

SPRING / SUMMER 2017

BOATFACE

ministries



IGNITE 2017
SUMMER CAMPS

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THE SKINNY ON
SCHOOL RETREATS

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Picture from Ignite BC 2016: Playing an afternoon game



AT A GLANCE

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FROM THE BOARD

The FacetoFace Board of Directors meets four times each year to pray for the ministry, to keep the ministry accountable financially, and to help give strategic direction. They also help in various areas as needed.

THANKS TO GARTH WRUCK

March 27, 2017, was the first time the FacetoFace Board of Directors has ever held a meeting without having Garth Wruck in either the present or absent column of the meeting minutes. Garth loyally served on the board for 10 years and has now moved on to help in other areas of the Church.

We wish to thank Garth for his many years of service. His prayerfulness, wisdom, and business expertise has helped form the ministry into the success we see today.

JOINING THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joining our Board of Directors in 2017 are Annette Mireau and Paul Hilton. We are very confident in their love for the Lord, their desire to help FacetoFace Ministries, and their competence as Board members.



The 2016/2017 FacetoFace Staff Team: (left to right) Ryan Mitchell, Jon Courchene, Dan Richard, Dan Brule

TRUSTING IN THE LORD

BY JON COURCHENE

FacetoFace Executive Director

I have had the privilege of listening many times to the founder of FacetoFace Ministries, Ken Yasinski, give the analogy that trusting in God is like climbing up a tall pole onto a tightrope and getting into a wheelbarrow. In this action, one is putting his or her life in the hands of the person pushing that wheelbarrow along the tightrope, trusting they will arrive at the other side safely.

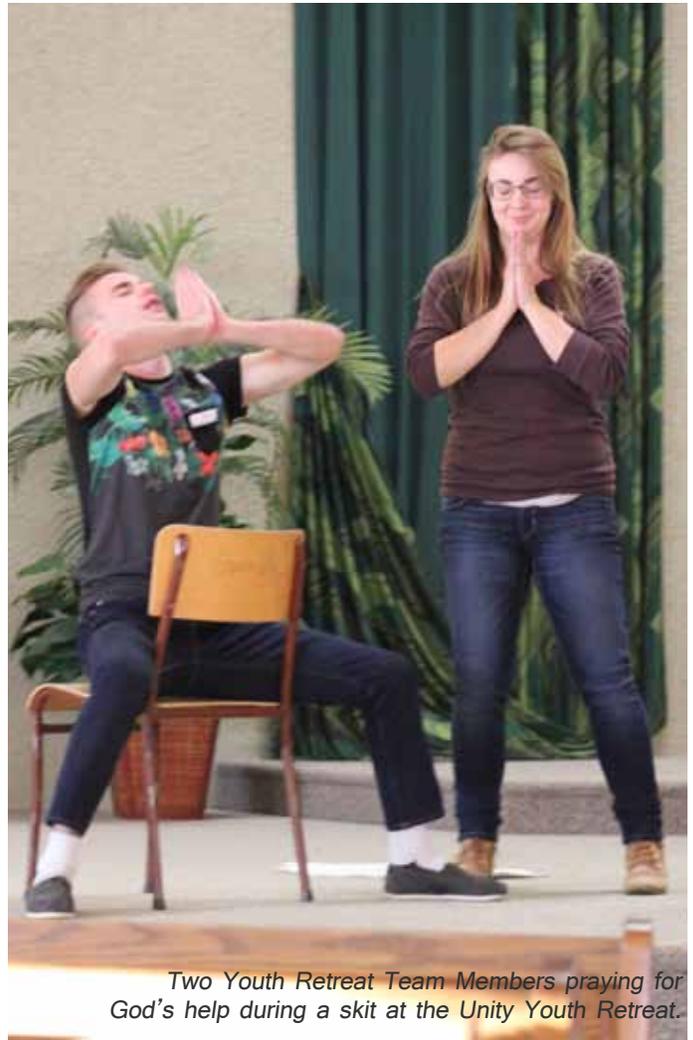
A decision to trust like this is worthwhile, but not easy. We, at FacetoFace, are learning this truth firsthand. We knew that 2016 would be a pivotal year for the ministry and thus we decided to climb the pole, put our trust in the Lord, and let Him take us where He wanted us to go.

What was the outcome of surrendering control to the Lord? Blessing! Our Heavenly Father wants nothing more than to allow Him to pour out His grace upon us. And we certainly witnessed God's blessing in all areas of the ministry.

