

1928 - 2018

Wayside Cross Ministries



Transforming Lives • Restoring Families • Renewing Communities

History is His Story



As the old saying goes, “History is His story working through people; it’s not just a series of dates and events.” Since 1928, Wayside Cross Ministries (WCM) has remained faithful to ‘proclaim Christ and Him crucified,’ and to the gospel of God.

As a Bible-based and Christ-centered ministry, WCM has been intentional in being transformative and growth oriented. Even after almost nine decades, we have preserved the core without any doctrinal compromise.

All of WCM’s divisions of compassion for empowerment of the afflicted are possible

only because of your steadfast prayers and generosity. You are a caring friend of all our residents and clients and we are truly grateful for your total engagement for the transformation of lives.

As you read through this booklet, we hope and pray that you will be rewarded with the intangible fulfillment of your commitment to the success of WCM. Let us continue to give ourselves to serve our covenant keeping God! (Psalm 105:8-10).

In His bond,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name and title.

James Lukose
Executive Director, Wayside Cross Ministries

WCM's Story for God's Glory

Transforming lives: from our founding to our future

As we begin a new chapter in our new building, reaching out to the powerless, lost and afflicted each day, we are more committed than ever to fulfilling Paul's exhortation in Galatians 6:9 – *Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.* We will pursue each hurting, broken and wounded individual who crosses our path with the boundless love of Christ, the unchanging truth of God's Word, and the transforming power of the gospel. The lost, the lonely and *the least of these* matter immeasurably to the God who created them and sent His Son to die so that they – and we – may live. Because they mean so much to our Lord, they matter deeply to WCM.

Our story: the early years

In 1928, Billy Sunday began a series of evangelistic meetings in Aurora. These meetings demonstrated the need for a rescue mission in Aurora. America was on the cusp of entering one of the most difficult periods of its history, the Great Depression, when a group of men shared Christ's vision for hurting, needy people in the city of Aurora. With a growing number of transient men coming to Aurora looking for jobs, shelter and hope, pastors



and church lay leaders recognized the Lord's mandate to feed the hungry, cloth the naked, shelter the sojourner, and visit the imprisoned. Representing more than a dozen local churches, these leaders began meeting to create a plan for reaching these destitute men with the gospel message and transforming them into devoted followers of Christ, filled with a new purpose and hope to live for.

After several months of meetings, prayer and planning, a group of pastors and lay representatives from the Aurora Ministerial Alliance committed itself to the practical expression of God's love. These leaders formed a board of directors, created a constitution, and nominated and elected a slate of officers, including our first president, Axel F. Erickson. They also chose a name for the mission based on a suggestion by Mrs. Charles Wieand, wife of the mission's first superintendent. Mrs. Wieand composed a ballad titled "The Little Mission Down by the Riverside." The song became the early rallying cry for the staff, board, residents and friends of Wayside Cross Rescue Mission, which was officially founded on June 10, 1928.



Initially, the doors of WCM were opened at 41 E. New York Street to provide spiritual and material help to the rising number of transient men in downtown Aurora. But its vision for the community slowly



expanded to meet the mounting needs in Aurora and the surrounding communities. Compassion for the imprisoned resulted in a volunteer corps of workers who were enlisted to provide worship services and Bible studies at the Kane County Jail. Weekday children's clubs were also formed along with a Sunday school for poor and neglected youth. Soon after, WCM began housing homeless women and children in the mission's chapel.

These early years were characterized by prayer, relentless devotion and an unshakable faith in Christ. Vision became reality as countless numbers of single mothers, drug and alcohol addicts,

inmates, inner-city youth, and homeless men, women and children found hope; lives were transformed, and God was glorified.

Today, the original vision continues to unfold. In partnership with the local churches and through God's wisdom, provision and power, WCM has developed from one ministry into six distinct, vibrant, Bible-based, Christ-centered divisions focused on transforming the lives of men, women, youth and children in the greater Chicago area. Yet our mission remains the same: to honor God by loving and serving the afflicted and powerless through sharing the gospel of forgiveness and hope in Jesus Christ and by empowering them to be disciples of Christ.

