

No payment is ever enough

PSALM 49 ⁸the ransom for a life is costly,
no payment is ever enough—

WAYSIDE CROSS MINISTRIES

STEWARDSHIP REPORT 2024

www.waysidecross.org





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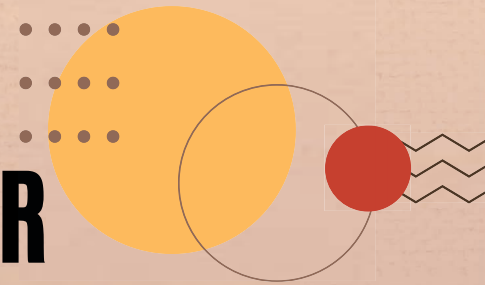
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James Lukose
Executive Director

DIRECTOR'S CORNER



No payment is ever enough...Psalm 49:8

Since our humble beginnings in 1928, Wayside Cross Ministries (WCM) has been committed to transforming lives. We have faithfully proclaimed the gospel of grace to everyone who walks through our doors. Every day, we encounter hundreds of individuals affected by abuse, neglect, addiction, and poverty.

Your loyal support and prayers have become the lifeblood of our ministry. Yet, as Psalm 49 reminds us, "No man can redeem the life of another or give the ransom for him; for life is costly; no payment is ever enough that he should live on forever and not see decay" (Ps 49:7-9). However, through His death, our Lord Jesus Christ offered Himself as the perfect and sufficient sacrifice for our redemption, fully satisfying the demands of God's divine justice.

By God's grace, and your support, we remain steadfast in our mission to empower those in need to become disciples of Christ, sharing the good news of forgiveness in Him alone.

As we cling to God's promises and providence, we are continually amazed by the support of ministry friends like you. Your generosity empowers us to remember the poor and share the message of eternal life. We are truly grateful for your partnership, which has allowed many to experience the hope and transformation found in Christ.

As you read this year's stewardship report, we hope you feel uplifted by the knowledge that your support and prayers have blessed each of our ministry divisions, bringing redemption and transformation to many individuals over the past year.

May God bless you abundantly for your kindness to those in need! Your contributions are making a lasting impact, reminding us all that while no payment is ever enough for eternal life, your love and support are invaluable. We deeply appreciate your generosity and the difference it continues to make in the lives of those we serve.

Thank you for all that you do in Christ's name.

MINISTRY IMPACT

Master's Touch Ministry

- **43** men graduated the Master's Touch program.
- **4** men were hired onto WCM staff.
- **14** men were promoted to Resident Assistant.
- **38** men found full-time jobs.

43
MEN GRADUATED

Lifespring Ministry

- **25** women joined the program.
- **5** women graduated the one-year program.
- **16** children joined the program alongside their mothers.
- **7** women made a profession of faith.
- **20** women who were believers before joining grew in their faith during the program.
- **19** residents made a significant improvement in their life skills.
- **13** residents entered the work force.

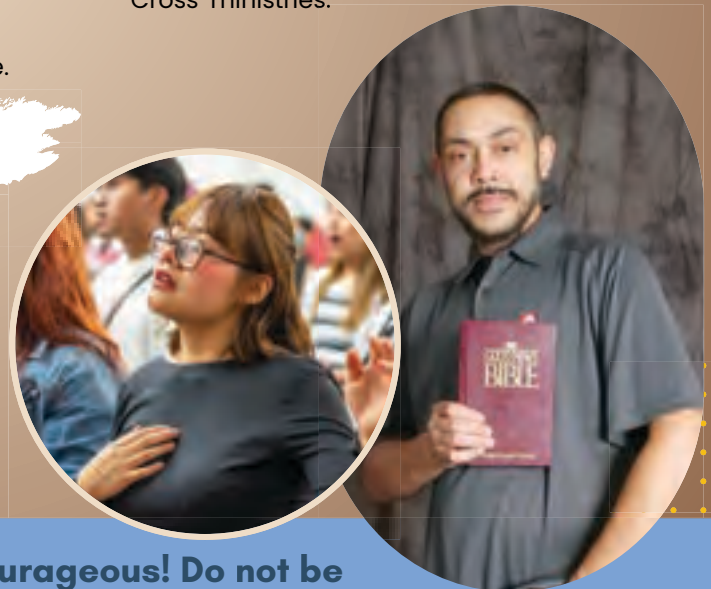
25 WOMEN JOINED THE
LIFESPING PROGRAM

Elgin Wayside Center

- **350** volunteers
- **2,862** volunteer hours performed
- **82** new clients
- **4,478** meals served
- **1,087** loads of laundry
- **557** Bible studies conducted
- **3,380** showers taken