Part of trusting in the Lord is trusting in His Church and the powerful intercession of His mother, Mary. Mary is the patroness of FacetoFace and therefore we decided to focus our Ignite Summer Camps around the theme 'Full of Grace.' We believe Mary's prayers were another major factor in this blessed year.

2016 is, perhaps, the best year of ministry I have ever been involved with! It felt as though God anointed everything we touched. Every program witnessed growth. We reached out to 27,000 people while spending 183 days on

“WE KNEW THAT 2016 WOULD BE A PIVOTAL YEAR FOR THE MINISTRY AND THUS WE DECIDED TO CLIMB THE POLE, PUT OUR TRUST IN THE LORD, AND LET HIM TAKE US WHERE HE WANTED US TO GO.”



Two Youth Retreat Team Members praying for God's help during a skit at the Unity Youth Retreat.

the road. One out of every two days someone heard the Good News of Jesus Christ because of FacetoFace Ministries.

While statistics can be a good indicator that something is moving in the right direction, we are most pleased with how God moved in peoples hearts and lives. Trusting that He would do this most important work relieved us of the burden

and gave Him greater permission.

We witnessed conversions in the youth we ministered to, in the adult chaperones at those retreats, in our young adult team who helped at events, and within our own staff team. Hopefully this newsletter will remind us of God's providence when we trust in Him.

FACETOFACE NEWS

MANY THANKS

VOLUNTEER YOUTH RETREAT TEAM MEMBERS

In 2016/2017 FacetoFace facilitated multiple weekend Youth Retreats where young adult volunteers came and gave of their time to help lead. Thank you to Emmarae Dale, Dan Lamontange, Monique Mireau, Chris O'Hara, Adelaide Quickfall, Catherine Richard, Ruxandra Ristea, and Vanessa Wilson for the gift of your time and talents!

DONATION OF A CAR

FacetoFace would like to thank an anonymous donor for the gift of a 2004 Toyota Corola. The vehicle has already been put to good use through the different speaking engagements and Confirmation Retreats Jon Courchene has been leading this spring.

PROGRAMMING



CONFIRMATION RETREATS

FacetoFace had another successful spring of leading Confirmation Retreats. Retreats spread from Kelowna, BC, to Winnipeg, MB. Space is limited so book your 2018 Confirmation Retreat today: jon.courchene@f2f.ca



IGNITE CAMPS

The FacetoFace Ignite Camps registrations are open. Both Ignite SK & BC offer early bird discounts of 10% to celebrate our 10th Anniversary.



BUS TRIP

The FacetoFace Bus Trip is off to Kenosha, WI, for the first time ever. There are about 15 spots still available on the bus so make sure to register today: www.f2f.ca/bustrip



BUS TRIP MINI - CANCELLED

Unfortunately, due to lack of commitment by the major payment deadline at the start of May, the Bus Trip Mini has been cancelled. We are considering creative options to offer this trip again another year.

YOUTH RETREATS

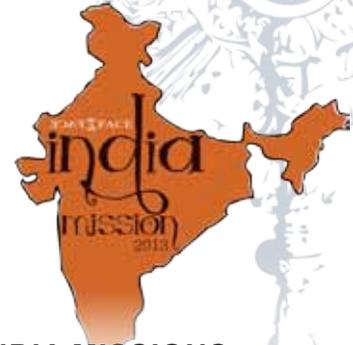
YOUTH RETREATS

Youth Retreats are continuing to grow and bear great fruit for the Lord. If you want to book FacetoFace in your parish contact Jon Courchene.

Available dates for the rest of 2017 are:

- October 14&15
- October 28&29
- November 4&5

Contact Jon for 2018 availability.



INDIA MISSIONS

FacetoFace has decided it will not be offering any more India Missions in the foreseeable future. It was a difficult decision but one that made the most sense with our youth focused mission.

We want to thank Micheline Thibault for all her leadership and sacrifice that made the last India Mission such a success. Many thanks also to all the other leaders, participants, and financial donors over the years.



UNITED CONFERENCE 2017

The 2017 FacetoFace United Conference is November 18 & 19. We are excited to welcome back our keynote speaker Ken Yasinski, the founder of FacetoFace Ministries.



SCHOOL RETREATS

Dan and Ryan, the School Retreat co-leaders had a busy year with many beautiful testimonies. They are now taking bookings for 2017/2018.

