

**"Sowing the seeds for tomorrow"**  
Matthew 13:3-8

**2018 FALL**



# Urban Youth Ministry

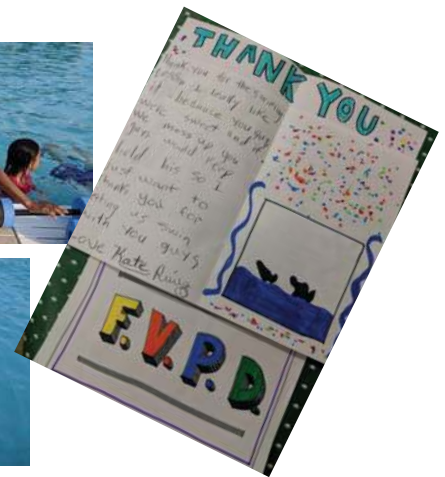
**AN UPDATE FOR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS OF URBAN YOUTH MINISTRY**

**Prayer is what we do...  
Urban Youth Ministry kids are committed to living a life that Glows for Jesus. Another summer completed and our kids are stronger than ever knowing Jesus gives them hope in their futures!**



## **Aurora Mayor Richard Irvin reads to UYM kids during academic time!**

Mayor Irvin was UYM's guest of honor on the second day of summer camp. He talked with the youth about his own testimony and shared with them that he and his brother were raised in Aurora by a single mom with very little money. He worked hard in school, stayed out of trouble and pursued his dreams, proving his point that "any child can do anything" if they believe in themselves.



## **Fox Valley Park District provides UYM kids with a free week of swimming lessons.**

Research shows that if a child does not learn to swim by third grade, chances are, he or she never will. For this reason, the **Fox Valley Park District** hosted a Learn to Swim Program for UYM kids to develop swimming skills, improve water safety and awareness, and build physical fitness. A big thank you to the **F.V.P.D.**, and to Rachel Ossyra, Director of Development for the Fox Valley Park Foundation.

## **Officer Petschke read to the younger kids and spent time with the older kids answering questions and building relationships. He and Officer Leadbetter even**

**supplied donuts for everyone at camp!**



**Doctor Rose and Nurse Cecily, both from Rush Copley, taught the kids how to make healthy lifestyle choices and answered any questions they had about becoming a doctor or a nurse.**

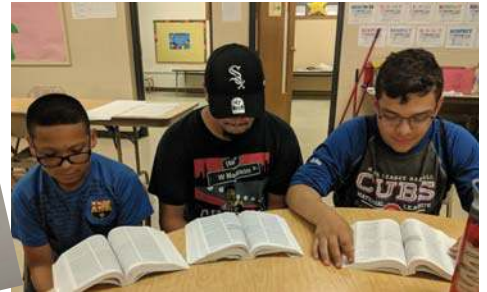
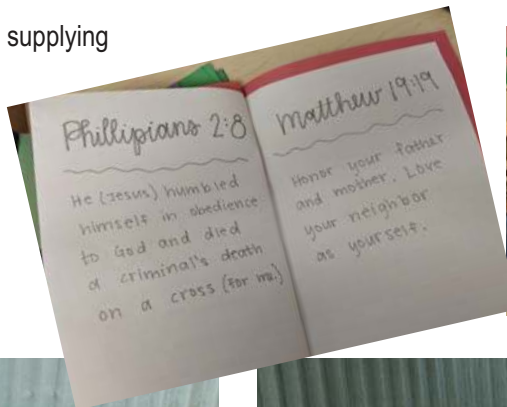
**real stories...real hope**



## **Bible time teaches the importance of God's word, prayer and sharing the Gospel.**

Thank you, **First Presbyterian Church**, for supplying 20 copies of "The Jesus Storybook Bible," to help our younger kids understand God's word in pictures.

Each child made a booklet for their parents, in Spanish when needed, that shared the Gospel and proclaimed their desire to honor their parents.



**Volunteering, learning healthy eating and cooking habits, and studying God's word when pursuing relationships, provided a great summer for our middle and high school kids.**



**"God is real," our first grader, Arianna, said after witnessing an answer to prayer at camp. UYM kids learned to use the acronym P.R.A.Y. (Praise, Repent, Ask, Yield) at camp, and lives are being changed because of the sovereignty of God!**





**"Glow for Jesus" was the camp theme this summer and the UYM kids wore their t-shirts to every field trip. This field trip was at the Aurora Santori Public Library.**



**Celebrating Jesus' resurrection with Easter in July by burying and finding friends. There is so much JOY at UYM Summer Camp!!**



**Sixth graders run the UYM store while learning work skills and how to handle money.**

Summer camp kids earn UYM dollars for attendance and good behavior. Each week they get to spend their dollars on things like toys, clothing and candy. They do, however, have to save one dollar to help them learn the value of money.

**Every summer, youth groups from all over volunteer a week of their time to teach UYM kids about Jesus. This group is from Woodbury Lutheran Church in Minnesota.**



**This summer we officially outgrew one bus!!!**

**A camp favorite this year was "Camper of the Day".**

Three campers would receive this award each day and would hear from a staff member about why they were chosen; special camp water bottles were given as the award.





**The Fox Valley Park District has helped the Aurora Neighborhood Baseball League in so many ways this season. They provided and maintained both of the fields we use, Martin Luther King and Copley II, for practices and games. They also provided information on field conditions and security issues at these fields. Many thanks to FVPD Executive Director, Jim Pilmer, and his staff, especially Josh Barry and Kara Reid, for all their time and effort in making the 2018 ANBL season so successful.**



We had a great 2018 ANBL season with 10 teams, two more than last year. One hundred fifty kids and 10 coaches filled our two baseball fields every week in June and July. We had a great Opening Day on June 2nd, All Star Game on July 7th and Championship Game on August 4th. All three of these events had a partner sponsor that provided hot dog lunches for over 200 children and parents. In the Championship Game, the Indians held on to beat the Dodgers 8-7. With a lot of hard work and practice, Coach Michalek led the Indians, a new team to the ANBL this year, to win the championship. Well done, Coach and team! The Dodgers faced a lot of challenges during the season after losing their coach, but the team pulled together and, under their new Coach Coyer, played a great game, losing by just one point, taking home 2nd place. Well done, Dodgers!



**We fielded four T-Ball teams (60 children) every Saturday morning in June and July. These 6-8 year olds were learning and growing all season.**



**Thanks to all our sponsors who made it possible for 210 children to each receive an entire uniform free of charge.**