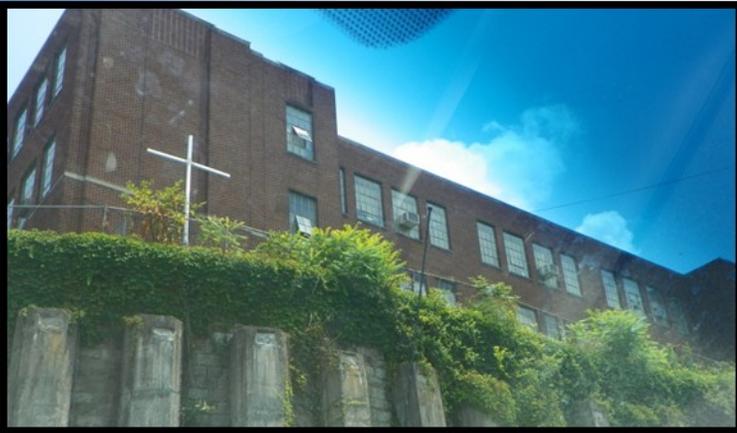


Youth Mission Trip to Logan, West Virginia June 21-27, 2012

Thursday, June 21



On Thursday, June 21, 2012, the FAB Youth Mission team arrived safely in Logan (LA), West Virginia. When preparing to go on our mission trip, we had specific plans to serve families in Logan. The day before we left, all those plans changed; and what we planned was not what God had planned for us. We had faith that it would be revealed to us when we got to our destination. Our amazing God found several families

that we can help this afternoon, and three teams were formed to help these families tomorrow morning.

Our arrival day was also fruitful. When we arrived, we had to clean out and prepare a room for the boys' cots.



Our last task of the day was to assist in organizing the clothing pantry in the New Covenant Fellowship church basement. The clothes and household pantry is open to the community and was in need of some extreme organization. The clothes were categorized into winter and



summer, and some of the surplus clothes will be delivered by a team to Charleston on Friday.

After a delicious dinner of hot dogs and chips, the youth went to the school gym to have a basketball game. In tonight's devotion, Phil encouraged us to take time to listen to the Holy Spirit through our work and conversations on our job sites. What a great first day with many more to come!

Friday, June 22



It's Friday, and what a wonderful day in Logan. God is good!

After breakfast and devotion, the three teams separated and went to their designated work sites. One team went to our fellow American Baptist Church, First Baptist Logan, and busily began work organizing their pantry storage. After a quick completion, they moved onto painting their

restrooms.



Team two had a very full day of serving a family by doing construction. They traveled to Dingess in Mingo County, which is around twenty-eight miles from New Covenant Church where we are staying. The team consisted of three adults and the several high school youth who went to work on a family's home that was

in need of repair. Their tasks included removing a kitchen and replacing the sub-floor. The Holy Spirit was moving within our youth. It was shared at our evening devotional that they felt convicted not just to fix the family's floor, but to additionally fix the roof that caused the floor to need to be repaired, so the family would have better living conditions for their future. The plan is in motion, and the necessary materials will be ready tomorrow.

The final team of sixteen traveled to two families that are next door to one another. The team worked on building steps for both families, scrubbed siding, scraped siding and painted. They



also filled the homes' draft holes and replaced some trim boards. Sometimes when we least expect it, a blessing comes by just being with one another.

As adults and team leaders, we think we are going to lead our youth. We realize by leading that we have the wonderful chance to learn and grow in our faith. What a precious gift to experience the opportunity to overhear a youth brother

in Christ witnessing to an eighty-three year old woman, and hearing him say, "When you have difficulties, God is right there with you. Just trust Him." We often talk about witnessing to others, but hearing young people share their faith in Christ with someone so much older than themselves is a real blessing.

We will continue to trust God through our week as we fellowship, serve, and pray in His name.

Saturday, June 23



It's Saturday. While we are writing this, our team that followed up with the home needing a roof just arrived. It is 5:15 p.m., and they have been working since the morning. They painted the roof with an aluminum sealant that will not only keep their new floors dry, but it will also keep their home cooler since they don't have adequate air conditioning. The family who lives there expressed their appreciation for all the team's work. One family member is a young person, seventeen years of age, who expressed how thankful she was for making new friends and having so many things fixed on her home. This young lady has been an inspira-

tion to all who have met her. She experienced a terrible ATV accident when she was thirteen years old that has left her paralyzed from the waist down. Our mission team has learned from the strength and attitude of this young lady that no matter how difficult life gets, we need to trust God through the hardships and the blessings. Although she is bedridden, she still is able to share that she is thankful for her life and that the Lord has blessed her with family.



Our other team traveled back to two houses and finished their designated jobs. They painted, put railing on the stairs, painted window panes and washed siding. They also met and talked with the two women who lived there. They were both wonderful and even fixed the whole team mini-cheeseburgers! When helping others, age doesn't affect teamwork and fellowship. While this team worked, the ladies they were helping were outside visiting with the youth and even joined three members in putting her belongings back on her porch after it was washed.

A message shared today was that little things we do for others may be big to them. It means more to them than we think. One youth reflected that it's good to get the work done, but spending time with these families is more important. Look into the eyes of the people you are helping, and you will see their appreciation without their saying a word.

The last team's job wasn't as critical as the others, but nonetheless as important. We will be attending First Baptist Church of Logan Sunday for worship, and the congregation will be preparing lunch for our mission team. To show our appreciation, we have been helping the church with tasks that they need done. Today some beautification projects were completed that include weeding, mulching, planting flowers, and finally power washing. After completing the projects, the team returned to New Covenant and joined the other team and continued working on the clothes closet for the Logan community.



Our day closed with dinner, devotion, and fellowship at Logan State Park. Please continue to pray for our team as we worship our Lord tomorrow and that we will continue to find ways to serve families in Logan.

Sunday, June 24



Today was a great Sunday! We began our day in worship at 1st Baptist Logan where part of our group had been working on painting and landscaping projects earlier in the week. We were humbled as the pastor expressed his appreciation for our team's efforts in Logan and their church's desire to start a youth ministry with the hope of someday repaying teams like ours.

After worship, we were invited to share in a meal with the congregation. They were very inviting and curious about the work we had been called to do in Logan. Our conversations with the church members were very revealing as to why God called us to Logan in the first place.

Later, our team went to Chief Logan State Park for some pool time. We had several cannon-ball jumping competitions, even with a judging panel! After we relaxed and played in the pool, we went to get pizza for a group dinner outing. We had plenty of fun playing the arcade games together.

All in all, today was an excellent day for team bonding to take place. We have all worked and played well together this trip. It's been great to see each adult and student interact as they share their faith as well as their desire to serve others.



We are looking forward to getting back to work tomorrow morning. The interesting thing is that we only have enough work for our whole team to complete tomorrow. So we will continue to pray that while we are here in Logan, God will find a way to use our presence for His service.



Remember to check back every day to this website to follow the reports of the trip!

