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Yes Another Koffee Shop to open

Nonprofit cafe to raise funds for Redding church's outreach

By David Benda, Record Searchlight
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The secret is out about YAKS.

Yes Another Koffee Shop is an all-volunteer, nonprofit cafe that will be operated by the Vineyard City Church in Redding. Proceeds from the sale of coffee and confections will go toward the church's community outreach programs.

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YAKS is expected to open next month at 3276 Bechelli Lane.

Members of the nondenominational Christian church have offered clues about their fund-raising venture via signs that ask the question: "What The Heck is YAKS."

"I was thinking what in the heck could I get to be the buzz around town," Vineyard church member Kerri Fagan said of the moniker.

The signs have been strategically placed around Shasta County over the past two months.

Church member Janine Jones quit her part-time job as a waitress to manage the coffee shop.

"I know a lot of people think it's crazy, but somebody has got to be out there making a difference," Jones said of her career move.

Vineyard Church members raised about \$50,000 so they could open YAKS, which will be next to the Squad Room in the former Enterprise Pharmacy building. The church has about 200 members.

"We turned off our cable. We stopped getting coffee. We are not eating out. We all saved money," Fagan said.

Fagan has organized two of the church's previous give-back-to-the-community events.

The most popular is Vineyard's gasoline giveaway. The 2-year-old benefit has pumped more than \$2,000 of free gas into motorists' tanks. It has been staged both years at Jindra's 76 on East Cypress Avenue in Redding.

The church also has given Easter baskets to children.

Fagan and Jones hope the money generated from coffee sales at YAKS will allow Vineyard to grow its outreach program.

"One of things we are talking about doing is going out to Shasta College and bringing students bag lunches and paying for books for students who are pressed for money," Jones said.

Church members will run a daily coffee delivery service before they open YAKS.

Jones and Fagan envision YAKS as a community gathering place. Eventually, they plan to stage live music there.

"We just don't want it to be another place where Christians hang out like a club. We want it to be a place the community can call their own," Jones said.



Angela R. Goodman /
Record Searchlight

GETTING READY: Kerri Fagan, head of public relations for YAKS, fields a call while work continues on the new coffee cafe on Bechelli Lane. YAKS is an acronym for Yes Another Koffee Shop. All proceeds from the business will go toward Vineyard Church's community outreach program.

For more information
Individuals interested in finding more out about YAKS, including how to volunteer, can call Kerri Fagan at 223-9999.

About 30 people have signed up to work as volunteers at YAKS, Jones said. But the number doesn't include the people who are refurbishing the Bechelli Lane building.

"I would say well over 50 people have had their hand in YAKS in some fashion," Jones said.

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