

August 2009 News

Mission Indy Inc.
57 N. Rural Street
Indianapolis, IN 46201



Week # 2 Hosted by Hazelwood CC

Groups from First Church of Christ, Grayson (KY) & Faith Community Church, Huntington (IN) along with the home group from Hazelwood CC, Clayton (IN) were a joy to work with. This is the first time Mission Indy has been hosted outside of the city of Indianapolis. It was an experiment to further reinforce the idea that MI challenges and equips local churches for work in the Kingdom, wherever they are located; not just in the inner city. Many thanks to Hazelwood for a very successful week during which all projects were done with families in the rural setting.



Danny Nave demonstrated the safe use of Power Tools & served as a trainer for three of the four MI weeks. We thank him so much!



There were a number of painting projects this summer that required scaffolding to be used regularly.



Scott Avenue and Erie staffed the Vacation Bible School at West Park CC. Over 90 kids from the area and Hawthorne Community Center enjoyed craft time, as well as lessons, snacks & games, and puppets.



Sunday Move In



Monday Morning Training

A fun and very helpful training occurred on Monday morning before we sent the groups out to the work sites. Every 15 minutes, small groups rotated between painting, ladder safety, hammering, tool check process, drywall mud application, cordless drill use & the safe use of power tools.



VBS at Country Manor

This week MI partnered with Grace Missionary Church of Mooresville to lead a VBS at the mobile home park.

Week # 3 Hosted by Chapel Rock CC



The group from Christ's Church of Effingham (IL), was joined by groups from Greater Northwest Baptist (Indianapolis), Erie Christian Church (IL) and Scott Avenue Christian Church, Newton (IL).



Students from Greater Northwest Baptist Church scraped, sanded and painted on Ms. Gordon's house in the Mapleton-Fall Creek area.

Week # 4 Hosted by Englewood CC

Groups from Church of the Lakes, Ninevah (IN), Clinton First United Methodist, Clinton (IN), First CC – Florissant (MO) and West Towne CC – Knoxville (TN) joined us for the last week of Summer 2009.



Above left you see intern Tracy Taylor and Evan Nave (who was interning with West Towne) joining in the Sunday Night Icebreakers. Participants from the various churches were split up so they could get to know people from other churches and good times were had by all!



Ned Phillips teaches the proper use of cordless drills.



Erin Nave is not necessarily practicing good ladder safety here, but she did a nice job!



Church of the Lakes finished the Brookway. They were led by Elizabeth Heuss and Nick Masser

Thanks Interns!

Ron & Niccole want to thank all the Summer Interns for their hard work and dedication to not only lead groups but to wrestle with issues in the Kingdom of God. Andrew, Elizabeth, Jenna, Joe, Kelsey, Megan, Nick and Tracy – we wish you God’s best this year at college and in whatever place you find yourselves as you follow Him for your future!

Special thanks to a fantastic VBS Coordinator, Jen Mukes, who is a senior at Cedarville University this fall.



Last, but certainly not least, thanks to our super exceptional Intern Coordinator, Jill Bourgeois who is a senior at Milligan College.



Thoughts from Jill...

In order to “Live to Love,” which was this summer’s theme at Mission Indy, you have to learn how to love first. That’s what God taught me this summer. Every day we studied a different “one another” passage: bear one another’s burdens, accept one another, honor one another, share with one another, and serve one another. There is so much to be said about each one of these aspects of genuine love. It’s funny because I always felt like one of the gifts that God had given to me was a love for people and a genuine care for even strangers. However, I began to realize as the summer progressed that there’s a difference between caring for people and loving them the way Jesus would have. So this reality left me with not knowing how to do the very thing I had before felt like God had gifted me with! I found myself feeling very helpless and asking the questions: “God, how do I love these youth...interns...my family...the homeless...the way Christ would have loved them? Do they need a hamburger, a listening ear, for me to confront the sin I see in their lives, or maybe just a hug?...because on my own, God, I’m completely clueless as to what they really need.”

Then I read 2 John and noticed that every time the word love is used in this seemingly insignificant book, it is coupled with the word truth. What a coincidence! This led my curious mind to ask the question, “well, then what’s truth?” Maybe the answer seems rather obvious and simplistic but it really hit home to me. God is truth. Anything relating to him is true and anything else can be manipulated to be false by this world and its ruler.

That God loves us and died for us is truth. The Word of God is truth. The Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of Truth. Stray away from the things of God and you lose truth; you quit seeing the black and white and start seeing the haze of gray and the American lie of “anything is acceptable.” And so, this realization of what is true, that God is truth, led me to two thoughts on how to love.

(1) If I love others within this context of knowing God - His true love, His Word, His Son Jesus – then I love how I’m called to love. Basically, I have to know the God of love, who defines truth, before I can even think of knowing how to love people.

(2) And second, by being close to truth, I will begin to become sensitive to how people need to be loved. After all, God is the keeper of their hearts and knows them intimately, so by knowing this God who is truth, we begin to have revealed to us the truth we need to know about how to love the way Christ would have. We become sensitive to people’s needs on a physical, spiritual, & emotional level and we also know how to respond, act, say, and do in genuine love.

I have to be connected to God and have his Spirit of Truth guiding me or I can’t really love...or at least not effectively. Just some thoughts from my summer with Mission Indy...

Special Thanks to: Indianapolis Power & Light – for the \$1000 donation toward the work Mission Indy does in city neighborhoods.

Thanks also to Hazelwood CC for the special gift for supplies during Week #2, and for the completely donated food!

Upcoming Dates

- Sep 19th – Work Day
- Oct 17th – Work Day
- Oct 23 –25 Jr. High Journey Conference
- Nov 19th-22nd National Missionary Convention in Peoria, IL
- Dec 12th – Work Day