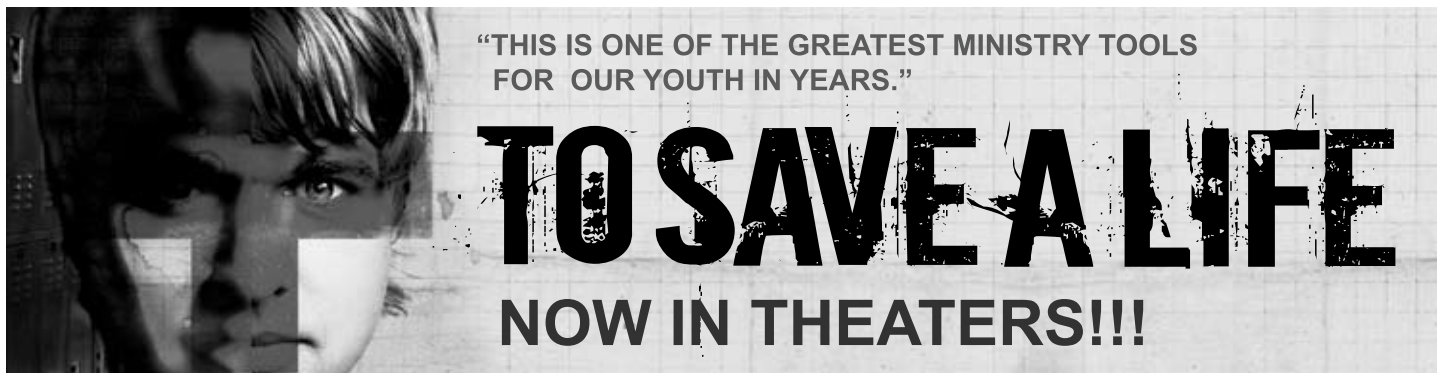


Youth Outreach Network

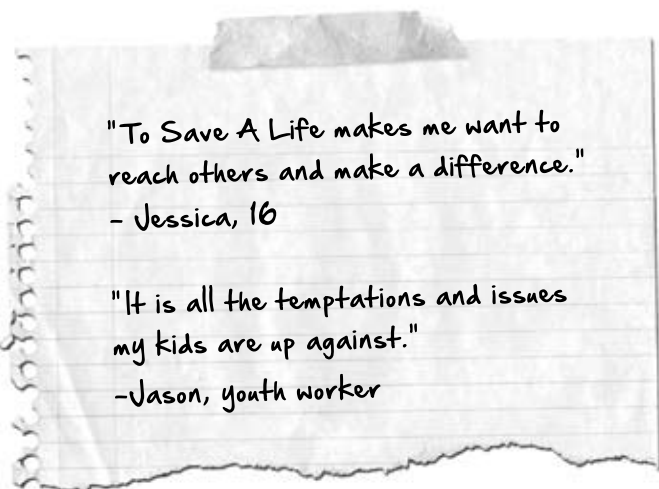
Youth-Net™

NEWS

"Metroplex Youth Workers Networking Together For Fellowship And Outreach" Spring 2010



To Save A Life is an indie movie about the real life challenges of teens and their choices, written by seasoned youth worker Jim Britts and inspired by a passion to reach teenagers with life-affirming entertainment. It's the kind of movie youth workers, parents and student leaders can get behind. It dives into raw youth culture and dares to ask our youth: "What's your life going to be about?"



You work with teens. You hang with teens. You listen to teens. You know they're hurting. And you devote your life to helping them find the ultimate healing.

You also know that Teens love movies. Help them be missional and reach their classmates. Imagine your kids reaching out to their peers motivated by a popular movie they just saw.

MORE THAN JUST A MOVIE...

It's a feature-length film with follow-up opportunities like a youth group curriculum, a teen devotional, and a church-wide campaign centered around the biblical concept that we're never more like Jesus than when we're reaching out to the hurting and lonely.

"I have to say I was blown away by the film. I've been in student ministry for almost 20 years and I could relate to every situation presented with a name and face. We are at work getting the word out in southern Tarrant and Johnson counties. We will be working to establish some Lifeline Squads in our area. I cannot wait to see what God will do with this film in our area and around the country. I'm pumped. This is really a great project."