Hope Outreach Ministry

- Provides the men in the program daily, real-life work experience, enhancing or learning new skills in our warehouse, transportation department, maintenance shop, housekeeping department, Hope Chest Resale Store, Sweet Charity Resale Store, and Hope On Wheels.
- Maintained **11** ministry vehicles, traveling an average of 6,000 miles per month.
- Scheduled, transported, sorted, and refurbished over **500,000** donated items including clothing, furniture, household goods, and other miscellaneous objects. These items were sold at the Hope Chest & Sweet Charity Resale stores. They were also distributed to under-resourced men, women, and children in the community or within one of Wayside Cross' ministries.



Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

- Joshua 1:9 (NIV)



**As water reflects the face, so
one's life reflects the heart**
- Proverbs 27:19 (NIV)

- **1,081** bales at over 800 lbs. each of clothing and 1,698 bags of shoes, for a total of 914,571 lbs. were recycled with the majority of those items going to third-world/developing countries.
- Operated **17** donation bins at partner churches, collecting **22,142** bags of donated clothing weighing **487,124 lbs.**
- Proceeds from our resale stores, Hope on Wheels, income from recycled clothing, and scrap metal totaled **\$941,486**, all of which went to fund ministry efforts at WCM.

22,142

BAGS OF DONATED CLOTHING

New Life Corrections Ministry

- Went to Stateville NRC Prison **50** times, with over **5,000** inmates visited, **250** volunteers.
- Handed out **2,400** Bibles in jails and prisons.
- Had over **80** volunteers come to our two prison training sessions.
- Passed out over **13,000** Dads & Freedom From Fear brochures to inmates.
- Passed out **4,000** books and pamphlets to inmates.
- Baptized over **40** inmates.

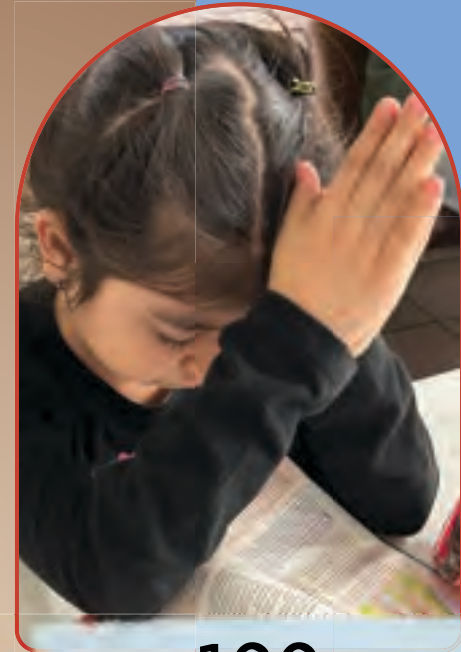
Urban Youth Ministry

- **19** UYM middle- and high-school youth attended a 4-night Bible Camp in Indiana.
- **399** collective volunteer hours were given by UYM summer camp youth.
- **7** teams competed in UYM's Summer Olympics, fostering teamwork, leadership, and friendship across all ages.

- **100+** Bible verses were memorized during UYM's Bible time, helping kids learn God's Word in a fun and meaningful way.
- Over **20** Wigglebots, Pandabots, and racecars were crafted during APS Academy, teaching perseverance and creative problem-solving.
- Dozens of essays, 5 volunteer sessions, 7 Bible lessons, and memorized Bible verses earned middle- and high-school students a coveted spot at this year's Family Youth and Bible Camp.
- **500+** brand new Christmas gifts were donated for the UYM Christmas Merit Store.
- **109** games were played by Aurora Neighborhood Baseball League.
- **11** Aurora Police Department Community Officers played Dodgeball with our UYM youth.
- **45** churches and organizations collaborated with UYM.
- **104** days of free transportation for UYM youth.
- **7** Field trips.
- **317** Bible sessions taught.