Our Story Written by Godly Leadership

Leading WCM's founding, exponential growth, and impact in our communities have been godly men who have guided our organization and left a powerful imprint on our ministry. Their leadership has enabled WCM to transform innumerable lives over the years. We are indebted to their dedication, love for the Lord, and compassion for the hurting.

- **Charles H. Wieand** built Wayside on solid footing during his nine-year tenure as superintendent from 1928 to 1937.

- **The Rev. Alton J. Crouse** continued Wayside's development as a young organization from 1937 to 1941.

- **Lyman E. Davis** oversaw some of Wayside's most significant steps forward as superintendent from 1941 to 1954.



Charles H. Wieand
Superintendent
1928-1937



Rev. Alton J. Crouse
Superintendent
1937-1941



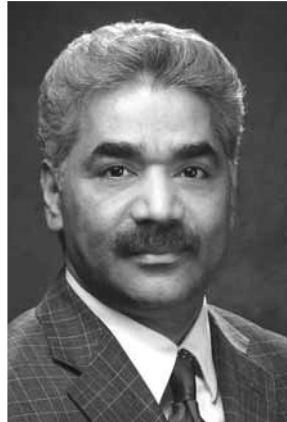
Lyman E. Davis
Superintendent
1941-1954



Rev. Paul M. Johannaber
Superintendent
1954-1984



Rev. Wayne W. Greenawalt
Executive Director
1984-2010



James M. Lukose
Executive Director
2011-Present

- **The Rev. Paul M. Johannaber** was a stalwart leader for our ministry during a period of robust change from 1954 to 1984.

- **The Rev. Wayne W. Greenawalt** undertook many ambitious facility acquisitions and building rehabilitation projects during his 26 years as Executive Director. He helped Wayside impact untold numbers of needy and hurting individuals and families in his storied tenure as Executive Director from 1984 to 2010.

- Since accepting the Executive Director mantle in 2011, **James Lukose** has faithfully continued WCM's expansion into six distinct divisions transforming the lives of men, women, youth and children in the greater Chicago area, including overseeing the fundraising, planning and construction of our new ministry building.

As a Bible-based, Christ-centered organization, while celebrating our new building and an even brighter future, we enthusiastically look forward to serving Christ together for many more years to come.

History is His Story

God has done incredible works throughout WCM's 87-plus years of ministry. In many ways, His most redemptive work has unfolded in more recent times. From expanding WCM's mission to extending our reach to wider audiences, the Lord continues to use Wayside to transform more lives than ever through the love, grace, and saving power of Jesus Christ.

1928 – Wayside Cross Rescue Mission at 41 E. New York Street opened its doors with **Charles H. Wieand** as superintendent.



1929 – First Annual Banquet at the First Evangelical Church.

1934 – Wayside Cross Rescue Mission was incorporated in the State of Illinois as a not-for-profit corporation.

1935 – The Good Samaritan Club was organized. Twenty-five to fifty members met each Friday afternoon to make quilts, rugs, pillows, pot holders, mend clothes or help out where needed.



1937 – Charles Wieand dies of a heart attack and Alton Crouse takes over as superintendent.

1939 – First Women's Auxiliary meeting held.

1941 – Lyman Davis named as superintendent.

1945 – Mortgage on 41 E. New York Street paid off.

1946 – Warehouse at 223 E. New York Street nearly destroyed by an electrical fire.

1954 – Paul Johannaber named superintendent.

1956 – Building at 215 E. New York Street purchased.



1958 – 41 E. New York Street building sold to the City of Aurora for a parking lot.



1962 – 215 E. New York Street dedicated as the new home of Wayside Cross.

1966 – “Offer to Purchase” agreement for 52 acres of land along Fox River north of St. Charles was approved by Board.

1976 – **Riverwoods Christian Center** ministry was organized.

