



**Robin Sterkel** has been the UYM Manager for 8 years. She makes our programs feel like home for our kids, ensuring each child knows that they are safe and loved by both our staff and Jesus! Known by our kids as simply "Miss Robin," her kind heart and loving nature draws children of all walks of life to our programs!



## Meet our 2022-2023 UYM Staff



**Emily Wood** has been working with UYM for 12 years! She primarily works with our middle and high school students and loves taking them on field trips like the library or the water park! Emily can't wait to see what her 13th After-School Program has in store for her!

**Sam Raeside** has been working with UYM for 4 years as a Program Assistant, after volunteering every summer since she was 12. She teaches Bible for the UYM Summer Camp and After-School Program, and she is so excited to continue taking our kids through the Old Testament!



**Abby Gonzalez** has been with UYM for 5 years. Her gentle heart makes her the perfect person to encourage our kids in their academics and help them with their homework! Abby is also bilingual, meaning UYM can operate without language barriers!



**Hanna Wentzlaff** has been involved with UYM's After-School Program since 2019 and has been volunteering at summer camp ever since she was in 7th grade. This past summer was her first time on staff working with the middle and high school students. She is so excited to be back with the kids, and she's thrilled for her new position as a UYM Program Assistant!



**Will Victory** just wrapped up his first summer on UYM staff. He loves to be active with our kids, especially through basketball. No one can get the team together quite the way he can! Will can't wait to spend the school year mentoring and hanging out with our kids!

**Amy Whybrew** joined our staff just this past summer, but she has volunteered with us for 9 years! She is our new academics teacher and enjoys putting together fun math and reading lessons to keep our kids on track with their schooling!



Please also join us in welcoming our brand-new staff members, **Brenda Bustamante**, **Phoebe Caterer**, and **Ethan Wentzlaff**! They have been volunteering with UYM and decided to join our team for our 2022 After-School Program! We would also like to welcome our returning volunteer **Janet Spence**, as well as new volunteers **Jack Vasen** and **Jim Chesney**! Thank you for all your hard work!

*"And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men." Col. 3:23*

# YOU WORK HARD, WE WORK HARD



**YOUR GENEROSITY GIVES UYM KIDS THE MEANS THEY  
NEED TO WORK HARD IN ALL THAT THEY DO.  
LOOK INSIDE TO SEE THE IMPACT YOU ARE MAKING!**



## HARD WORK PRODUCES RESPECT

Every child that comes through the doors of UYM quickly learns the value of hard work. Our staff is determined to work with each child so that they can succeed and grow both in life and in their faith, but that hard work has to come from both sides. **When Pierre joined UYM for the very first time this past summer, hard work was quite the learning curve.**

Pierre is an outspoken and energetic kid, the perfect combination to have fun at UYM! Unfortunately, Pierre didn't start off on the right foot. Right off the bat Pierre was pushing boundaries. He was disrespectful to staff and disobedient to our only rule: Respect JOY (Jesus, Others and Yourself). Our staff was willing to put in the work to help Pierre be the boy God made him to be, but Pierre wasn't giving anything in return. This resulted in many dollars taken away, trips to Miss Robin's office, and even missed field trips. One day while Miss Robin was having a talk with Pierre, she told him that she knew he had it in him to do better. "You've never had a bad kid like me before," he replied.



Our hearts broke for Pierre, a child who truly believed he was "bad." From that moment on, we encouraged Pierre in all that he did. Though we continued to reprimand him when he did wrong, we made sure he knew when he did right. **Something changed in Pierre that day.** He never missed another field trip, became one of our best Bible students, and is pictured here winning our Camper of the Day!

At UYM we believe that no child is beyond redemption. Every child is a child of God, and every child deserves a chance. **When you are willing to put in the hard work and bring Jesus to a child, their lives can be truly transformed by His love!**

## HARD WORK BRINGS BIG REWARDS FOR OUR KIDS

Our middle and high school students had the opportunity to attend a 5-day Bible camp in Cedar Lake, Indiana. In order to attend, the students had to meet various requirements in academics, volunteering, and good behavior. While at Bible camp, they were taught about the Word of God on a daily basis! During one of his messages, Tim Badal, the keynote speaker, asked a rhetorical question to the group. Alonso, a high school student, excitedly raised his hand to answer the question. Tim took a leap of faith by calling on him, and Alonso ended up answering the question perfectly, which was so encouraging to see! The students were also able to participate in water activities, perform skits with their teams, play slip-n-slide kickball, volleyball, and messy games. The whole trip was filled with so many good memories for our students. A special thanks to the **Family and Youth Bible Camp** board for the gift of these camp scholarships. Our kids enjoyed every second of camp!



## HARD WORK FROM MORE PLAYERS, MORE COACHES, MORE UMPIRES, AND MORE VOLUNTEERS PRODUCED AN AMAZING 2022 BASEBALL SEASON

**Aurora Neighborhood Baseball League** experienced a successful season this summer, rebounding from Covid and adding an additional age division to its roster of players! The new season made way for the following age divisions: T-Ball for 5 and 6 year-olds, Minors for 7 to 9 year-olds, and Majors for 10 to 12 year-olds. If you've been a part of our league before, you know that is no easy task to put together such a large community league, especially since we rely so heavily on volunteers. While we are so grateful to all of our volunteers who collaborate with the ANBL, there is no one to whom we owe more gratitude than **Mike Michalek**, our ANBL Commissioner. Mike's endless love and drive for our league come from a true care for our community and the children we serve. **The ANBL is so blessed by his constant hard work and support.** Thank you, Commissioner Mike, for all that you have done and will do for the ANBL!



## SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2022 ANBL SPONSORS!

Aurora Sunrise Rotary Club  
Westminster Presbyterian Church  
Yvonne and Rich Fawell  
Steve and Deborah Walsh  
Dick's Mini Donuts  
Easter Seals DuPage and Fox Valley



Your House Academy  
Becky and Craig Nasralla  
Woodman's Food Market  
Fairview Dental  
City of Lights Church  
Mike and Pam Rhoades

**Special recognition to our field provider, Fox Valley Park District!**

## 2022 5B'S BBQ DRIVE-THRU

On September 1st, 2022, UYM joined with **5B's Catering** for a Drive-Thru Fundraiser! We were so blessed by the number of people that came out to support our ministry. Our UYM students had so much fun assembling the meals, running the food to vehicles, and manning our donation bucket. Salvador enjoyed performing a little dance to encourage people to donate. His dance worked like a charm as we were able to get an incredible number of donations! We raised enough money to cover our 2022-23 After-School Program supply expenses! Thank you so much to everyone who came out to support our after-school program, and thank you to 5B's for the delicious meals! You all are making a huge difference in our kids' lives!