5,000

INMATES VISITED



100+

BIBLE VERSES MEMORIZED





MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

Board of Directors

**Executive Committee*

Jeff Ruge

- Secretary*

Remington Fairlamb*

Tom Hartman*

Steve Kreger*

John Long

- Chairman*

Alfred Lee

James Lukose

- Executive Director*

Gary Meyer*

D. Peter Pabon

- Treasurer*

Jim Rabe*

John Ross

Richard Stiles*

Brad Van Horn

- Vice Chairman*

Honorary Board

Members

Ray G. Gonzalez

Darrell L. Jordan

Craig Zimmerman

Administration

James Lukose

- Executive Director

Debbie Butler

- Executive Asst.

Diana Nelson

- Accounts Manager

Sandy Nantz

- Accounts Asst.

Finance Committee

Albert Lee

John Long

James Lukose

Diana Nelson

D. Peter Pabon

Brad Van Horn

- Chair

Sustainability

Committee

Tom Hartman

- Chair

John Long

James Lukose

D. Peter Pabon

Construction Committee

Jim Rabe

- Chair

Tom Hartman

James Lukose

Steve Wise

Development Office Staff

Barbara Cuyler

- Gift Processor

Tom Davidson

- Development Dir.

Don Drake

- Development Man.

Birnie Harper

- Annual Campaign & Bus. Dev. Coord.

Gabriel Weckesser

- IT Coordinator

Elgin Wayside

Center Staff

David Krieger

- Director

Tim Lindquist

- Program Coord.

Jimmy Valadez

- Resident Staff

Elgin Steering Committee

Mary Lou Campus

David Krieger

- Director

Lori Lindquist

Tim Lindquist

Gary Meyer

- Chair

Tim Sonnenberg

Nino Turi

Hope Outreach

Ministry Staff

Clyde Branch

- Maint. Coord.

Larry Canaday

- Driver

Jessie Connor

- Warehouse Asst. Coord.

Michael Douglas

- H.O.W. Coord.

Ed Foltz

- Housekeeping Sup.

Harry Lamon

- Scheduling Coord.

Jason Toy

- Warehouse Coord.

Ron Pieper

- Transitional Services Coord.

Steve Wise

- General Manager

Harold Wright

- Senior Warehouse Manager

Hope Outreach

Steering Committee

Stephen Kreger

- Chair

John Long

Steve Wise

Hope Chest Resale

Store Staff

Joseph Egeland

- Staff Cashier/Team Leader

Joslyn Imthurn

- Staff Cashier/Team Leader

Jennifer Jankovsky

- Visual Merchandiser

Jesse Reeder

- Asst. Manager

Jovita Robles

- Staff Cashier/Team Member

Rose Sommerville

- Manager

Sweet Charity Resale

Shop Staff

Wanda Baker

- Team Member

Cathey Bercaw

- Team Member

Denise Carter

- Staff Cashier

Judy Larson

- Team Member

Peggy Mayo

- Team Member

Emma McGraw

- Team Member

Karen Pieper

- Staff Cashier

Janette Siemienkowicz

- Team Member

Rose Sommerville

- Manager

New Life Corrections

Staff

Steve Madawick

- NLC Senior Chaplain

New Life Corrections

Steering Committee

Ken Bush

Mike Benedeck

Ed McCabe

Mike Mueller

Jeff Ruge

- Chair

Al Tierney

Lifespring Ministry

Staff

Laura Cavender

- Case Manager

Dana Kemp

- Director

Cathie Markham

- Case Manager

Sandra Reynolds

- Shift Supervisor

Jemima Sen

- Third Shift Supervisor

Madelyn Valentin

- Shift Supervisor

Frank Yonke

- Pastoral Counselor

Lifespring Steering Committee

Karen Adams

Cathy Applington

Cheryl Bentham

Deirdre Cooper

Rem Fairlamb

- Chair

Pastor Joe Kovarik

Cathy Kovarik

John Long

Janice Morgan

Heather Russell

Rena Thompson

Judy Zehr

Master's Touch

Ministry Staff

Gideon Bahn

- Chaplain

Aaron Curry

- Kitchen Coord.

Daniel Cuevas

- Kitchen Coord.

Mickey Farlow

- Biblical Counselor

Jeremy Greer

- Resident Coord.

Tyler Jones

- Asst. Director

Master's Touch

Steering Committee

Ray Hinsch

John Hurni

John Konc

Tyler Turduci

Brad Van Horn

- Chair

Bob Wetterman

Urban Youth Ministry

Staff

Samantha Raeside

- Program Asst.

Robin Sterkel

- Program Manager

Hannah Wentzlaff

- Program Asst.