1978 – WCM commemorated 50 years of ministry with a celebration at the Paramount Art Centre in Aurora. **Axel Erickson**, WCM’s first board president, led the anniversary prayer.



1979 – A building was purchased at the corner of Lincoln Avenue and New York Street to serve as WCM’s resale store.



1980 – **Resale Store** opened for business with Phase 1 remodeling complete.

1980 – The inner passage way between the old and new buildings was completed.





1981 – WCM welcomed **Pierre Ferwerda** onto the staff as assistant superintendent. One of his primary responsibilities over the next 17 years was to manage a long-term discipleship program for male residents.

1982 – The remodeling of the 4th floor dormitory has been completed.



1983 – **Katherine Johannaber** left WCM after 20 years as a family division supervisor.

1984 – **Paul Johannaber** retired after 30 years as WCM superintendent. Paul's legacy included developing **Riverwoods Christian Center**, establishing a women's quarters within the mission, expanding WCM to its 215 E. New York Street location and adding two resale stores and a Christian bookstore.

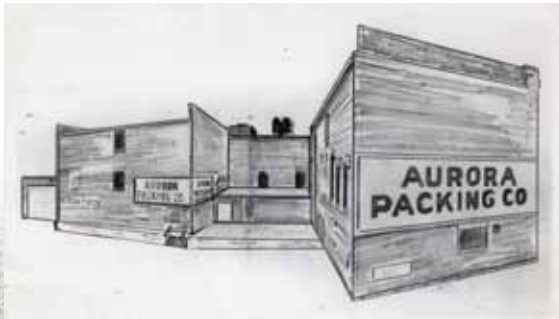


1984 – Wayside appointed **Wayne Greenawalt** as its new superintendent. Wayne expanded WCM to include six distinct divisions, adjusted the residential programs to focus on in-depth, long-term discipleship, as well as undertaking facility acquisitions and building rehabilitation projects.

1985 – **Sue Johnson** becomes manager of the bookstore, replacing **Doris Senter**.

1986 – WCM initiated a summer day camp program that is a forerunner to the **Urban Youth Ministry**. The two-week camp was a cooperative effort with the Salvation Army at Garfield Park.

1986 – Wayside purchased a 30,000-square-foot facility at 211 E. New York Street, then largely renovated the building with volunteers and men participating in WCM programs as a warehouse for donations and sorting.



1988 – Wayside held its **60th anniversary** celebration at the First United Methodist Church in Aurora.



1988 – **Ralph Brooker**, a former WCM resident who served as the men's supervisor as well as in other staff capacities, retired after 35 years. A prayer room was dedicated in his honor.

1988 – **Dan Ward** joined WCM as head of the Community Enrichment Ministry, forerunner to the Hope Outreach Ministry. Dan restructured the men's work program to develop life skills and solid work habits. He also oversaw expansion and remodeling of the resale shop.





1988 – R.E.A.D. (Reinforcing Education And Development) brings together tutors and students to improve academic skills in Urban Youth Ministry's after school program.

1990 – Lynda McCann was named Director of the Women's Division. Under her leadership, the Women's Ministry expanded to provide housing and services to 60 women and children.



1990 – Rev. James Ebersole became the first full-time chaplain at Kane County Adult Corrections. He served in that role for 12 years.

1992 – WCM dedicated the **Johannaber Ministry Center**, formerly the Aurora Packing Company building, at 211 E. New York



Street in Aurora in honor of Paul and Kay Johannaber. The new 30,000-square-foot facility served as a work area for men in the program, a warehouse for donated items and a center for distribution of clothing and household goods to needy individuals and families.



1992 – Wayside will construct a new chapel on the lower level of the present 215 E. New York Street facility. Months later the newly

renovated **Tom Dunham and Floyd Keck Chapel** was dedicated in memory of the former board members. The Ralph Brooker Prayer Room was dedicated in honor of Ralph, a former resident and staff member, on December 10, 1992.

1993 – The Wayside Center began on Dundee Avenue as a satellite ministry in Elgin. The center offered intervention services and an evangelistic outreach to homeless men, women and children in and around Elgin. Dale Jaacks served as the founding director.