-Joe Echols is the youth pastor at Cross Timber Baptist Church in Burleson and leader of the local area Youth Leaders Network.

For more info go to www.tosavealifemovie.com
To find a theater near you or purchase tickets go to www.tosavealifemovie.com/tickets



DIRECTORY

Directory of North Texas Networks

Greater Dallas METRO Coordinator Rawd Jones 469-644-6556
Greater Fort Worth Area Coordinator Mark Whittaker 972-690-7300

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Our Organization...

Youth-Net is a DFW/N Texas association of Youth Workers and is a local expression of the National Network of Youth Ministries.

Our Biblical Mandate...

Jesus' Prayer, John 17:21

"Father, my prayer is for their unity, that they will all be one, as we are one, so that the world will believe you sent me."

Our Mission...

Is to unite the Body of Christ to reach out and minister to all youth in the DFW / N. Texas Area.

Our Strategy...

Is to facilitate the Networking of youth workers for prayer, fellowship, mutual encouragement and the sharing of resources as a basis for cooperative outreach to the youth of their community.
Bottomline..."We are Better Together!"

The **Youth-Net News** is a publication of the **Youth Outreach Network**. Subscriptions are provided for as a part of your membership contribution.

Mark Whittaker, Executive Director
Aaron Whittaker, Graphic Artist/Editor

The **Youth Outreach Network/City Vision** is a nonprofit organization recognized for tax deductible giving by the federal government.

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www.youthoutreach.net

Arlington

- Josh Johnson Park Row Church of Christ
(817) 277-1333
- Gene-o Parenica Crossroads of Arlington
(817) 460-0962

Burleson/South Ft. Worth

- Joe Echols Crosstimbers Baptist Church
(817) 447-0051
- Sam Dallas Reece Prairie Baptist Church
(817) 297-1872

Carrollton/Farmers Branch

- Leaders Needed
(972) 690-7300

Central/South Fort Worth

- Stu Cocanougher..... Southcliff Baptist Church
(817) 924-2241

Denton Area

- Chris Searcy Liberty Christian
(940) 565-0466

Duncanville/Desoto/Cedar Hill

- Kevin Mulkey Cornerstone Bible Church
(972) 293-7222

Flower Mound/Lewisville

- Blake Chilton The Village Church
(972) 539-7899

Frisco

- Ben Graham Frisco Bible Church
(972) 335-8150
- David Ake Stonebriar Community Church
(469) 252-5200

Grand Prairie

- Chris Jones..... The Oaks Baptist
(972) 263-2224

Hurst/Euless/Bedford

- Leaders Needed.....
(972) 690-7300

Irving

- Richard Caldwell..... Oakview Baptist
(972) 790-3629
- David Grant Irving Bible Church
(972) 560-4600

Mansfield

- Matt Whetzel..... Living Word Outreach
(817) 437-3309

McKinney

- Grant Byrd First Baptist
(972) 542-6480

METRO: Mesquite/Garland

- Adrian McConnell Spirit & Truth
(469) 371-5491
- Chad Rigney..... Firewheel Bible Fellowship
(972) 496-5700
- Matt Ford Lakeview Christian Church
(972) 240-6924

METRO: N.E. Dallas/Richardson

- Lars Rood Highland Park Presbyterian
(214) 526-4301
- Mike Heinz..... Fellowship Bible Church
(214) 739-1147
- David Wyman Heritage Church of Dallas
(972) 234-9015

METRO: Oak Cliff/S.W. Dallas

- Fred Lynch..... UrbNet
(214) 298-9594
- Mondy Cano Centro Cristiano
(214) 215-1875

METRO: Plano Area

- Jerry Watts Preston Meadow Lutheran
(972) 618-2233
- Jeff Miller Canyon Creek Baptist
(972) 231-4753
- Scott Stevenson Collin Creek Community Ch
(972) 618-2222

