



WAYSIDE CROSS MINISTRIES

Commitment ♦ Compassion ♦ Collaboration ♦ Community ♦ Christ-likeness

WE WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO A FEW OF OUR FRIENDS

Jorge

We met Jorge two summers ago when he volunteered with UYM in summer camp. Having grown up going to UYM's summer camp, Jorge wanted to continue being involved by helping in the camp, as two of his siblings were still attending. Jorge also played in UYM's Aurora Neighborhood baseball league and is now an assistant coach for the Cubs.

Because UYM's after school program and summer camp is for students grades 1st-5th, we desperately wanted something for middle and high school students like Jorge, who wanted something positive to do after school and during the summer months. Through God's provision, UYM program coordinator Emily Wood and her husband David decided to begin bringing neighborhood middle and high school age kids (like Jorge) to youth group meetings at Village Bible Church in Aurora.

Just a few weeks ago, Jorge gave his life to the Lord! It is so exciting to see the ways in which he is trying to understand what it means to be a Christian and live a dedicated life for the Lord. In the culture and neighborhood that he is growing up in, it is easy for Jorge to sometimes get caught up in the things of the world. We are encouraged, however to see Jorge continue to learn, live, and grow in his new relationship with Christ!

Bernardo

Bernardo is one of those kids whom you would never forget. Although he can be overly spirited at times, Bernardo is a middle school student who is always thinking and just wants to be loved and accepted. Bernardo grew up attending both UYM's summer and after school programs. UYM Program Coordinator, Emily Wood, has watched Bernardo grow and mature both physically and spiritually.

Bernardo, like Jorge, attends Village Bible Church's youth group weekly. Bernardo encourages others with his questions and comments about God and the Christian life. Bernardo is definitely searching for God and it is fun to watch him grow as he pursues the Lord!

Savanna

Although Savanna never was involved in UYM's program herself, she became connected with UYM through the involvement of her brother. Savanna became connected with UYM a couple summers ago at an A.N.B.L. baseball game. Since then, she has become a regular youth group attendee; as well as a UYM afterschool program volunteer. Savanna was instrumental in helping launch this year's afterschool program at Brady Elementary School.

Like Jorge and Bernardo, Savanna is a regular attendee at Village Bible's weekly youth group meetings. A few weeks ago, Savanna made the decision to give her life to Christ! It is so encouraging to watch her heart grow more and more on fire for the Lord.

Jorge, Bernardo and Savanna are just three examples of youth in which God is impacting through His ministry at UYM. While they are too old for our programs, God continues to keep them involved in the ministry; that they might continue to grow and give back.

UYM's ministry programs are FREE for all attendees. We cannot in good conscience, charge for what Christ has already paid for. And we cannot do this without you!

Thank you for helping us to share Jesus Christ with the youth in our community.

Scot
Scot Thurman,
UYM Director

Emily
Emily Wood
UYM Program Coordinator

"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

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Bernardo and camp counselor Heather.