1993 – The Hope Chest Resale Store grand opening took place in the remodeled and expanded store at 34 N. Lincoln Avenue in Aurora.

The word “Hope” was chosen to represent the hope the store provides for program men who work in the store and low-income shoppers who appreciate the bargain prices.

1993 – The stone piers supporting the railroad spur in the west side of the parking lot came down to increase parking space for the ministry.



Wayside Cross Rescue Mission

1994 – The Board of Directors voted to change the mission’s name from Wayside Cross Rescue Mission to **Wayside Cross Ministries** to reflect our

organizational restructuring. We featured six distinct divisions: Master’s Touch, Lifespring, New Life Corrections, Urban Youth Ministry, Hope Outreach, and Wayside Center.

1994 – As part of the restructuring, **Wayne Greenawalt** received the title of Executive Director.



1994 – **Jim Abuhl** was promoted to Director of Hope Outreach. The Hope Chest store was remodeled and expanded, and resident staff were given leadership roles in the ministry.

1995 – Former Board President **Ray Gonzalez** was the first recipient of the **Charles Wieand Distinguished Service Award** at a meeting of the Heritage Society.



1996 – The development of the future home of **Wayside's Lifespring Center** was

helped along when the first Chicago project by HomeAid Chicago, the philanthropic arm of the Home Builders Association of Greater Chicago's Chrysalis Foundation, was launched.

1998 – **Pierre Ferverda** retires as the Director of Master's Touch Men's Ministry program after 17 years of service.



1998 – Wayside Cross Ministries celebrates **70 years of ministry**.



1998 – **James Lukose** joined WCM as Director of Master's Touch Ministry and Wayside Center. In this role, James led expansion of the Elgin ministry and establishment of the Master's Touch Adult Learning Center program.



1998 – WCM dedicated Phase 1 of the Lifespring Center on College Avenue. The 19,000-square-foot facility hosted 20 women and children in the Lifespring Women’s program.

1999 – The first **Friendship Dinner** was held for Elgin and it was a huge success.

1999 – **Homer Easley**, Director of Development retires and **Michon Mohan** becomes the new director. Homer works part time to make the transition go smoothly.



2000 – WCM renovated the former women’s quarters at 215 E. New York Street in Aurora to provide single occupancy residences for men’s program graduates and employees.

2001 – **The Adult Learning Center** was dedicated to help educate those who struggled to turn their lives around using computer-based educational methods.



2001 – The board discussed the need for a website.

2002 – **Chaplain Mickey Hicks** was named Director of New Life Corrections Ministry. He oversaw expansion of the ministry’s scope to include youth offenders incarcerated in Kane, DuPage and McHenry counties.

2002 – To meet the growing demands of the ministry, **James Lukose** was promoted to Associate Executive Director of WCM.



2002 – Jim Robinette was named Director of the Wayside Center Ministry in Elgin, and Randy Tomassi joined the staff as director of Master's Touch Ministry.



2002 – The Wayside House, an extension of Wayside Center in Elgin, opened to offer a residence to men seeking to make long-term, positive

lifestyle changes in a supportive, Christ-centered environment.

2003 – The Board of Directors created the Paul and Kay Johannaber Endowment Fund in tribute to the Johannabers' leadership and contributions to WCM.

2003 – The Lifespring Center Phase 2 building project was completed. It quickly provided expanded housing and services for up to 60 women and children.

2003 – WCM celebrated our 75th anniversary at Ginger Creek Community Church. Dr. Joseph Stowell III served as keynote speaker.



2004 – Wayside is proud to partner with Aunt Martha's Aurora Community Health Center to provide healthcare for its residents.

2004 – First Annual **Master's Touch Friendship Dinner** was held.

2004 – Renovation of the main lobby and installation of new commercial stove and ovens in kitchen is completed.



2005 – WCM opened an **eBay** store to sell donated items on the Internet. Funds raised by eBay sales are used to support our services to hurting men, women, children and youth.