UYM Steering

Committee

Tom Hartman

- Chair

Mike Michalek

Rachel Ossyra

Sam Raeside

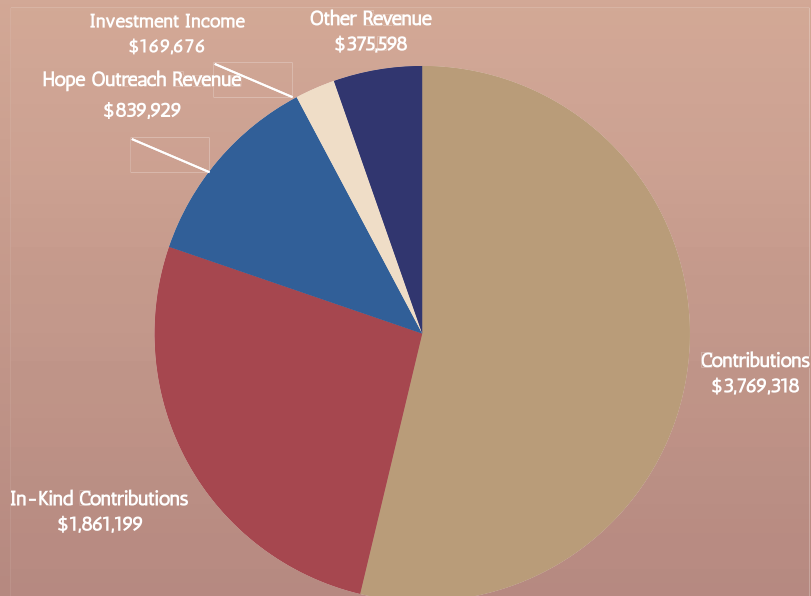
Diane Renner

Robin Renner

Robin Sterkel

MINISTRY SUPPORT

2024 Revenue Sources



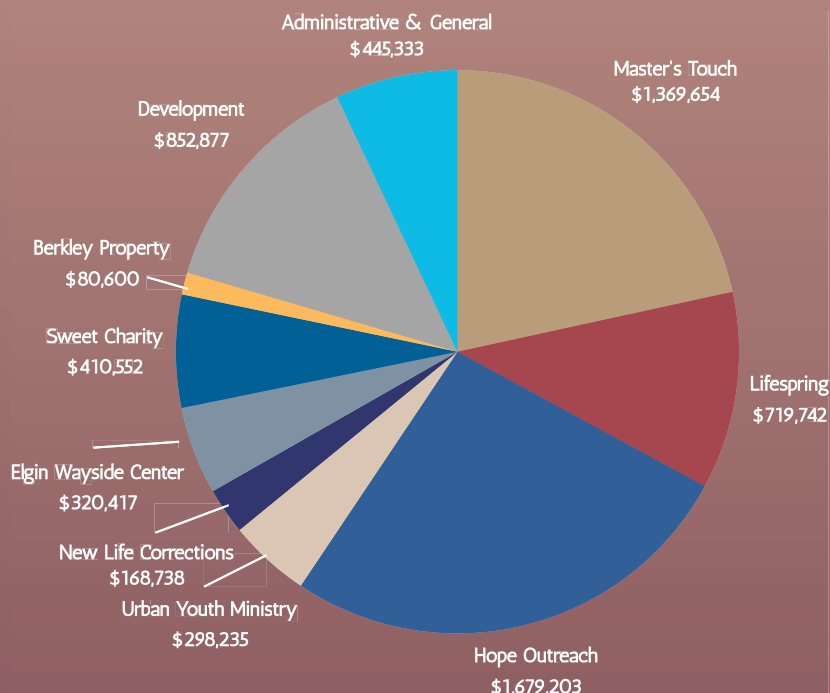
Volunteers Needed

Wayside Cross Ministries is excited to extend an invitation to individuals or a group from a church to join us in a volunteer opportunity in August. As part of our annual campaign, we know that reminder postcards work, and we need more help to send them out.

Last year we sent over 4,400 and your involvement can help us reach 5,000. Your commitment of a little over an hour will contribute to WCM's growth. WCM will provide all necessary materials. Your note plays a crucial role in sustaining and furthering the continued generosity of our supporters.

If you or a group from your church would like to volunteer, please contact Birnie Harper, Annual Campaign Coordinator, at 630.723.3427 or via email at bharper@waysidecross.org.

