



Our Riches in Christ!

A Study in the
Book of Ephesians
August 16, 2009

“2009 Beacon of Hope Youth Mission Trip”

Seventeen youth and five adult chaperones traveled to Baltimore, Maryland for a nine-day trip that answered God's call for His people to be a light in the world. Matthew 5:13-14 formed the scriptural basis for their work:

These mission trip participants accepted the call to bring hope to a city with significant poverty and a large immigrant population. Their hard work benefited various locations throughout the Baltimore area. They cleared a vacant lot and planted trees at Martha's Place, a transitional living area and green space for women recovering from drug addiction in the inner city. The kids painted the interior of a house and spread mulch at a park for Habitat for Humanity. They also painted the exterior of Christ Lutheran Church, the church that offered sleeping facilities for the group. Their service included cleaning windows and canvassing the neighborhood for Nazareth Lutheran Church, the sister congregation of Christ Lutheran, who will be offering free English lessons to the immigrant community. Lastly, the group traveled to New Windsor, Maryland to volunteer at Lutheran World Relief's Brethren Service Center, a facility that distributes care packages to underdeveloped countries. At the distribution facility, the kids packed food cartons to go overseas and unpacked fair trade goods from Africa that will be sold in the US.

The trip, however was not all work. The group from FLC attended a Baltimore Orioles baseball game, explored history at Gettysburg, visited Baltimore's Inner Harbor, had a picnic at Fort McHenry Park, enjoyed an evening of bowling, toured the Annapolis Naval Academy, and shopped Arundel Mills Mall. Recreational activities and service projects together with Bible study groups and prayer partners insured a faith-building, relationship-bonding, memorable experience by all.

“You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand and it gives light to everyone!”

—Jesus