2005 – **The Horizon House** opens in Batavia. Two entrepreneurs purchased the house and set up a transitional house.

2005 – **New Life Corrections** and **Fox Valley Adult Transitional Center (FVATC)** began

collaboration to develop a ministry for women residing at the center.



2005 – Lifespring hosted its First Annual Benefit Auction. Founded by **Mary Lou Molter**, the event has become Lifespring's largest fundraiser, thanks to the efforts of a 15-member committee known as the **Lifespring Partners** along with volunteers, businesses, churches and individuals who provided financial support and items for auction.

2006 – **Master's Touch** hosted its first Bowl-a-thon to raise money for its various life-changing programs. Master's Touch is a Bible-based, Christ-centered resolution to the crisis of the broken life. It is facilitated by one-on-one discipleship and mentoring within the context of local church partners.

2006 – Thanks to a generous donor, the **Elgin Discipleship House** has changed locations. After 3 years of renting, we are now able to own our own house and will operate at a substantial savings.



2007 – WCM hosted the first annual winter walk, **Walk-A-Mile in My Shoes**, to benefit Urban Youth Ministry, which provides activities for youth who live in at-risk areas, as well as Lifespring Ministry, our long-term transitional living program aiding women and women with children who have lost their housing due to addiction, abuse or financial reasons.



2007 – As Elgin Wayside Center celebrates 15 years of ministry, **Phil Wood** becomes the new Director.

2007 – The “**Jobs for Life**” program was initiated in the fall. Program graduates are taught proper workplace attitudes and attire, conflict resolution, communication, and interview skills.



2007 – **Elgin Wayside Center** moves into a larger facility. In 1992, Dale Jaacks shared his vision with Wayne Greenawalt, of starting a ministry for the homeless in Elgin, and the doors opened in January 1993.



2007 – The Board of Directors approved the adoption of **WCM’s Mission Statement, Vision and Core Values**.

2007 – **Tom Beatty** became Director of New Life Corrections.



2008 – In June 2008, Wayside Cross Ministries celebrated 80 years of ministry. As we look back over these last 80 years we express gratitude to God and our faithful volunteers and supporters.



2008 – Presently under way is the most challenging capital building project that the ministry has ever undertaken. The Board of Directors voted unanimously to move forward with the building of a new 47,000 foot facility to house the Master's Touch program and administrative offices, as well as youth and corrections services.

2008 – Local churches hold **Compassion Drives**. Wayside connects with local churches

who promote the drive. We take a truck to the church on Sunday and members fill the truck with donations to benefit the ministry.

2009 – **Phil Wood** began a collaborative effort with Lamplighter Bible Church of Roselle to minister to people in crisis in DuPage County.

2011 – **Wayne Greenawalt** retired after 27 years as Superintendent and then Executive Director of WCM. **James Lukose** was promoted from Associate Executive Director to Executive Director.



2011 – The “**Currents**” newsletter was renamed “**WCM Impact.**”

2011 – New Life Corrections Ministry arranged for prison inmates to come to **Master’s Touch** after their release and helped 270 men graduate from our **Dads’ Classes** for biblical parenting.



2012 – WCM set up five permanent donation bins at area churches. Donations of clothing and shoes can be dropped off at any time and are picked up and sold at our resale store to raise funds for our ministries.

2012 – Urban Youth Ministries serves area at-risk youth during the year through summer camp, baseball and after-school tutoring, as well as a toy drive. UYM collects donated toys and distributes them



to needy families so that their children receive treasured gifts for Christmas.

2012 – Master’s Touch Transitional Services program helps residents address their most pressing issues including employment searches, independent living arrangements, restoring driving privileges, resolving IRS violations, seeking GED or college instruction or training certification, addressing child support arrearage, and other concerns.

2013 – Hundreds of friends and supporters of WCM gathered in October to celebrate the groundbreaking for the new building at 215 East New York Street in Aurora. The four-story building will house Master’s Touch, counseling areas and a learning center, along with administrative offices for WCM’s ministries.