See pages 7-8 for more information.



UNITED CONFERENCE

A youth participant being prayed with at the United Conference in late November, 2016.

By Renee Hammer

United Conference 2016 Adult Participant

Raising teenage boys in a small town does not always produce a lot of opportunities to have them see other teenagers, especially males, living out their faith. This fall, my boys and I attended our second United Conference, this time at their request instead of my gentle insistence. Attending together provided opportunities to have discussions with them about what we heard at the keynote sessions, while also giving them the opportunity to interact with their peers during the teen sessions while deepening my faith in the adult sessions.

It was a wonderful surprise for me to see them always choosing seats at the front centre, getting right into the action of it all, especially when they really didn't know many other youth. Many powerful events touched me during the weekend, but three stand out in my mind. First, a line-up of youth seeking to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation. Second, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. The church

was filled with youth and adults surrendering themselves in the presence of Jesus. You could feel the Holy Spirit everywhere. Third, the prayer ministry at the end. Watching as my boys each went up to receive personal prayer from young men was so touching. We are so wonderfully blessed to have many young men involved in the ministry as role models for our teenage youth.

I am so thankful for this amazing conference. The keynote speaker was inspirational, the music was lively and energetic, the prayer was plentiful and the fellowship for youth and adults was refreshing. I pray that God continues to bless this wonderful event for many years to come.

"WE ARE SO WONDERFULLY BLESSED TO HAVE SO MANY YOUNG MEN INVOLVED IN THE MINISTRY, AS ROLE MODELS FOR OUR TEENAGE YOUTH."

YOUTH RETREATS

Testimony by Ruxandra Ristea

*Youth Ministry Coordinator, St. Anne's Parish, Saskatoon;
Volunteer FacetoFace Youth Retreat Team Member*

As a full time Coordinator of Youth Ministry, I don't get many opportunities to take a step back from planning and organizing events and really enter into direct ministry with young people. Volunteering at a FacetoFace Retreat allowed me to do this and reminded me of my passion for serving youth.

As I journeyed with my small group of girls throughout the weekend, I witnessed profound changes in them. The Lord used me as an instrument and allowed me to connect with each of them and serve as an example of what it means to live out our faith. What surprised me most was how much my small group impacted me. During prayer ministry, I prayed with them and experienced the Holy Spirit in a very powerful way. During Eucharistic Adoration, the girls all stood and said a prayer as a sign of committing their lives to Christ. Their boldness humbled and challenged me. Ultimately, they showed me how important it is to build genuine relationships with young people.

I came back to my parish convinced that God can do incredible things—we just need to trust and have great expectations.

"I CAME BACK TO MY PARISH CONVINCED THAT GOD CAN DO INCREDIBLE THINGS"

Youth listen intently as Ruxandra reads the story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15: 11-32) before Reconciliation



IGNITE SK AUG 7 - 12, 2017
ST. THERESE, BRUNO

IGNITE BC AUG 20 - 25, 2017
CAMP MORICE, BY PRINCE GEORGE

SIX DAY CATHOLIC CAMP FOR YOUTH (GR 9-12) DESIRING TO GROW IN HOLINESS
WEEK IS FILLED WITH FRIENDS, SACRAMENTS, AWESOME GAMES, SOLID CATHOLIC TEACHING, SPORTS, FOOD, AND MORE

COME ENCOUNTER CHRIST WWW.F2F.CA/IGNITE

YOUTH RETREAT TESTIMONIES

UNITY RETREAT TESTIMONIES



**Testimony by
Jayden Flanagan**
Unity Youth Retreat Participant

Being a teenager is hard. Temptations are everywhere and I am not always surrounded by friends that share my faith. This makes school and hanging out tough.

I think that is why the FacetoFace Retereat was so awesome. It was great to hang out with people who also have a faith.

My faith definitely went up at the retreat. There were lots of opportunities to just sit and be with God. I could feel Him all around me, as if He was hugging me, especially in Eucharistic Adoration. It gave me goose bumps.

Now I know God really helps me stay on track. He keeps me focused on who I am and who He wants me to be. He helps me set an example to other kids.