Tyler Area

- Jason Abney..... Church of Living Hope
(903) 597-4357

Hispanic

- Abel Lopez..... Otra Onda
(469) 853-4126

Parachurch Resources

- Jay Sedwick..... Dallas Theological Seminary
(214) 874-4499
- Rick Bowles FCA Dallas
(214) 739-8003
- Richard Ross Southwestern Baptist Seminary
(817) 923-1921
- Billy Beacham..... Student Discipleship
(817) 295-6198
- Tom Bridges..... Student Venture
(972) 394-5709
- Nick Manos..... Young Life DFW
(214) 265-1505
- Kyle Embry Youth Alive
(817) 284-4856
- Leighton Flowers Youth Evangelism
(214) 828-5120
- Geoff Reese Youth For Christ N Texas
(817) 773-8094

SPRING YOUTH LEADER EVENTS

RELOAD

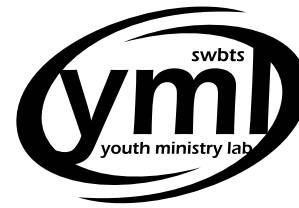
Urban Youth Leader's Network

Hundreds of leaders have experienced the power of God in "One Day" through training, mentoring and connecting! Whether you are a veteran, seasoned, or brand new youth worker, God has a family of resources and experiences HE wants to hook you up with locally and nationally.

Date & Location: TBA

800.734.8994

www.uywi.org



Youth Lab Youth Leader Training

This conference will feature powerful worship, an exciting exhibit hall, and meaningful fellowship for everyone. Plus, you'll be equipped with new options to refine your ministry to reflect the image of Christ.

Friday & Saturday / April 9 - 10

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

2001 West Seminary Drive

Fort Worth, TX 76115

817.923.1921

www.youthministrylab.com

SPRING YOUTH CONFERENCES



Planet Wisdom Youth Conference

This experiential journey brings together a first-class team in Mark Matlock and Dawson McAllister, who together possess a unique ability to create powerful connections for students in faith and in truth.

Friday & Saturday / Feb 19 - 20

Friday & Saturday / April 23 - 24

Irving Bible Church

2435 Kinwest Parkway

Irving, TX 75063

877.947.3660

www.planetwisdom.com



Acquire the Fire Youth Conference

It's time that the voices of young people in Dallas are heard. It's time that lives are forever changed by the saving power of Jesus Christ. Attend this event and see how it can impact the lives of your youth.

Friday & Saturday / April 9 - 10

Superpages.com Center

1818 1st Ave

Dallas, TX 75210

888.628.3473

www.acquirethefire.com

Texas State Network Report

Len Evans

TX / NM District Coordinator

Over the past few months there have been some good youth ministry networking changes within the DFW Metro area.

My staff role with the National Network of Youth Ministries is overseeing Texas and New Mexico. Mark Whittaker has faithfully overseen the DFW Metro area and he continues to help with all of the Texas networks. Rawd Jones has been active with the youth ministry networks for a few years and recently began working with the Dallas area networks. Because of these changes, Mark's new local role is serving the Ft. Worth networks while Rawd is serving the Dallas Metro networks.

We've been so busy making the changes we pulled a classic leadership blunder and didn't inform everyone what was happening and we may have caused some confusion. For that, I apologize.

I'm excited for the relational networking that is ongoing in DFW to reach more students for Jesus. It's a blessing to work with Mark and Rawd as we seek new ways to encourage and equip you in your ministry to students. Thanks for loving students and for showing them how to better follow Jesus.

Keep Lovin' Jesus,

Len Evans is the Texas/New Mexico District Coordinator for the National Network of Youth Ministries www.youthworkers.net

State of the Network Address

Rawd Jones

Dallas METRO Coordinator

I thought it was both sad and strange that the presidential State of the Union Address was in competition with the TV show *Lost* and that the White House would change the time and/or date so as not to preempt the show and disappoint fans. By the time you read this, the speech will have been delivered and we will have already

discovered what happened after Juliet detonated the hydrogen bomb.

The state of the Network is a bit different. It may not be as vital as *Lost* or the President's speech but it is almost as important.

This year, we need to communicate a big change: Dallas now has its own network! Last December, The NNYM (National Network of Youth Ministry) decided to create a new network called Dallas Metro. This included all of Dallas and Collin county. By the creation of the network, we had three groups up and running (North Dallas/Richardson, Garland/Mesquite and Plano). With the new directives given by the NNYM, we started two more groups (Mansfield and South Dallas/Oak Cliff) and have plans for more before the end of 2010. (If you are interested in pioneering, attending or hosting a group please contact us to see how to get a group in your area.)