2013 – The **Dunham Fund** awarded WCM a grant toward the construction of the new facility at 215 East New York Street. The grant was ideally timed to lead us to a successful closing on the New Market Tax Credit that secured the final financial arrangements and enabled the beginning of construction.

2014 – Construction began on our new 47,000-square-foot facility at 215 East New York Street. Overseeing the construction are WCM's Owner's Representatives, Ken Van Kley and Gary Martens, along with the Construction Committee, consisting of a team of skilled, devoted and tireless servants with more than 250 years of combined expertise in construction, construction management, planning, and building.



2014 – WCM acquires a new thrift store on the far east side. **Sweet Charity** was started in 2011 by Marie Seidl, who after three years of operating the resale shop contacted WCM about taking over ownership. The store is “staff led” but “volunteer driven”.



2014 – WCM collaborated with **PGM** in Chicago to recycle clothing and shoes.

2015 – As we celebrate the dedication of our new building, we are deeply and humbly grateful to everyone who helped make this new ministry home possible.





2015 – The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new building took place July 24, 2015, and there was standing room only. Three hundred and sixty people attended our open house and toured the building.

2015 – Lynda Dorsch retires after 25 years as the Director of Lifespring Ministry.



2015 – Jody Cantey replaces Lynda, as the Director of Lifespring Ministry Center.

2016 – The Wayside Campus is Complete



2016 – The “Bridge to Life” project is finished and now connects the main building to the chapel. Our men who attend chapel everyday no longer have to walk outside in the bad weather which helps keep the flooring clean.



2016 – The garden area between the buildings was completed, a retaining wall was built, landscaping was done, and a stairway to the Hope Chest Resale Store was built. The paving of our parking lot finished off 2016.



2016 – As you enter the newly restored chapel you feel a sense of calm, refuge and safety, as in a sanctuary, promoting an environment for worship.



2016 – Hope Chest Resale Store gets a much needed renovation. From new paint on the walls to new carpet on the floors, new shelving and clothing racks, and some much needed repairs, the transformation was remarkable. It couldn't have happened without the hard work, long days and nights, and labor of love from our partner churches, volunteers, and the Wayside residents who are part of the maintenance team.



2017 – Wayside introduces Hope On Wheels, H.O.W., a car wash and detailing program, designed to help WCM's residents in the Master's Touch program learn work ethic and job-readiness skills.



2017 – Lifespring was given a complete makeover, with new paint and carpeting throughout, more efficient window replacements, a new roof, fence, and security system.



2018 – Wayside now has a 'fleet' of *new* trucks. Thanks to the generosity of Chapelstreet Church of Geneva and the Dunham Fund, Wayside's fleet is now a total of four, allowing us to expand our area of service.



2018 – Wayside Cross Ministries purchases a 21,280 square foot building that the Elgin Wayside Center operates out of, along with four other tenants. The property includes a PADS facility, convenient for our clients who need a place to sleep.

DIVISIONS OF WCM

- MASTER'S TOUCH MINISTRY
- LIFESPING MINISTRY
- NEW LIFE CORRECTIONS MINISTRY
- WAYSIDE CENTER ELGIN
- URBAN YOUTH MINISTRY
- HOPE OUTREACH MINISTRY

MISSION

To honor God by loving and serving the afflicted and powerless through sharing the Gospel of forgiveness and hope in Jesus Christ by empowering them to be disciples of Christ.

VISION

To be a Christ-centered ministry pursuing excellence through transformed lives for God's glory.

CORE VALUES

CHRIST-LIKENESS
COMPASSION
COMMITMENT
COLLABORATION
COMMUNITY

“Proclaim Christ and Him crucified.”

1 Corinthians 2:2 (NIV)



This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: “Go down to the potter’s house, and there I will give you my message.” So I went down to the potter’s house, and I saw him working at the wheel. But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him. Jeremiah 18:1-4 (NIV)



Wayside Cross Ministries
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