



SUMMER 2023

Gas 'Em Up

We have a rhythm during our YFC staff meetings called, "Gas 'Em Up." When one of our staff has a birthday, we go around the table and everyone offers encouragement to them. Sometimes it's a unique characteristic of theirs that models Christ. Other times it's a specific action they once took that inspired.

It's a joy to hear the myriad of reflections that everyone shares. I always look forward to our "Gas 'Em Up" sessions as it's a lively time of encouragement filled with a range of emotions, from laughter to tears.

I've also learned that we need to keep our tanks full amidst the increasing opportunities and needs. In the last 12 months, we celebrate a rich season of growing ministry activities and connections with local youth.

Some examples of this include...

CAMPUS LIFE

Our Campus Life Center has become an oasis for youth in the Harlem School District, and our community of leaders there has created a healthy, consistent space for youth to find belonging, love, and the gospel.

CITY LIFE

Our City Life ministry has embraced a faithful presence across the city of Rockford through engagement in local schools as well as a variety of weekly programs, including Club, K-PLAY, True North, and Project Foundation.

JUVENILE JUSTICE

Our Juvenile Justice Ministry models the faithfulness of Christ to justice-involved youth during pivotal moments of their lives, and we're excited by increasing opportunities to serve this population more effectively.

CAMP

We also took approximately 75 youth to camp in June, and while we encountered challenges, we praise God for the transformation that took place as youth responded to God's stirring in their hearts.

While our team is encouraged by the continued open doors for fruitful ministry, we're also overwhelmed by the increasing needs. Sometimes we need strength to keep going. We need more gas in the tank.

We've had vulnerable staff meetings, with team members groaning the outlook of our youth context or specific youth's struggles in general. We're experiencing a sense of "weakness," yet this is where we're reminded of the words of Paul in 2 Corinthians, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness... For when I am weak, then I am strong."

We've learned that we can't do this alone. We need the strength of the Lord. He is the One who truly keeps our tanks filled through his steadfast love, and He sometimes demonstrates that through a community of believers encouraging and supporting one another.

This is where we need you more than ever. We urgently ask for your commitment to prayer, commitment to serving alongside us, and commitment to investing generously in the mission of Youth for Christ. Will you invest more than ever?

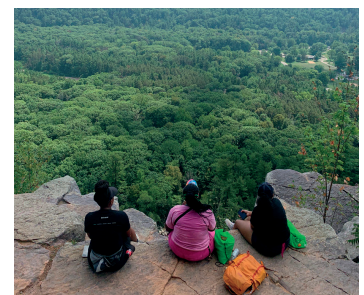
The results of this work are wide-ranging: youth in tears opening up about the death of their father, youth confessing mistakes from their past, youth searching for truth amidst so much confusion, youth expressing anger over brokenness all around them, youth curious about the Bible and what it means, and ultimately youth encountering the good news of the gospel and one true hope for all of us.

Pour some gas in our tank and help us keep going. All for His glory.

Haddon Anderson, Executive Director



Check out more summer camp photos on our website!



Snapshots from this summer

Step Out In Faith

This upcoming school year, would you consider stepping out in faith and learning more about serving at Youth for Christ?

There are youth in our community who need people in their corner. They need followers of Jesus to pray with and for them. They need mentors willing to share the gospel through sharing their lives. They need churches to welcome them in and even bring them to church. They even need those willing to make and serve a meal at one of the ministries they attend.

It may sound scary or uncomfortable, but think of what God can do with a "yes" or a "Here I am. Send me!"

He's already working, but you are invited to join Him in bringing gospel-centered transformation to the Stateline area and in the lives of young people.

Here are just some of the ways you can partner with us:

- Help transport youth to programming
- Assist our meal teams with preparation and meal clean up
- Be a bus assistant and ride along to positively engage youth
- Lead or assist in a Bible study
- Serve as a regular ministry leader at one of our programs
- Host a wishlist drive among your connections
- Teach youth a life skill during the summer months
- Be a snack room lead during Campus Life Lounge
- Connect us in meaningful ways to your local church or like-minded organization

Chances are you're going to have questions or concerns. That's okay! All we ask is...

1. Prayerfully consider taking a leap of faith
2. Reach out for a no-commitment meeting or phone call by contacting Zabrina at zramirez@statelineyfc.org or our office at 815-399-7203



Angela Finch | JJM Ministry Leader

"There are so many things I love about serving in JJM. One of the best is being able to spend time with the youth and to build relationships with them. These youth have so much to offer to our community and I love watching them grow and mature. It feels like a family as we share meals, experiences, and life together. I am so blessed to be a part of this ministry."

UPCOMING EVENTS

11/04

See the Story Tour: Campus Life

Register for free on our website

CONNECT WITH US

Find

Find us on our website statelineyfc.org or on Facebook to see the latest ministry updates!
facebook.com/statelineyfc

Serve

Reach out to info@statelineyfc.org about getting connected.

Give

1288 S. Alpine Rd.
Rockford IL. 61108

WWW.STATELINEYFC.ORG/GIVE



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