**Testimony by
Fr. Gregory Roth**
Pastor, St. Peter's Parish, Unity, SK

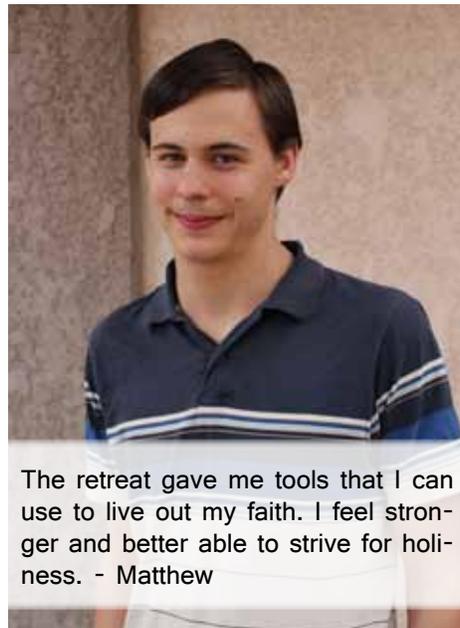
As a priest, it is always a great joy to be able to offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation at FacetoFace events. The Youth Retreat hosted in Unity was no exception as I was blessed yet again.

To see and hear people whose hearts have been touched by Jesus Christ is a great privilege and inspiration to me. Many times I have witnessed the lives of young people who have been changed by an encounter with Christ and an experience of his mercy.

PROVOST RETREAT TESTIMONIES



My highlight of the weekend was Adoration, Reconciliation, and prayer ministry. All three really blessed me and allowed me to grow in the faith.
- Alyssa



The retreat gave me tools that I can use to live out my faith. I feel stronger and better able to strive for holiness.
- Matthew



The highlight of my weekend was being able to go to Reconciliation and prayer ministry. These helped open me up and led to a very peaceful time in Adoration.
- Summer

THE SKINNY ON SCHOOL RETREATS

BY DANIEL RICHARD & RYAN MITCHELL
FacetoFace School Retreat Co-leaders



In this article, we will attempt to briefly answer questions we are asked daily by staff and parents. We hope you enjoy learning more about the FacetoFace School Retreats and their co-leaders.

SCHOOL RETREATS:

What are FacetoFace School Retreats?
High energy, faith filled, impacting retreats that enrich Catholic Schools and connect education with Jesus Christ.

Who leads FacetoFace School Retreats?
Daniel and Ryan. There are four full time employees with FacetoFace, and we are the two who have the privilege of making up the School Retreat Team.

What qualifies the FacetoFace School Retreat leaders to facilitate events?
FacetoFace strives to hire individuals who already have training and experience (like a year with NET, Pure Wit-

ness, etc.), who are willing to continue undergoing practical training, who have God given talents to do a great job, and who desire to make ministry a career. We consider ourselves professionals. As a staff we are also working towards certificates in Catholic Studies.

How do just two people do a retreat for often hundreds of youth at once?
We also have God and technology on our team. It actually surprises us sometimes how much two people can do.

Where do FacetoFace School Retreats happen?
Most often in a school gym. In terms of location, we firmly believe God has given us the mission territory of Western Canada and we stick to it. We travel from Vancouver Island to Winnipeg.

Is every retreat the same?
No. Each year we have a new theme with different games, music, content,

and more. Naturally, as the age group and maturity changes, so does the content.

How many FacetoFace School Retreats do you do in a year?
We strive for 80/school year. The past couple years we surpassed our goal.

What grades are the retreats intended for?
All grades. We do entire Elementary and Junior High Schools (often K-6, K-8, 7-9) in one day. Or we can focus on one grade for an entire day (Sr High).

What kind of equipment do you travel with?
To help ensure excellence in our retreats we travel with our own sound system, lights, and projector.

How do I book a retreat?
Go online (f2f.ca/schoolretreats) to see what dates are available and then contact Ryan (schoolretreats@f2f.ca)

SCHOOL RETREAT LEADERS:

What's the most rewarding and most challenging part of being on the road?

Daniel: Rewarding: Seeing youth doing personal prayer. It changes my heart a little every time.

Challenging: Being away from home. Living in Saskatoon is life-giving, so being away is really tough.

Ryan: Rewarding: The change in students from the energy and enthusiasm at the start of the day and the depth and joy towards the end.

Challenging: Working hard to keep up with the administrative responsibility that comes along with every booking.

Who is your favourite Saint?

St. Francis of Assisi. "Make me a channel of your peace."

St. Maximilian Kolbe. Solid witness of laying down your life for another!

What do you think is the most important part of making what you do a sustainable lifestyle?