2024 Program Expenses



Charitable Bequests

A blessing for donors & Wayside Cross Ministries

Over the years, more than 100 people have made a bequest to Wayside Cross Ministries. In a recent survey, many of Wayside's donors said they support us because WCM is a good steward of their money, that giving was an act of faith, and they felt personally called. Your giving can be called an act of worship that helps transform lives.

You will be building a legacy. Leaving a charitable gift in your will creates a legacy that will outlive you. Romans 7 says that when we live and die in faith, "we can produce a harvest of good deeds for God."

One third of the funds are used for operations, and two-thirds of the funds go into reserves for facility repairs and long-term savings, used only at the discretion of our Board of Directors. The funds provide services during times when regular donations drop, helping WCM plan and ensuring we serve for years to come.

RESALE STORE UPDATE

Faithful Stewards

We are blessed to have a team of seventeen selfless individuals who generously give their time and talents to ensure our operations run smoothly. Their unwavering commitment and support are integral to the work we do, and we are deeply thankful for their service.

Recently, we had the privilege of bringing our volunteers together for a special Christmas Tea, a time set aside to honor them and celebrate their efforts. It was a delightful occasion, filled with meaningful moments of connection over delicious finger foods, engaging games, and a thoughtful devotional. The devotional was delivered by Judy Larson, a missionary to Thailand and a valued employee at Sweet Charity. Judy shared an inspiring message, reminding us all that serving is not only an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others, but also an act of faith that may not always show immediate results. She emphasized that, while the impact of our service is sometimes unseen, the grace and power of Jesus' work through our actions in ways that can influence others more profoundly than we may realize.

Judy encouraged our volunteers to continue reading the Bible and to let their lights shine, knowing that even if they don't see the fruits of their labor, God is using their efforts and compassion to make a lasting impact—not just in the stores, but in the lives of those they encounter, for Christ.

Thank you once again to our volunteers for all they do. We are truly blessed by each one of them, and we pray that they continue to experience the joy of serving and the impact they are making in the lives of others.

Rose Sommerville

Hope Chest & Sweet Charity Manager



MASTER'S TOUCH

“

and teaching them to obey
everything I have commanded you.
And surely I am with you always, to
the very end of the age.

—Matthew 28:20 (NIV)

A Year of Transformation and Hope

It is with great joy and gratitude that we share an update on the Master's Touch Program over the past year. By God's provision, we've seen Him work in ways that far exceeded our expectations. From biblical counseling and meals to job training, GED prep, college courses, licenses, and employment, it has been a privilege to witness such growth. Our theme verse for the year, Matthew 28:20, which reminds us that the Lord is always with us as we seek to make disciples, has truly come alive within our program.

One powerful example of this is the story of Shane. Shane came to us after his release from prison with only a limited understanding of Jesus Christ and a life burdened by addiction. He faced difficult challenges, including the threat of losing contact with his son. Throughout his time in the program, Shane experienced the love of Christ in a way he never had before.

Today, Shane confidently declares his faith in the gospel. He understands that his salvation is not by his own efforts but through the finished work of Christ on the cross. His sins are forgiven, and he has embraced his identity as a child of God. Shane now enjoys a restored relationship with his son and, as a resident assistant, serves as a living example of redemption and hope in Christ.

As we look forward to the year ahead, we ask for your prayers. Our theme verse for 2025, Colossians 1:29, reminds us that our efforts are powered by God's strength at work within us. We are deeply grateful for your continued prayers and support as we see God's transformative work in the lives of these men.

Tyler Jones

Asst. Director, Master's Touch

“

To this end I strenuously contend
with all the energy Christ so
powerfully works in me

—Colossians 1:29 (NIV)

”





LIFESPRING MINISTRY

Freedom in Christ

As the year comes to a close, Leslie reflects with deep gratitude on her transformative journey since joining Lifespring's transitional housing program in July 2024. "I am so thankful for the opportunity to be part of Lifespring," she shared. "I've especially been blessed by the program's unwavering commitment to Christian discipleship, which has been a vital part of my healing."

After years of struggling with alcohol addiction, Leslie came to Lifespring seeking a fresh start—a place where she could focus on her recovery and address the root causes of her dependency. "Since joining the program, I've experienced a profound shift in my mindset," Leslie explained. "God has truly freed me from my desire to drink, and I'm finding joy in new, healthier ways of living."