Our goal in the next two years is to have a healthy, relational network within 20 minutes of each youth worker in Dallas and Collin county.

In closing, let me reiterate why networking is essential to the Youth Worker:

- **Longevity** - Youth Workers stay in ministry longer and, remain healthier when they have access to coaches, mentors and other veterans who provide help, guidance, prayer and encouragement.
- **Reciprocity** - We have a responsibility to give to others.
- **Synergy** - It's been said before, but we really are better together.
- **Creativity** - Not everything that is creative has to be original. Network meetings are a great place to share and borrow ideas.

If you live in Dallas or Collin County and are not involved in a Dallas Metro Networking group, well, shame on you. Contact us today to get involved. And remember:

"Relationship is the Resource!"

Rawd is the Dallas METRO Coordinator for the National Network of Youth Ministries. Besides networking Rawd is a speaker, Executive Life Coach, Youth Ministry Consultant and President of Pure Group (www.puregroup.org)

METRO: PLANO AREA

Jerry Watts

Preston Meadow Lutheran Church

The Plano network has been growing and reconnecting in 2009. After decades of amazing service Benton Hall stepped down as our coordinator, our kick off meeting in October took time to honor this faithful man of God. Youth ministers throughout the Plano area came forward with testimonies of the way the Spirit worked through Benton in their own walk with Christ as well as speaking wisdom and encouragement into their ministries. We are grateful that his mission to youth in Plano and gifts of mentoring of youth ministers continue as a blessings to all of us in Plano.

With the direction of Rawd Jones (of www.puregroup.org) a Plano leadership team was developed which welcomed Jerry Watts (serving at Preston Meadow Lutheran in Plano), Jeff Miller (serving at Canyon Creek Baptist Church), and Doug McKinney (serving at Big Springs Baptist Church) to coordinated monthly network meetings. Our first three gatherings have been huge blessings with time to pray one another, share each other's stories, and Jeff leading us through great conversations around the book *Youth Ministry 3.0*. Doug has surveyed our network members on topics for future gatherings that are now taking place every 2nd Thursday of the month at Preston Meadow Lutheran Church's youth center in Plano.

With thanksgiving we look ahead to 2010 trusting in the power of God's Spirit working through the Body Christ to partner, encourage, and equip us for all God has in store for us.

If you are a youth ministry leader in the Plano area and are interested in networking then please email me at jerry.watts@pmlc.org.

METRO: MESQUITE / GARLAND

Adrian McConnell
Spirit & Truth Ministries

Since the inception of the Mesquite/Garland Network Group in April of 2009, many staff and volunteer youth workers have been encouraged by one another's passion to serve Christ and students! The fall/winter of 2009 was a season full of growth, excitement and expectation. The group remained persistent in spite of challenges of scheduling due to the holiday season and remained focus on the purpose of why we gather; to encourage, pray, connect, and share resources.

In December we had the grand opportunity of getting together at Celebrate Station! We had an awesome time riding go karts in 40 degree weather, playing laser tag, munching on All You Can Handle pizza and games all for the cost of nothing! Jared Bryant with Global Youth Net who's been participating in our group since its start, shared his personal testimony on how and why he aids youth groups by way of missions throughout the world. Additionally, Jared talked about his recent trip to Japan and strongly encouraged each youth worker to get their students involved in missions trips.

The group is looking forward to great spring. We are planning out our topics/discussions and we are looking at creative ways to add other youth workers, pastors and leaders from churches, campus ministries and parachurch organizations to our network. We gather together on the 4th Thursdays of every month at 11:30am to 1pm at Lakeview Christian Church in Garland. So, if you are reading this report and you are not connected to a network group, please consider joining us for food, fun and a relevant discussion. Believe me, you won't be disappointed! Call me at

CENTRAL / S. FORT WORTH

Stu Cocanougher
Southcliff Baptist Church

The Fort Worth Network has risen from the dead. Okay, maybe that is a bit dramatic, but we have been meeting together for the past 4 months after a 2 year hiatus. Right now, we are

focusing on relationships and encouragement. It has been a joy to see Lutherans, Methodists, Baptists, Bible Church leaders, and others come together to support one another. We have started a YouthNet: Ft. Worth Facebook group so that we can communicate, encourage, and even share pics of our families with one another. If you are a youth ministry leader in the Fort Worth area, give me a call on my cell at (817) 690-1644, or email me at Stu@Stuzweb.com. We meet the last Thursday of each month at 9:00 AM at the Rise & Shine Restaurant on Alta Mesa Blvd.

