night 9:15-11:30 PM. We always have a good fellowship meal together following the service that is included in the time listed above.

## *The Outpost SAT. Night!*

The Outpost Saturday Night Service 6:00-9:00 PM takes place the first Saturday of the month to give an opportunity for the people that can't stay for the Friday night service. We meet every Friday except the last Friday, because of our Saturday Night Outpost. A special thanks to Bob Marzul and his wife Tina and their worship team for coming Jan. 5th. to celebrate 3 full years of Saturday Night Outpost Meetings.



*Happy  
Easter!*

***"A VISION FROM GOD WILL  
TOUCH 2 AND 3 GENERATIONS"!***

***We have that in the making here at  
His Place Teen Center!***



*Friday Night Outpost Meeting Praise Team. L.-R. Aaron S., Thomas H., Donna M., Johnathan P., and staff member, Brad Suanders.*



*Sat. Night Oupost Meeting with staff member and leader Art Hladik.*

**CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE AT [www.hisplaceteencenter.com](http://www.hisplaceteencenter.com) You can now get a (printable) full color newsletter on line with pictures. If you receive our newsletter and would like to receive it by e-mail please let us know. This will save us money on postage. If you want to receive our newsletter or want to be removed call 743-9503 or go to [youthhptc@yahoo.co](mailto:youthhptc@yahoo.co)**

**We are now producing and printing our newsletters quarterly to offset the cost of doing them every two months. This saved us over \$1,300.00 last year and seemed acceptable to everyone. If you have any comments or suggestions please feel free to express them to us.**

## Youth Corner!

My name is, William Martin, and I would like to tell you about all the great times I have had at His Place and the Outpost Meetings, the former teen church. When I first went to His Place I didn't know what it was like. I thought it was a place where you hung out and just played all sorts of games, and it is, but it's also a place of worship and a place where you get to know THE LORD JESUS. I really didn't like doing that dumb and boring stuff I thought it was overrated and yes, I thought that! Yes me, William Martin, and now I can't stop going I love to worship with all those clowns, whoops, I mean all my friends at His Place Teen Center and I have learned alot from there, and I'll never stop going, never! I plan to be a staff member in the near future, but that's in Gods hands. From now on he's going to be with me to guide me through my future and he'll never leave me. I know now that I will always be apart of the His Place family and I care about each and every person like they were my own brother and sister. There are people I would like to thank and these people I've talked the most with and spent the most time with. I would love to thank Bert Rugg, and Plum Potter, for showing me the way to the Lord and teaching me to have a better understanding of the Lord, and also for being the best family I've ever had. His Place Teen Center is based around an outreach for all the teens in the world and we hope those people around the world hear about it so they too can experience an unforgettable time at HIS PLACE TEEN CENTER, because I know I'll never forget all the good times I had there. God bless you all.



*Bill M. and Randy H. finishing up Gorham NH. bike trip. Read about Bill M., and what he likes about His Place Teen Center in Youth Corner in this issue.*

## Upcoming Events!

*\*Friday March 14* will be our second Talent Night to help raise money for our recent Winter Weekend at Camp Fairhaven in Brooks, ME near Belfast.

*\*Fri. March 14 & 15* Big inside Yard Sale at Alpha & Omega Thrift Shop at NPSW, 39 Brown St. in Norway. F.M.I. call Bert. 515-3000. (See Alpha & Omega story).

*\*Sat. & Sun. Apr. 19 & 20* "Seek Ye First Weekend" for Staff and youth. (See story).

*\*Fri. July 18-26* our first ever big canoe trip to Algonquin, Canada. (See story).

*\*Sat. Aug. 16th* First Annual Motorcycle Ride and Fund Raiser to benefit His Place Teen Center. Suggested donation \$20.00 a person or \$30.00 a bike.

F.M.I. on any upcoming event, check our website at [www.hisplaceteencenter.com](http://www.hisplaceteencenter.com), or call Bert at 743-9503 or 515-3000.

## REACHING OUT TO YOUTH

*Bert & Fran Rugg &*

*HIS PLACE Staff*



### HIS PLACE TEEN CENTER REMITTANCE STATEMENT

Enclosed is a tax deductible gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly Contribution

Quarterly Contribution

One Time Contribution

Please make checks payable to Youth Outreach Ministries.

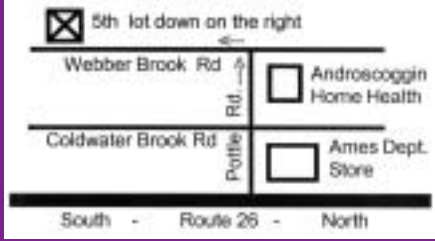
**LOOKING FOR 200 PEOPLE  
THAT WOULD CONTRIBUTE \$10.00 OR MORE A MONTH FOR  
OPERATIONAL COSTS AT HIS PLACE.**

***WILL YOU BE ONE?***

CONTACT BERT 743-9503 OR THE ADDRESS ON THIS NEWSLETTER.  
His Place is a 501 (c) Corporation under the name of Youth Outreach Ministries Incorporated / dba His Place

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## *Nativity Quilt Fund Raiser!*



*Bert Rugg, Executive Director of His Place Teen Center with Nativity Quilt Fundraiser winner, Pamela Durgin of Norway.*

The winning tickets for this fund raiser were drawn during our Executive Board Meeting on Monday Dec. 10th as planned and the winners were as follows: The first place winner of the beautiful nativity quilt was Pamela Durgin, Second place winner of \$35.00 gift card from Wal-Mart, was Bruce and Adrienne Little, Third place winner of \$25.00 gift card from Lowes, was Mike and Betty McLaughlin all from Norway. The nativity quilt was donated from Sew...What's Quilting? Bert's niece, Lecia Curtis, and his sister Wahneta Ellsworth, made this beautiful nativity quilt with their new quilting machine. This was a fund raiser for our ministry and raised a little over \$200.00 for us. Thank you to all who participated in this fund raiser.