Leslie credits the supportive and compassionate team at Lifespring for guiding her through this transformative process. With the help of her case manager, pastor, and mentor—whom she meets with weekly—Leslie has come to a deeper understanding of her identity in Christ. Additionally, she was blessed with the support of an on-site therapist during her initial months in the program, who helped her confront and process difficult emotions in a healthy, constructive manner.

"Thanks to the incredible support I've received at Lifespring, I am staying focused on what truly matters," Leslie reflected. "I feel completely transformed by God's grace and mercy. I also feel empowered by His love and strength, knowing that with Him, I can face whatever comes next."

Leslie's story is a powerful testimony of redemption and growth—a reminder of the life-changing power of God's grace. Through the support of Lifespring's program and her own commitment to healing, she is not only overcoming past struggles but embracing a new identity in Christ and a hopeful future ahead.

Dana Kemp

Director, Lifespring Ministry Center



ELGIN WAYSIDE CENTER

God's Masterful Use of Evil for Good

For the past thirty years, Elgin Wayside Center has been a source of hope and comfort to many unhoused and underprivileged individuals forced to live and sleep on the streets, in cars, tents, and abandoned buildings. This past year, 2024, the Center has garnered much attention as the city of Elgin grappled with the ever-increasing homeless population and struggled to find a "solution" to the plight of men and women.

In a classic example of God using "evil for good," (Genesis 50:20), when December saw the eruption of two separate fires in "Tent City." Thankfully, no residents or firefighters were harmed, but the incidents drew attention to the problem of homelessness and the lack of available housing. As the city tried to address this challenge, I was asked to participate in a panel discussion aired on a local radio station. The panel featured a number of social agencies and advocates working to address this crisis. While all these organizations seek to provide shelter and other needed resources to the homeless and underprivileged, only Elgin Wayside Center – and our "parent" organization Wayside Cross Ministries – proclaimed hope in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This is our true "calling" – to serve the homeless and underprivileged that they might experience transformed lives through the gospel!

"Reggie" is one of our clients who is continually growing in this transformed, abundant life. Reggie has graced us with his presence for some time and is a "regular" visitor. He is active in a local church and has a strong desire to "eat up" the Word. Recently, he discovered how many of the promises and events of the Old Testament point to Christ and surface in the pages and message of the New Testament. This past year Reggie obtained his driver's license and continues to apply for jobs in the Elgin area. We are excited to welcome him into our new overnight program in 2025, where he will be better equipped to establish himself as a contributing member to his church and community and move from dependency on homeless shelters and programs to the abundant life in Christ (John 10:10; Ephesians 3:20).

The work of the Lord has been clear this past year as we move toward occupying a new facility, instituting a new overnight program, and seeing more of our clients experience "new life." We are grateful for God's grace and blessing upon this ministry. We are also ever mindful of our faithful supporters. These supporters freely give of their "time, talent, and treasure" and in doing so, help this ministry to "provide the poor wanderer with shelter" (Isaiah 58:7). We are trusting the Lord to continue to shower this ministry with blessings in 2025.

Dave Krieger

Director, Elgin Wayside Center



**I have plans to
prosper you.**

Jeremiah 29:11

URBAN YOUTH MINISTRY

Jesus Paid the Ultimate Price, & Through YOU, He is Making a Lasting Impact.

Meet Gabriel, one of many UYM kids whose life has been transformed by your generosity and prayers.

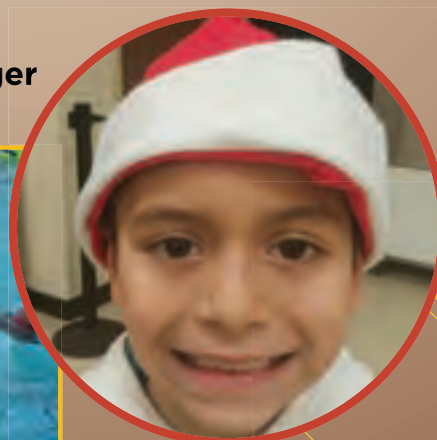
Gabriel joined UYM's after-school program at Brady Elementary in 2014 as a quiet first grader. He was hesitant to receive help with his homework and would often cower in fear. The only person he engaged with emotionally was his classmate, Caesar, a lively boy in the program. Through Caesar, UYM staff built a connection with Gabriel, embodying the spirit of Philippians 2:4: "Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others."

Despite difficult home circumstances, with his parents facing financial struggles, Gabriel began to open up. UYM's collaboration with local organizations brought Gabriel birthday supplies, violin lessons, swimming lessons, and coats for the winter. He also played in UYM's Aurora Neighborhood Baseball League for three years, receiving all these blessings at no cost to his family.

