

**Dr. Scott Rancourt's
Monthly Message**

As we seek the Lord's strength and guidance everyday as we minister to our future leaders, I think about all the staff who ministered into my life at The Fold. They all impacted the trajectory of my life, but one stands out, Lee Nadeau (pictured below). Lee entered my life in 1987 through a mentoring program in Lowell, Massachusetts. Lowell was a rough place then and I was a truant teen bouncing in and out of foster homes and it was just a matter of time before I would become trapped in a life of drugs and crime. Lee was the first person to share Christ with me, but his words alone did not permeate the thick shell I had developed over years of abuse and neglect.

Lee had learned of The Fold when Fred Tomaselli played his Marimba and spoke at Lee's church. After that encounter Lee began to ask me if I would be interested in moving to Lyndonville, Vermont and become a resident. My immediate response was, "absolutely not." However, one day Lee asked me if I would be willing to attend if he also went as a volunteer counselor. Lee gave up his job at Hanscom Airforce Base and put his personal life and career on hold so that I could be saved. John Maxwell stated, "Leadership is influence, nothing more, nothing less." Lee's service and sacrifice gained influence with me and through that influence he was able to **lead** me to Christ.

I was once asked what the legacy of The Fold would be with the transition away from a residential ministry, and here is my answer: **Jeremiah, Noah, Mandee, Patrick, Michael, Zephyr, Ingrid, Jacob, Isaac, Petra, Zoe, Sam, Nissi, Caleb, Landon, Aaron, Chelsey, and all future Elevation students.** As we serve these students, influence is gained and we can lead them on a path into His Kingdom. **You make this legacy possible!**

The service and sacrifice demonstrated to me in service of Christ left an indelible mark on my life and none of that would have been possible without the support of donors like you. God was not taken by surprise when the season of residential ministry ended, and the thought of Him entrusting me to continue this legacy of service to "The least of these" is so humbling it brings a tear to my eye. Your financial support started my journey of countering Adverse Childhood Events (ACEs) and together we carry the torch as we continue to bring hope and healing in Christ to those who need us the most.

Scott Rancourt, Ed.D.
Executive Director

P.S. The next page will profile Mandee's journey as she turns to the Lord and overcomes her ACEs.



Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)	Counter-ACEs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical abuse Verbal abuse Sexual abuse Physical neglect Emotional neglect An alcoholic parent A family member in jail The disappearance of a parent through divorce, death or abandonment A family member diagnosed with mental illness A mother who's a victim of domestic violence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liking School Teachers who teach redemptively Finding commonality and sense of belonging among peers Identifying oneself in God's redeeming love Having a godly mentor who you feel safe with Beliefs that provide consolation in Christ Feeling genuinely supported by a school community

Back: Chris Matakanski, Dave Crawford, **Lee Nadeau**, Frankie Fox, Gary Len, Shawn Lavoie, Enric Podrojsky

Front: **Scott Rancourt**, Clay Phillips

Picture was taken at the original boy's home in 1988.

A BREATH OF HOPE

THE LORD WILL RESCUE HIS SERVANTS.

~Psalm 34:22



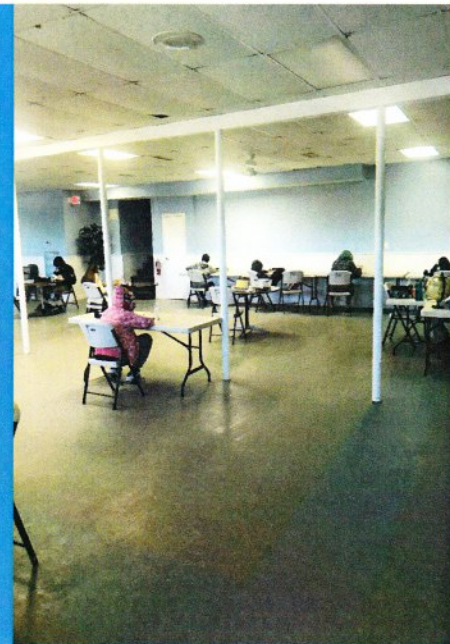
HELPING MANDEE UNDERSTAND THAT HER IDENTITY IS NOT FOUND IN THE CLOTHES YOU WEAR, THE COLOR OF YOUR HAIR, OR THE FRIENDS YOU MEET ON-LINE, BUT IN CHRIST ALONE

Mandee at numerous points in her life experienced a high number of ACEs. Between being in foster care and experiencing neglect due to addiction within in the home, Mandee spent her most formative years in an environment of chaos and instability. She found it exceedingly difficult to trust adults and retreated to the perceived safety and comfort of social media and on-line friendships. "In school I have always been consumed with anxiety and fear of judgement and rejection, but at Elevation I feel safe." Throughout this school year, Mandee's attendance has steadily improved, and we have had the pleasure of seeing her increasingly interact with her fellow scholars. Our safe, stable, and nurturing environment is truly healing, and she is experiencing a breath of hope in Christ.



VINTAGE PHOTO

Fred Tomaselli practicing his Marimba with his grandson. I have spoken with several donors who recall Fred coming to their church and playing while speaking of all the Lord was doing in the lives of those attending The Fold.



Capital Campaign

Cornerstone Community Church generously donates the use of their lower level to Elevation Christian Academy. To rent a space of this size would cost well over \$3,000 a month in Chittenden County. While the space is functional, it is not a warm environment conducive to a culture of academic excellence. We are raising \$35,000 to renovate the space and make much needed improvements in instructional furniture (including dividers so students can wear masks less often), technology, and lighting before the start of next school year. This is a mission-critical priority; otherwise, our vision cannot be realized.

Please help us as we reach more teens for Christ by offering them Godly counsel, along with a high-quality education, with your contribution. You may donate online at elevationchristianacademy.org or by sending a check in the enclosed envelope. Please call (802) 777-3398 and I would love to share with you all the Lord is doing at Elevation Christian Academy.