Consistent daily personal prayer. It's impossible without it. Equally, discipline in getting to sleep on time. Early mornings pile up after a while.

Finding fun on the road beyond the School Retreats themselves.

Favorite NHL team?

The Winnipeg Jets. There's considerable Montreal Canadians loyalty in my family.

Growing up smack dab in the middle of the two, I get the rare opportunity of offering my support to both the Edmonton Oilers and the Calgary Flames.

Car or truck?

Car. Mine is a 2015 Nissan Micra named Kif.

Can I cheat? Crossover. They are so adventure ready! Seats 5 and sneak a couple Kayak's on the roof? Yes, please!



Where did you grow up?

Daniel: Winnipeg, Manitoba! Watching the Winnipeg Jets is a joy. Most of the time.

Ryan: I grew up in Innisfail, AB.

How do you spend your free time?

Daniel: I love playing acoustic guitar, working with wood, playing hockey, and definitely cooking!

Ryan: Snowboarding, basketball, fishing, video games, shinny, Netflix and napping!

How do you take your Coffee?

Pressed, with a drop of cream. There's nothing you could really do to coffee to help me enjoy drinking it...

Favorite Season?

Summer!

Winter. I dream of a world where I can snowboard all year long!

How did you get into this kind of work?

The prospect of doing retreat ministry was brought to my attention through friends and family that had served with NET Ministries of Canada. After serving a year on a travelling team in Canada, I realized how much life and joy comes to me from this work.

I grew up going to a Catholic summer camp. That sparked a desire in my heart to share the gospel in such a tangible and fun way.

What instruments do you play?

Acoustic Guitar, Drums, Piano, Vocals, (and some) Bass, Ukulele, Electric Guitar, Banjo.

Acoustic/Electric/Bass Guitar, Drums, Ukulele, Mandolin, Piano, Vocals, Trumpet and French Horn.

iPhone or Android?

Android.

Absolutely, Android.

What was your favorite subject in school?

Probably Physics or Film Theory. Gee, they're really not similar are they?

Easily Phys. Ed, followed by lunch.

Favorite board game?

Pandemic! (Check it out.)

Settlers of Catan or Cribbage!

LOCATIONS OF THE 81 SCHOOL RETREATS IN THE 2016/2017 SCHOOL YEAR



GOING DEEPER

BY MATT NELSON

In "Going Deeper," Matt provides articles to strengthen our faith and help us provide a reason for our hope (1 Peter 3:15).

Read more articles by Matt Nelson at www.reasonablecatholic.com

Book Matt to teach or speak on Apologetics or Evangelization in your parish today:
matt.nelson@f2f.ca



CAN GOD
CREATE
A ROCK
SO HEAVY
THAT NOT
EVEN HE
CAN LIFT
IT?

Many skeptics today claim that God is dead, buried by modern science and philosophy. But which God—or gods—have they buried?

In his published article *Jesus and the Identity Of God*, the eminent New Testament scholar and former Oxford chaplain, N.T. Wright, remembers how he would often meet with the new undergraduates to introduce himself and get acquainted. Naturally as chaplain he would inquire about their personal religious beliefs. Many were atheists. Wright recalls, "I developed a stock response: 'Oh, that's interesting; which god is it you don't believe in?' Then after they stumbled out a few phrases in response the chaplain would reply, 'Well, I'm not surprised you don't believe in that god. I don't believe in that god either.'"

"What most people mean by 'god' in late-modern western culture", writes Wright, "simply is not the mainstream Christian meaning." This seems to be true; and not just among college undergraduates but even among some of the most prominent (and influential) atheists of today.

It should be an obvious fact that if a skeptic really wants to defeat the notion of the Christian God, he has to address the right God, not some caricature of the real thing (not all atheists do this). The skeptic can take down as many distortions of the divine as he pleases; but if that's all he's taking out, then—whether he likes it or not—the God we are really defending will remain firmly standing without wound or blemish.

Christians as a matter of orthodoxy have discovered God to be, in the words of St. Thomas Aquinas, *ipsum esse* (the sheer act of 'to be' itself). Thus it is more precise to say, not that he exists, but that he is existence. But due to the finite limitations of human reason we are, first of all, much more capable of speaking about what God is not (God is not limited by time, for example). Secondly, we are able to speak about God through analogy. Thus we might say analogically that God is all-knowing, all-loving, all-present, and all-powerful (although these words, as analogies, fall short in describing God as he really is).