ARLINGTON AREA

Gene-o Parenica
Crossroads of Arlington Church

In Arlington we have a group of youth pastors, para-church groups and youth workers that come together on the third Thursday of each month for fellowship and prayer. We have been meeting for over a year with our primary focus to pray for our students, schools and city. We take turns leading the prayer gatherings and have experience unity between Baptist, Bible, Non-denominational, Para-churches: Young Life, Pais Project and others, all joining together for prayer.

On January 31st we are going beyond our monthly prayer gathering to invite students to a city wide student prayer gathering. This special Sunday night prayer gathering is not about churches bringing their whole youth group, but for youth pastors to bring those who are committed disciples and ready to pray. Ephesians 6:12 states our battle is not against flesh and blood, but a spiritual battle- a battle that can be won only on our knees. We are praying that students will cry out to God, to bring revival and a great awakening to our city. We are asking all of the churches in Arlington to be part of this simple, but powerful prayer gathering.

If you are in Arlington we invite you to come join us and be part of this prayer movement. If you have any questions about us please contact Bryan of Lamar Baptist church, 817.713.8573 or Holly of Young Life-Arlington, 817.939.4404.

DENTON AREA

Chris Searcy
Liberty Christian

A few months ago, the word "network" meant something completely different to me than it does now. Network was a word used to describe a gathering, a group, or a bunch of youth guys getting together over Cici's pizza. A youth minister network to me was something that existed for the coming together of youth ministers, from different churches, different denominations, with the same heart. A heart that beats for Jesus and a desire for teenagers to fall in love with Jesus. Every definition above proved true, except it has become more than a gathering.

Two weeks ago today, four of our students at Liberty Christian School, where I serve as Campus Youth Pastor, were in a tragic car accident...and one of them was taken home to be with Jesus. At the age of 29, and having been involved in church and school student ministry pretty much since I graduated high school, I experienced and witnessed some things in the past two weeks that I never had before. I saw the most authentic gathering and display of the Body of Christ, in a way I never had before. This "network" became a family to me. The very next day, on our campus, we had dozens of churches represented in the form of pastors, counselors, youth pastors, and entire student ministry staffs on our campus, loving on students, praying and crying with them, and pointing them to Jesus. There were students that gave their hearts to Christ for the first time and several that re-dedicated to His service.

It was such a joy to see something that was truly led and empowered by the Holy Spirit. There was no public plea for help, but simply an overwhelming response of love, prayer, and sympathy through emails, text messages, phone calls, voicemail messages, that made what was at the onset a tragedy, into a beautiful display of God's providence. The network I am apart of, the Denton Area Network, is relatively new and still getting our feet on the ground. However, I am so excited to see the plans that God has in store for His people, for His body up here north of Dallas. Contact me at searcy@libertychristian.com.

Interested In Networking?

If you are not attending a network and are interested in joining one or starting one in your area visit our new website at www.youthoutreach.net and click the "Networks" link.

Join a Local Network

Search by your city to see the local Networks in your area. Click the "Join this Network" link and fill out the form that appears on the next page. We then forward your info to the Network Leader and they will contact you with more information on joining the Network.

Start a Local Network

If you do not find a network in your area and are interested in helping to start one, click the "Want to Start a Network" link. Fill out the form that appears on the next page and we will contact you with more information on helping to start a Network in your area.

If you have any questions about networking or need help call us at 972-690-7300.

YouthGroupGuide.com

Searching for Youth Ministry Resources?

You can now search our Group Resource Guide Online:

Find the resources you need to effectively lead your youth group. Our website helps you get in touch with service providers for your special events, youth group activities, and more.

Whether your looking for a mission trip, summer camp, or just a fun amusement center...

