

FaithBIT



I Could See God

Reflection by Grace Porter

This July, I was blessed to be able to lead the Middle School Mission Trip with Paul Erdmann; especially since I wasn't expecting to be able to go on anymore mission trips after I graduated. Mission trips have been an integral part of my faith journey and they helped lead me to realize my calling to work in the church. This trip was no less extraordinary, except I got to experience it through the lens of a leader.

As a leader I got to see the students immerse themselves in work that they may not always have liked. But I could see God in them through the way they kept pushing themselves, and their peers, to persist, so that they could be proud of what they had done. I saw God in the Union Gospel Mission (UGM), which was a soup kitchen, food shelf, and transitional housing service combined. UGM gave people a way to get through the day, the week, and even a chance into better circumstances.



“I saw God in the relationships that the kids formed throughout the week...”

- Grace Porter

I saw God in the relationships that the kids formed throughout the week, getting closer with students from our own church as well as kids from the other churches there that week. I also got the opportunity to learn and grow with the Youthworks leaders and the adults from the other churches; they all were incredibly supportive of me and my learning curve, and I felt so empowered by my faith and by our conversations. I even saw God in the beauty of Duluth; the double rainbow that we could see almost end to end from Enger Tower, and the golden sun setting as we played frisbee by Park Point Beach.

This trip gave me so many wonderful experiences to remember and to use in my future, and for that I am forever grateful.