So God is infinitely perfect. He is unlimited in being, unbound by time, space, and matter. He is all-knowing, all-powerful, and all-loving.

Skeptics assume a much lesser description of God, however. As a result of their misconception, faulty arguments abound. Consider the following argument: "Since God is all-powerful could He create a rock that is too heavy for even Himself to lift?" They are trying, of course, to suggest that the idea of an all-powerful God is contradictory.

But God by definition is all-powerful which means he can do all things that are logically possible. It is not logically coherent for a God who is unlimited in power to be limited in what he can lift, just as it is not logically coherent for a circle to be four-sided. Such a proposition is meaningless. So the idea of God creating a rock too heavy for himself to lift is meaningless rhetoric meant to catch Christians philosophically off guard. It comes down to this: God cannot do logically contradictory things because God is truth (Jn 14:6) and truth – in order to be truth – can never contradict itself.

WITNESSING LONGEVITY OF GOD'S WORK

Testimony by Christine Kleiboer; *FacetoFace Monthly Donor*

At 16 years old I had my heart broken by a teenage crush. I thought this guy was just right for me but when things didn't work out my heart was in pieces. That autumn I was invited to a FacetoFace retreat and I truly believe that I had to have my heart broken on a human level to really understand my need for God's perfect love. As the speaker gave his talk in front of the Eucharist, it became clearer to me that the only person who could fill the hole that I was feeling was Jesus.



There was an invitation for anyone who had never made an adult commitment to the Lord to stand and give their lives to Him. Although I was raised in a faithful Catholic home, I had been going through the motions in a lot of ways. My heart was pounding with excitement and filled with peace all at the same time. I stood and we were led through a prayer where I acknowledged my sins and my need for Jesus as my Saviour. I invited Jesus to be the King of my heart and accepted His free gift of salvation. No matter how faithful my upbringing was, I recognize that I needed to really choose Jesus, and so I did.

I am so thankful for God's work through FacetoFace and I believe the longevity of the ministry can be seen in my life. I went on to serve as a full time missionary with Catholic Christian Outreach before I began my current vocation as Catholic wife and now mother. My husband and I choose to support FacetoFace because of the amazing things we know God is doing and the lives we hope are reached in the years to come.

FACE TO FACE
ministries

Helping people encounter Christ
and embrace the call to be saints.

Yes, I would like to make a donation of:

\$1000 \$500 \$250 \$100

\$50 \$25 Other: _____

One-time

Monthly Starting on the 1st or 16th
of _____

Method of Payment

All cheques can be made payable to FacetoFace Ministries

Cheque Void Cheque (monthly donations)

Visa MasterCard

Name on Card: _____

Card # _____

Expiry Date ____/____/____

I authorize FacetoFace Ministries to make monthly or one-time gifts from my chequing account or credit card for the amount indicated above, until I inform them of any changes.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

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Name: _____

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Thank you for your support!

Please mail completed form to:
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Saskatoon, SK S7V 0A9

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FACETOFACE ministries

Contact Us

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Dan Brule: 306.371.2275 or dan.brule@f2f.ca

www.f2f.ca @F2FMinistries /FacetoFaceMinistries



Dan and Ryan leading worship at the United Conference, Nov 2016

Mark Your Calendars

FACETOFACE YOUTH RETREAT

June 3 & 4: Holy Family Cathedral, Saskatoon, SK

FAMILY LIFE CONFERENCE

June 30 - July 3: Lac St. Anne, AB

FACETOFACE BUS TRIP

July 18-26: Leaving Saskatoon, SK, traveling to Kenosha, WI.

FACETOFACE IGNITE SASKATCHEWAN

August 7-12: St. Therese, Bruno, SK

FACETOFACE IGNITE BRITISH COLUMBIA

August 20-25: Camp Morice, near Prince George, BC

FAMILY CAMP - SESSIONS BY FACETOFACE

September 8-10: Kelowna, BC

TRIUMPH OF THE CROSS - LED BY FACETOFACE

September 16: St. Paul, AB

FACETOFACE UNITED CONFERENCE

November 18 & 19: Holy Family Cathedral, Saskatoon, SK

DIOCESAN YOUTH RETREAT - LEAD BY FACETOFACE

Feb 3-5: Diocese of Victoria, Quadra Island, BC

Return undeliverable mail to:
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Saskatoon, SK S7V 0A9