Visit us online at www.YouthGroupGuide.com to find the best deals for your youth group!

Searching for Youth Ministry Events?

If you are looking for a calendar of events just for youth leaders visit our website and click the "Calendar" link. We keep you up-to-date on the major Youth Conferences, Events, and Concerts, as well as all the major Youth Leader Conferences, Seminars, and Workshops happening in the DFW / N. Texas area. We gather event info from multiple sources and compile it all into one easy calendar on our website. Finally, you don't have to surf 10 different websites to find all the latest events and information!

CALENDAR OF YOUTH MINISTRY EVENTS

FEBRUARY

19-20	Planet Wisdom Youth Conference	Irving	877-947-3660	www.planetwisdom.com
26	Winter Jam w/ Third Day & Newsboys	AAC Dallas	214-665-4217	www.hearitfirst.com/winterjam

MARCH

TBA	Reload: Urban Youth Ministry Training	TBA	800-734-8994	www.uywi.org
20	Big Daddy Weave w/ Chris and Conrad	Flowermound	972-539-8547	www.bigdaddyweave.com
27	Youth Specialties One Day Training	Dallas	888-346-4179	www.ysoneday.com

APRIL

2-3	Christian Youth Weekend	Six Flags	817-640-8900	www.sixflags.com
9-10	Youth Lab Youth Leader Training	Fort Worth	817-923-1921	www.youthministrylab.com
9-10	Acquire the Fire Youth Conference	Dallas	888-313-3473	www.acquirethefire.com
16	MercyMe w/ David Crowder Band	AAC Dallas	937-834-5323	therockandworshiproadshow.com
23-24	Planet Wisdom Youth Conference	Irving	877-947-3660	www.planetwisdom.com

MAY

1	Casting Crowns w/ Tenth Avenue North	Grand Prairie	479-426-7851	www.castingcrowns.com
6	National Day of Prayer	DFW	210-241-2509	www.nationaldayofprayer.com
23	Global Day of Prayer	DFW	214-528-7744	www.globaldayofprayer.com

JUNE

25-26	BGCT Youth Evangelism Conference	Garland	888-244-9400	www.bgct.org/youthevangelism
26	KLTY Celebrate Freedom	Southfork Ranch	954-489-7490	www.celebratefreedom.com

JULY

30-31	SBTC Student Evangelism Conference	Frisco	817-552-2500	www.planetstudents.org
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**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR**

**COPY PAGE
AND POST**

National Day of Prayer - Thursday, May 6th 2010

If you feel led to get involved in this national prayer movement go to www.nationaldayofprayer.com for more resources and to learn how your group can be part of this life-changing experience.

Global Day of Prayer - Sunday, May 23rd 2010

Following the example of the first believers who "joined together constantly" in prayer (Acts 1:14) the Global Day of Prayer is calling Christians from all nations to unite in prayer. Visit www.globaldayofprayer.com to get involved.

NOTE: Please confirm these dates. All events are subject to change without prior notice.

CITY VISION
YOUTH OUTREACH NETWORK
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ARLINGTON, TX 76094

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IS THIS INFO ?
UP-TO-DATE

IF NOT, PLEASE UPDATE IT AT
WWW.YOUTHOUTREACH.NET

///ATTENTION: YOUTH WORKER!

If you want to continue to receive the Youth-Net News, Resource Guide, and Invitations to Free Youth Worker Appreciation Days then we need your current contact information. Please visit our website above and click "Update Your Mailing Info." Also check out "Membership Benefits" below to learn more about becoming an official Youth-Net Member and how to keep your membership current.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Youth-Net Membership includes a subscription to this quarterly Youth-Net Newsletter and our annual Youth Ministry Resource Guide (full of youth ministry contacts and discounts). Membership also includes special Invitations to FREE Youth Worker Appreciation Events (Some of last year's events included the Dallas Stars Game, Medieval Times, Hawaiian Falls and many others - worth over \$500 a year!)

If you would like to continue to receive all these resources then please "**HELP US HELP YOU**" by keeping your annual membership current. This helps us pay for the cost of getting these resources to you!

FOR MORE MEMBERSHIP INFO VISIT WWW.YOUTHOUTREACH.NET