

YOUTH SUMMER MISSIONS

Christ Community Church

Tucson AZ

ATLANTA, GA

July 23-29, 2017

ATLANTA



Wheels up to Atlanta

We will be partnering with LeaderTreks and a local church called Peace Baptist Church. Our work will consist of local projects within the community designed around strengthening the influence of the Church in the community. In addition to our projects, we will host a 3-day VBS for the children in this community, designed to communicate the love of Christ to these children. Similar to the community is MT, this community is very impoverished, so we are looking forward to the opportunity to serve them in the name of Christ.





Atlanta Trip Day 1 (July 23)

Today was primarily a travel day, flying first to Chicago and then on to Atlanta. We had about a 30 minute drive to our team house here in Decatur. We are staying at the 1st Avondale Baptist Church. We did our big team grocery run for the week, followed by an abbreviated team time. It's midnight here and tomorrow (today) will start at 6am. We are eager to start working and get the week rolling. Thanks again for your prayers, we feel them already!



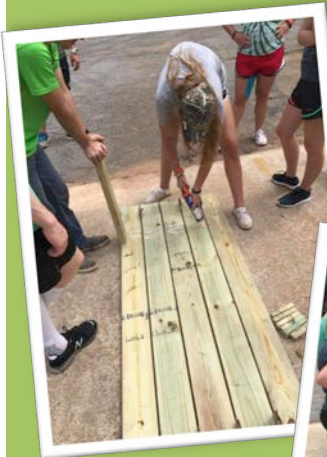
Atlanta Trip Day 2 (July 24)

We are serving at Peace Baptist Church here in Decatur. A few years ago, the church purchased a former Target building. To date they have developed 75k sq ft of it, with another 100k to still develop. They have a very vibrant ministry in the surrounding area, so we are very thankful for the opportunity to support their work. Our team also went door to door in the apartment complex we will host tomorrow's VBS at. Our students were blessed with a little unexpected time with the local kids before tomorrow's VBS begins. It's very rainy and humid here, but we are having an incredible trip so far. Thanks for praying!



Atlanta Trip Day 3 (July 25)

Our team began construction on some picnic tables that will be used to facilitate a stronger sense of community in the neighborhood apartment complex.



Our students also hosted their first day of VBS. Way too many stories to try and capture them here. The team is doing an amazing job. What a great privilege and blessing it is for us to be a part of it!



Atlanta Trip Day 4 (July 26)

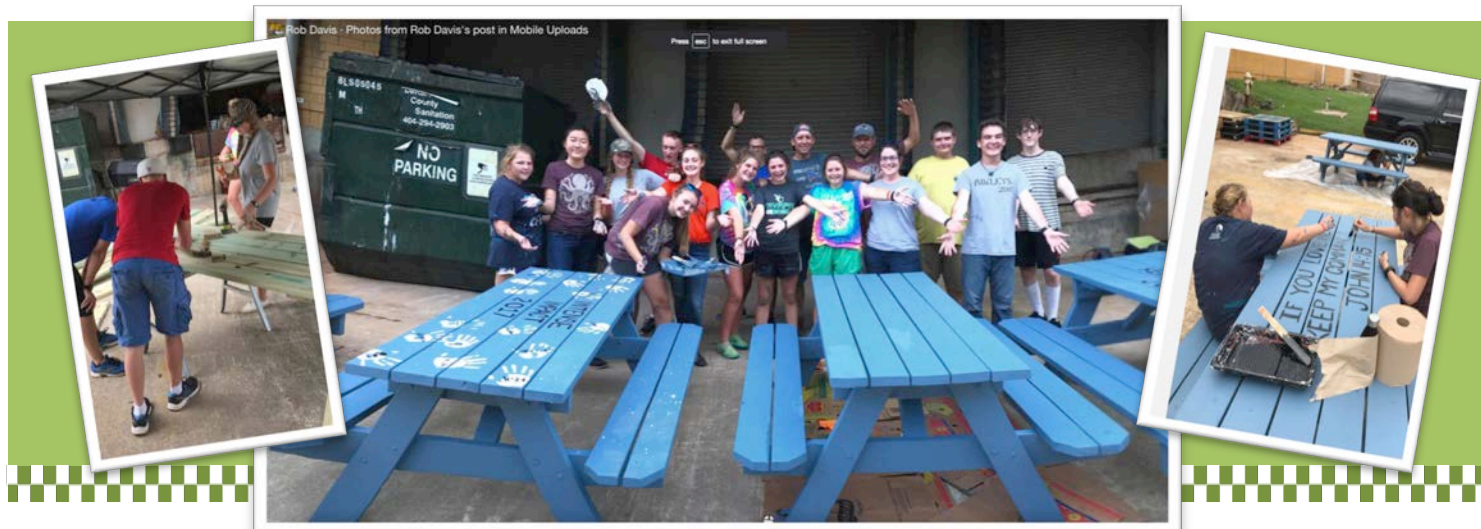
Our team continued construction on 2 tables, which should be finished early tomorrow. We will then begin construction on two more tables, hoping to finish them by Friday. Our students hosted another great day of VBS, with a few more kids in attendance today. Tomorrow will be the final VBS day, concluding with a BBQ for the local community. Our team is healthy and doing an amazing job. Thanks for your faithful prayers!



Atlanta Trip Day 5 (July 27)

Atlanta Day 5: Today was an amazing day. Our team continued work at Peace Baptist Church. While there, we were able to meet the senior pastor of the church, which only reinforced our belief in the ministry they have here in Decatur. He shared with us that the zip code the church (and apartment complex) is in, is the poorest zip code in the entire county. Our students hosted their third and final day of VBS, before sharing a BBQ with the kids (in the middle of what felt like a hurricane). It was a tearful goodbye with the kids as we left, but also a great reminder for our students as to the purpose of short-term missions: to reinforce the ministry of the local church, not be a substitute for it. Tomorrow is our last full day on the work site. Thanks for your continued prayers!





Atlanta Trip Day 6 (FINAL DAY!)

Today was our last full day here in Decatur. Our team had an amazing day on the worksite, fully completing the construction and painting of 5 tables. Faced with the choice about 5pm to quit and go get dinner with 3 tables still unpainted, our team decided to have pizza delivered to the worksite, to allow them to finish the project. It amounted to an 11-hour day on the worksite. We were blessed to meet the worship leader of the church, who led us in song while we ate dinner (see video). Rumor is, she can bring the house down! Tomorrow we head for home, with a long travel day, going from Atlanta to St. Louis to Oakland to Los Angeles to Tucson. Thanks for praying for us this week. We have felt your prayers! We look forward to sharing with you the incredible ways God worked among our team this week!



HOMeward BOUND

JULY 29, 2017



Tucson

AZ



Starting the journey home. Summer would not have happened without these two, and my incredible wife that supports all of our endeavors. Looking forward to coming home...and staying home for a while. :) Abby Paradise Martin Perez Kendrah Davis

