

## God Led Me Back to Lifespring

Alice's life was tumbling out of control. Her heroin use had been a regular part of her life for over 20 years.

Alice was born to German parents, placed for adoption and, soon after, adopted by American parents, but it wasn't a happy childhood. Her mother and father were both alcoholics, and her mother was physically and mentally abusive. Alice ran away from home at age 15 and never returned.

Alice had been searching for something to fill a void in her life that had haunted her for many years. She tried finding it in relationships with men she thought loved her, but only found deceit. In the late 70s, she experimented with drugs, and that became the fix she needed to fill the void.

Her habit was so significant, she began stealing to support it. In spite of her many trips to prison, Alice returned to the lifestyle she was so familiar with: she feared change.

Alice's first visit to Lifespring was upon her parole out of prison in December of 2015. She left after spending a month there and went back to what she knew best: getting high. This lasted for two years but, once again, the law caught up to her. After eight months in jail she spent 90 days in an intense treatment program and it



was in that program that Lifespring came up again; Alice couldn't get Lifespring out of her mind.

It was there that Alice returned in September of 2017. She is the first to say that God led her back to Lifespring. God has done many miracles in her life, but the one that stands out the most to her is that she is still alive. She has been sober for two years and credits her sobriety to the relationship she now has with

Jesus Christ, thanks to the Christ-centered, Bible-based teachings Lifespring offers, a wonderful mentor, the staff, and many volunteers who taught her boundaries and how to live a life free of the chains that previously held her captive, all thanks to the redeeming power of Jesus Christ.

The one thing Alice now holds in her heart is the one thing her father wanted for her, and that was to be a good Christian. It is her desire to give back, in particular, to help those who are runaways, especially young girls, and to share the love of Christ and the life she now lives.

Alice is graduating from Lifespring soon. She is building a relationship with her son, she works fulltime outside of Lifespring and works all day on Saturdays at Lifespring as a resident assistant. She is finally at peace, in her words: "happy for the first time in my life."

## Wayside Cross Ministries Celebrates 90 Years

On June 10th, 1928, Wayside Cross Mission opened its doors to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the sojourner, and visit the imprisoned.

This year, on June 8th, Wayside Cross Ministries (WCM), celebrated its 90th year of God's faithfulness in sustaining this ministry, during its annual Heritage Society dinner. George Verwer, founder of Operation Mobilisation (OM), a Christian mission organization, was the guest speaker.



*George Verwer*

and faithful service to others by sharing time, talents and resources." Weiland was WCM's first Superintendent who set a very high standard of Christian service and commitment to Christ.

A special thank you to George Verwer for sharing his time and a challenging message about supporting missions. We are also grateful for our Heritage Society members, for their kindness, generosity, and commitment to those in need.

James Lukose, WCM's Executive Director, presented both Wayne Greenawalt and Ken Van Kley with the Charles Weiland Distinguished Service Award, "for the unselfish

For more information on how to get involved with Wayside Cross Ministries or to make a donation, go to [www.waysidecross.org/donate-now](http://www.waysidecross.org/donate-now).



*Wayne Greenawalt and James Lukose*



*James Lukose and Ken Van Kley*

**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.**

## Equipped for Every Good Work...Meet Luis Cruz

There is joy in watching a child become a teenager and then a young adult, but the joy runs even deeper when that child learns how to give back. Luis is an example of the impact UYM has on a child's life.

Luis Cruz started in the after-school program sponsored by Urban Youth Ministry. He heard all about Jesus through the sharing of the gospel, which prepared his heart for what was ahead in his future. Luis is now a seasonal employee at UYM, serving at summer and winter camps and, in the fall, in the after school programs. Luis has grown into a responsible young adult who demonstrated that responsibility when he chose to strengthen his swimming skills by participating in swimming lessons, in an effort



to keep the children he would be watching safe in the water, during their recent field trip to Splash Country.

Paul writes in 2 Timothy 3:16-17, that *"All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."* As a young adult, Luis is now receiving the benefit of hearing the gospel through his time as a child in

the UYM programs, and he is now giving back, by sowing into the lives of the young children currently participating in the programs through UYM.

UYM is happy to have Luis on staff and grateful for his faithfulness!

## Sweet Charity / The Hope Chest

WCM's two resale shops are bursting with treasures: household goods, furniture, clothing, shoes, books, and so much more. We'd like to say a special thank you to those who contribute through in-kind gifts for the sustenance of our two well-run stores. The revenue we generate between the two stores contributes to over 24% of WCM's overall budget, which makes the impact of your in-kind donations significant.

We are grateful to those who give, those who shop, and to our invaluable volunteers who help keep each of our stores in tip-top shape.

For more information, visit [www.waysidecross.org](http://www.waysidecross.org) and click on "thrift store."





## Lifespring 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Benefit Event

### CELEBRATING STORIES

JEREMIAH 29:11

#### Save the Date

Thursday, Sept. 27, 2018  
Doors open at 5:30 PM

#### Danada House

3s501 Naperville Rd.  
Wheaton, Illinois 60189

Host a table and invite your friends!

For additional information and to RSVP:  
email [jcantey@waysidecross.org](mailto:jcantey@waysidecross.org)

**Please RSVP by  
September 20, 2018**

*Tickets are \$75 per person*



#### KEYNOTE SPEAKER - LINA ABUJAMRA

Lina is the founder of Living With Power Ministries. She is a pediatric emergency room doctor by profession and is passionate about empowering people with biblical truth. A popular Bible teacher, blogger, and conference speaker, she is the author of three books. She reaches listeners through weekly podcasts and a daily Morning Minutes devotional, and is engaged in providing medical care for Syrian refugees in the Middle East. You can hear Lina on Moody Radio hosting Today's Single Christian and find her boosting your faith all over social media.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS TODAY

This month ends WCM's fiscal year and, *thanks to you*, our donors, we have finished well. As we begin our new fiscal year on 9/1/18, we look forward to your continued support, generosity, and prayers.

#### SERVICES WE OFFER:

- **EXTERIOR QUICK WASH - \$10**  
Includes hand wash, tire shine, interior vacuum, and exterior windows.
- **EXTERIOR WASH & WAX - \$20**  
Includes hand wash, tire shine, spray wax, interior vacuum, interior/exterior windows & tire pressure check.

#### ▪ INTERIOR ONLY - \$40

Includes complete interior detailing, interior windows, vacuum, shampoo carpet and upholstery, vinyl & leather conditioner.

#### ▪ FULL SERVICE DETAIL - \$75

Includes hand wash, hand wax, wipe down engine compartment, check fluids, tire pressure check, complete interior detailing, vacuum, shampoo carpet, vinyl & leather conditioning.

-- Heavy duty cleaning add \$15



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