Now a junior at East Aurora High School, Gabriel is still involved with UYM. He's attended two Bible camps, tried indoor skydiving and rock climbing, and receives weekly mentoring. This past summer, he worked as an umpire for UYM's baseball league—giving back to the program that meant so much to him.

Over the past 10 years, Gabriel has received more than 600 meals, 500 Bible lessons, clothing, and personal items, all through UYM programs. These experiences have given him hope for his future, walking with Jesus thanks to your continued support. Gabriel's story is just one of many, and we thank God for His grace and for partners like you who make this possible.

Robin Sterkel
UYM Program Manager



SERVANT LEADERS



Servant Leaders Standing, Left to Right: Steve Madawick, Dave Krieger, Tom Davidson, Dana Kemp, Steve Wise, Tyler Jones. **Seated**: James Lukose



Isaac Soriano
Asst. Director, Urban Youth Ministry

Isaac joined the Urban Youth Ministry team as the Assistant Director in January of 2025. Prior to that, he joyfully served as a dedicated teacher at Downers Grove Christian School, inspiring students with a passion for learning and a heart for Christ. Through his example of grace, wisdom, and encouragement, Isaac made a lasting impact on the school community known for their commitment to integrating faith and education.

Isaac graduated with his Master's in Divinity with an emphasis in Pastoral Studies from Moody Bible Institute. During his time in school, he completed an internship in our development department. He has helped many Hispanic church plants in the Aurora area.

Isaac is grateful to be married to his beloved wife, Sarah. He values spending quality time with her, maintaining an active lifestyle, traveling, reading, and, above all, worshipping his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He believes the Lord called him to Wayside to help the youth know Christ.



Wayne Kriemelmeyer
NLC Senior Chaplain

Wayne is excited to be joining the servant leadership team at Wayside Cross in March 2025 as part of New Life Corrections Ministry. He will have the privilege of being mentored by Steve Madawick, Senior Chaplain of New Life, for several months.

Wayne has spent years in vocational and lay leadership ministry roles. Over the last 5 years, he has served in two EFCA churches, in Campus Pastor and Lead Pastor roles. Wayne has a passion for encouraging and challenging others to grow into their full potential, to bring hope and life in Christ.

Wayne earned his BS in Operations Management from Indiana University, his PhD from Northwestern University in Organization Theory, and his MA in Biblical Studies from Wheaton College.

Wayne has been married to his wife, Kathy, for 30 years, and they have a beautiful daughter who recently graduated from college. Wayne and Kathy enjoy hiking and the great outdoors.



Let us not become weary in doing good, for at
the proper time we will reap a harvest if we
do not give up.

Galatians 6:9



HOPE OUTREACH



Faith, Work, & Redemption

It has been a true privilege to witness Richard's remarkable journey through our program. Though he faced challenges and was unable to complete the program during his first two attempts, his perseverance proved that, as the saying goes, "the third time's the charm!" This year, Richard graduated, and his transformation has been nothing short of inspiring.

Throughout his time in Hope Outreach, Richard worked diligently in our maintenance department, using his knowledge and expertise to elevate the entire team. His contributions were invaluable, and his skills helped improve many aspects of our operations.

Richard's journey has been far from easy. He faced significant personal struggles that led him to seek help, and along the way, he navigated complex legal hurdles that could have impeded his progress. With God's grace and the support of those around him, he was able to overcome these obstacles, and we are grateful that the courts showed favor toward him.

In addition to his impressive work ethic, what has truly stood out is Richard's spiritual growth. He has deeply immersed himself in the Word of God, and we have been blessed to witness his transformation in faith. Through prayer, hard work, and the support of the Lord, Richard has laid a foundation for lasting change and a future filled with promise. Currently, Richard is in Phase 4 of our program, living at Wayside and working daily in the community. He has teamed up with a former graduate as a general contractor, and he is in the exciting process of launching his own business—a testament to his drive and ambition.

We are beyond thankful for Richard's redemption story and the spiritual and personal growth he has achieved. God's grace has truly been evident in his life, and we look forward to seeing how He continues to lead Richard toward a future filled with hope and success.

