## Answering the Call to Missions at CONVERGE



Nora Ryan never anticipated how a weekend retreat like CONVERGE could change the course of her life.

Attending CONVERGE for the second time, Ryan was prepared to deepen her faith and understanding of God's love. Little did she know, she would leave the event with a calling to missions.

## Finding Community at BCM

Her journey began as a freshman at Winthrop University, where she found solace and community within the <u>Baptist Collegiate Ministry</u> (BCM). Seeking companionship among fellow Christians, Ryan discovered much more.

"BCM has not only helped grow my relationship with the Lord immensely but has also given me a home and from home," Ryan said. At BCM, Ryan found support during a challenging period in her faith journey.

CONVERGE, an annual conference that challenges and equips college students to passionately follow Jesus, became a pivotal moment for Ryan. "CONVERGE '23 allowed me to see my best friend give her life to the Lord and learn so much in one weekend," she said. Inspired by the supportive atmosphere and eager to delve deeper into her faith, she returned the following year, eager for what lay ahead.

## A New Willingness

Throughout the weekend, Ryan grappled with the idea of missions. "This was not the first time the Lord put the idea of missions on my heart, but this was the first time I was willing to listen to it," she said. During a breakout session, she resonated deeply with a missionary from Vermont, as if her words were directed specifically at Ryan. Fueled by conviction, Ryan approached her campus minister and voiced her newfound calling.

advance stories



