

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH KINGDOM KID'S CLUB AND UYM JOIN FORCES DURING AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM TO SHARE THE GOSPEL AND OFFER MORE PROGRAM OPTIONS

This past school year we had the honor of joining forces with the **Kingdom Kid's Club at First Presbyterian Church**! It is a joy to partner with such a loving group of people. Brenda Bustamante, the Director of Kingdom Kid's Club, jumped right in with incredible generosity and support, bringing treats for our kids and setting up a roller skating day!



"I praise God for allowing us to partner with Wayside Cross Ministries for the last few months. It was a joy to see how my niños (what I call my kids) and I were welcomed with open arms by Robin and all the volunteers. My niños enjoyed listening and learning from the word of God. I know this is the beginning of a relationship filled with the gospel. God bless each one of you!"

**- Brenda Bustamante, Kingdom Kid's Club/First Pres Summer Camp Director**

*I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*

**Philippians 1:3-6 NIV**



We would like to thank **Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers** for their incredible generosity in donating 150 free meals for our UYM kids! Our kids have had a hard year academically, and there was no better reward for all their hard work than Raising Cane's kids meals! In their words, it was some of the best chicken they had ever had!



Thank you, **Fox Valley Park District Foundation, Development Strategist Rachel Ossyra, and the Amazon Fulfillment Center** for donating 20 brand new baseball bats for our Aurora Neighborhood Baseball League, as well as 2 Chromebooks to use during summer and fall Academics! We are so blessed to be able to collaborate with such a supportive community!



**SPRING 2022**



*Look inside to see how you have helped us*

**GIVE HOPE**

*Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14*



THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ATTENDED OUR “AN EVENING OF HOPE” FUNDRAISER

We had the honor of hosting our 5th annual “An Evening of Hope” fundraising banquet on April 21st, 2022. We are so grateful to all who joined us, provided entertainment, prepared food, and most of all for the generosity of those who gave monetarily and covered the evening in prayer. **WE ARE SO EXCITED TO SAY THAT IT WAS A HUGE SUCCESS AS WE MET ALL OF OUR GOALS. WE GIVE ALL THE GLORY TO GOD!**

The banquet may have passed, but **it is never too late for you to give hope to our UYM kids!** Our Aurora Neighborhood Baseball League has started and our summer camp is quickly approaching; every dollar we receive furthers our ability to reach our kids with the love of Jesus. Our 2022 needs are great, but we know that the Lord will provide for us as He always does!

**YOU** can make a difference in a child’s life by visiting [www.waysidecross.org/kids/](http://www.waysidecross.org/kids/) and becoming a part of our **Urban Youth Ministry family!** Your support means another year of safe spaces, academic support, physical activity, and the love of Jesus for each of our UYM kids. **Jim Pilmer, Executive Director of Fox Valley Park District**, shared with us at the banquet that every child deserves and wants to feel safe, significant, and belonging!



AURORA NEIGHBORHOOD BASEBALL LEAGUE IS GROWING IN 2022  
BECAUSE OF YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND OUR AURORA  
NEIGHBORHOOD BASEBALL LEAGUE SPONSORS



We have over 200 kids participating in our league this summer, allowing us to split the age brackets into three levels instead of the usual two. In doing this, we can better meet the different abilities that come with the age and maturity of our players. We will have a 5 and 6 year-old T-ball division, a 7, 8 and 9 year-old Minor League division, and a 10, 11 and 12 year-old Major League division. **All divisions are free to play** and co-ed. Each player is given a jersey, a baseball hat, and an individual and team picture taken by **MVP Sports Photos**. Minor and Major division players also receive pants and socks to complete their uniforms!

We would like to thank the **Aurora Islanders** for helping us kick off our season with a free baseball clinic at Martin Luther King Jr. Park on April 30th, 2022. Over 60 kids showed up on a chilly Spring day to get special training to prepare for the upcoming season. We also want to thank our **ANBL Commissioner, Mike Michalek**, for all the work he does before and during the season. He is a huge blessing to everyone who participates in the ANBL!

**It’s never too late for YOU to get involved in our current season!** Please contact Abby Gonzalez at [agonzalez@waysidecross.org](mailto:agonzalez@waysidecross.org) or 630.723.3421 if you would like more information!



PHOTOS BY ALLISON KLEIN PHOTOGRAPHY

UYM KIDS AND THE AURORA POLICE DEPARTMENT  
FORM A POSITIVE (AND FUN) RELATIONSHIP

Our kids look forward to **Aurora Police Department** officers spending time playing basketball or dodgeball with them at **First Presbyterian Church Harkness Center** during our after-school programs. We are so grateful to the APD and their interest in our UYM programs and kids. The kids especially like when the officers buy them an ice cream treat at the end of their time together!

TWO OF OUR OWN UYM GRADUATES COME BACK TO SHARE THEIR  
NEW CAREERS AS MONTGOMERY FIRE AND EMT EMPLOYEES  
THANKING UYM PROGRAMS FOR MUCH OF THEIR SUCCESS

**Enrique Aguirre and Edgar Roman** both grew up participating in UYM programs, including the ANBL. They both recently shared their new careers in public service by teaching our middle and high school students about what it takes to become a fireman and EMT. They also shared how grateful they were for the influence UYM programs had on them and the work training they received while on UYM staff.



YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN A CHILD’S FUTURE BY SHARING YOUR CAREER

One of our goals at UYM is to provide as many opportunities as we can that our kids may not otherwise get. One of the ways we do this is by bringing in people with interesting careers to talk to our kids. We are always looking for new individuals that are interested in setting a good example for our kids!

**If you would like to share your job with our kids or even invite them to visit your workplace, please contact Robin Sterkel at [rsterkel@waysidecross.org](mailto:rsterkel@waysidecross.org) or 630.723.3418 for more information!** We have availability during both our summer camp and our after-school program, so please reach out and we will find a time that works for you!



Coffman Truck Sales GMC



Waterleaf Women’s Center



Jon Pilkington, Middle School Principal

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE  
FOR OUR 5B’S DRIVE-  
THRU FUNDRAISER ON  
SEPTEMBER 1ST AT  
WESTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!  
YOU CAN HELP SUPPORT  
UYM BY BUYING A  
DELICIOUS CHICKEN AND  
PORK CHOP DINNER FOR  
YOU AND YOUR FAMILY!