Steve Wise

General Manager - Hope Outreach



“ I am looking forward to 2025. I know God has a plan for me.
- Rich ”

NEW LIFE CORRECTIONS

The Mural of Transformation: Nitti Brockman

Nitti grew up on an American Indian reservation with his parents and twin brother. Tragically, at just five years old, his brother was murdered beside him. The trauma of that loss stayed with Nitti throughout his life. At 18, he volunteered for military service and spent six years in the Air Force, where he learned to fly. It was during his time in the military that his struggle with alcohol began.

After leaving the Air Force, Nitti worked in the oil fields, developed a passion for sailing, and discovered a love for painting. He did marry, but his battle with alcohol continued. Eventually, he separated from his wife and later moved to Chicago, where he had a daughter, Makala, who became the love of his life. Nitti supported Makala through school, and she proudly graduated from college.

His drinking eventually led to trouble. Nitti spent 14 years in prison, a period that became the turning point in his life. While incarcerated at Big Muddy Prison, he encountered the transformative power of faith. His Chaplain guided him to understand that Jesus had a purpose for his life, and Nitti embraced this newfound faith. He immersed himself in Bible study and AA meetings, determined to change.

Transferred to Danville Prison, Nitti expanded his ministry, using his art to reach others. It was at Danville that I first met Nitti during a DADS seminar. He was already a committed believer, helping other inmates grow in their faith. He shared his vision with me, and together we explored ways he could seek help once he was released.

Nitti arrived at Wayside in August 2023. From the start, he was a dedicated and serious resident, always encouraging others to stay and discover Jesus. His natural gift for shepherding was evident as he guided those around him to grow spiritually. After his graduation, he took on increasing responsibility, launching an art ministry called Litho Phyte. Through his art, Nitti began to make a significant impact. The city of Aurora commissioned him to paint a massive mural just a few blocks from Wayside, and he opened an art gallery and training studio nearby. His gallery showcases the work of inmates, a vision that has created a bridge between the prison system and the community, helping incarcerated individuals find a path to healing through their creativity.

As Nitti's musical talents have flourished, he's formed a band called "Redeemed," made up of fellow Wayside residents, and their first concert was a powerful moment at the New Life Corrections Banquet in November. The concert was a huge success, and the band continues to use their music to praise the Lord.

To me, Nitti is like a kindred brother. His love for Jesus is truly contagious, and it's an honor to witness the impact he's making in the lives of those around him.

Steve Madawick
Senior Chaplain, NLC Ministry



“Wayside provided a foundation for my life based on faith in Jesus Christ
- Nitti”





WAYSIDE'S MOST LOYAL SUPPORTERS

Wayside Cross Ministries Heritage Society was created to recognize and honor loyal, long-term donors. This wonderful group has grown to 859 members. Their generosity (over 72,000 donations) makes transformation a reality at Wayside.

Many Heritage donors are regular monthly contributors. They provide a steady flow of support each month throughout the year, which is a significant blessing during months that tend to be slower.

Thanks to the members' sacrificial and generous support, Wayside continues to grow and serve the powerless and afflicted.

The criteria for membership includes benefactors who have faithfully and generously made financial contributions to the ministry over the past 15 years with gifts totaling \$3,500 or more.

A Robert & Jan Abramson
Accurate Color & Compounding
Romelia Adams
Sue Adams
Mazi Africa
Larry & Carol Akers
Rose Aleman
Ann Alexander
Michael & Suzanne Allen
Ruby Allen
Gary & Debbie Anderson
John & Marlene Anderson
Kyle & Christie Anderson
Ray & Mavis Anderson
Robert & Anne Anderson
Robert & Jean Anderson
Tom & Susan Anderson
William & Monica Anderson
Gary Andrews
Peter & Kathy Andrews
Steven & Trudy Andsager
Greg & Ruth Anerino
Wallace & Grace Ansborg
Earl & Laura Anschicks
Dean & Carolyn Armentrout
Alan & Patricia Arnold
Jeff & Louise Ashley
Randy & Mary Atkison
Jack & Ramona Augustine
Eleonore Avery

B Robert & Julie Backode
Leonard & Ruth Badal
Jack & Cheryl Bailey
Marilyn Bailey
Edgar & Holly Ann Baillie
Wayne & Kathryn Baisley
Mark & Margaret Baker
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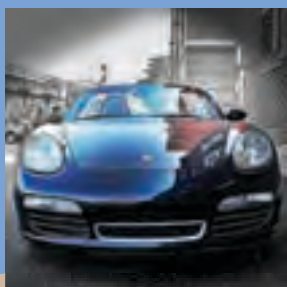


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