

Akron YFC Leader Initiates Planning for Fall Kickoff and Volunteer Meeting

By Jennifer Wendel

In an email addressed to the current Akron Youth for Christ volunteers, Alex Pick, the Youth for Christ (YFC) Akron's Campus Life Ministry Site Leader, shared insights into the program's progress and upcoming plans. The email, sent to local volunteers and YFC staff, outlines key considerations, and invites volunteers to engage in shaping the program's future.

"The month of July and the early part of August have been a whirlwind of activities, from baseball and the fair to Akron's Vacation Bible School and vacations. Summer seems to slip away all too quickly! In light of this, it's time for us to lay the groundwork for our next steps leading into the fall kickoff," Pick expressed.

A strong emphasis was placed on the power of prayer. Pick calls on the community of volunteers to join in collective prayer for various aspects of the youth's well-being. "Our prayers are requested for all the students



preparing to return to school, especially those who may not be involved in fall sports or extracurricular activities. It's essential that they still feel a strong sense of belonging within the AW community. Additionally, we ask for prayers for the well-being of the fall athletes, seeking the Lord's protection against injuries. Lastly, we hope to see YFC continue its presence within the school regularly," the email conveyed.

As preparations for the fall

kickoff gain momentum, Pick outlines an essential step – organizing meetings for volunteers. While the scheduled meeting for Tuesday, August 22 at 6:30 p.m. will have taken place by the time this publication reaches you, the invitation remains open for future meetings. These gatherings aim to foster discussions about the path ahead. Topics on the agenda include event frequency, engaging activities and volunteer training.

"We invite all interested volunteers to join us in this meeting. It's an opportunity for us to collectively shape the direction of the program, ensuring it resonates with the needs and aspirations of our youth," Pick stated.

As the Akron YFC program gains momentum and prepares to enter the fall season, Alex provides valuable insights into the program's values, aspirations, and the vital role that community members can play in its success.

For those interested in attending future volunteer meetings or learning more about the Akron YFC program's upcoming initiatives, Alex Pick can be contacted at alexp@siouxlandyfc.org. As the program continues to evolve, the involvement and dedication of Akron's community are poised to make a lasting impact on its youth's spiritual growth and development.

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TERPSTRA from page 8 second on the team last season in receiving yards (313) and catches (28) to go along with one touchdown reception. He also rushed for one score.

Terpstra, in his third season starting on offense, is going to play the slot position this season. Sievert is going to look to utilize his fast senior as much as possible.

"We've got some packages basically set up for Jack," Sievert said. "Whatever the defense is going to throw at us, we're going to get a good feel for it right away and then how do we get our receivers the ball. It's not a one-person offense like Jack said, we've got to find the weaknesses of each defense. Jack's a guy we use pretty much all over the place and he'll be getting a lot

of touches this year.

"He has definitely stepped up as a leader, great senior. He's got a great voice and kids follow him. It's really quite a blessing to have a guy like Jack on our team."

Added Terpstra: "I'm kind of all over the field running motions. We do a lot of different things, so I'm pretty much all over the field."

As a team leader, Terpstra is trying to step up offensively and get some big catches and earn tough yards. But he doesn't feel like he needs to overexert as a wide receiver because there are so many capable teammates that can turn out nice plays.

"We're pretty spread out through our receiving corps," Terpstra said. "We've got threats pretty much anywhere when we're passing the ball.

It's not like a 1, 2, 3, it's more like a full team deal."

Terpstra feels like he improved as a wide receiver over the summer. One reason for that is he added nearly 10 pounds of muscle onto his 180-pound frame.

"We got in the weight room a lot in the offseason as a whole team, so that's one thing," Terpstra said. "I'm quicker from lifting. I didn't have the ability to like lower my head I felt like last year and the years before, and I think this year I'll be able to use that a lot more."

Terpstra wasn't able to attend any football camps as an individual over the summer, but he joined his team at Northwestern College and Morningside College team camps. Ironically, both those schools have offered Terpstra an oppor-

tunity to play free safety at the next level.

At this point, Terpstra isn't sure if he will pursue football or baseball in college.

Terpstra will have a clearer picture of his future after this football season. He's looking forward to seeing what he and his teammates can accomplish this year.

"We have like 13 seniors this year, and a lot of other teams in our district lost a lot of guys and we didn't lose much, so that's the main thing that excites me," Terpstra said.

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