

# In Focus



SPECIAL EDITION

[www.stpaturbana.org](http://www.stpaturbana.org)

## St. Patrick's CREW On Mission, 2007

CREWzin' was the theme for the 2007 CREW (Christ Renews Everyone's World) mission trip to Detroit, the "Motor City." During this year's trip, the eighth project for CREW, our teens took up the challenge to rehab houses and also to examine their relationship with God and one another.

In order to participate on the mission trip, teens put in over 500 hours of service work and 300 hours of fundraising. In addition, each one attended at least 14 of 21 religious education classes.

On July 8, 25 teenagers, 3 young adults and 11 chaperones left St.

Patrick's for Detroit, Michigan.

They stayed in dorm rooms at the University of Detroit Mercy campus, where they participated in nightly Bible studies and sang with the Praise Band. While in Detroit, they worked four days with Detroit Community Initiative, a not-for-profit group dedicated to restoring and rebuilding

Detroit neighborhoods. DCI purchases land, razes burnt-out houses, and builds new homes, along with extending financial support to homeowners to repair their existing homes.

Our group worked on three homes on Saratoga Street this year. The first home belonged to Nadeera Wade. At her home, our teens and adults gutted an entire upstairs bedroom, walls and ceiling, then drywalled and finished everything again. They also gave her a new kitchen, with three new walls, new cabinets, sink, and fixtures. Overall they used over 500 square feet of drywall to help patch up her home.

At the home of the Youngs, our

adults power-washed and scraped the paint off the house and off three sides of a detached garage, and then repainted it all. Father Joe helped with this home when he visited the teens in Detroit. The team used about 35 gallons of paint during their rehab work with the house and garage.

After four days of hard work in Detroit, the group took off to South Haven, Michigan, for some much needed rest and recreation before returning to Urbana on Friday, July 13.

The Bible studies helped participants examine their relationships with God and one another through

readings and discussions on the following themes:

*Anger* We are challenged to look for healthy ways to express our anger.

*Forgiveness* We are challenged to accept forgiveness and to extend it to others as Christ taught us through the parable of the Prodigal Son.

*Family* We are challenged to use

the Ten Commandments as a way to understand the

connection between our family rules and relationships.

*Friendship* We are challenged to recognize that true friends are a special gift and need to be chosen carefully.



The 2007 CREW participants ready to leave on the mission

adults and teens installed a brand new front porch, complete with flowers. Combined with the other projects, they used over 1000 feet of lumber to complete their task.

At the Davises' home, the teens and

“It helped me realize that I shouldn’t take things for granted and to think of others less fortunate.”





## Mission 2007

### Teens

Aimee Black  
Ally Bonadies  
Micah Cottingham  
Tyler Faught  
Mike Fitzgerald  
Sam Freidhof  
Andrew Howie  
Thera Hubler  
Zita Hubler  
Catherine Keane  
Mary Kimball  
Robie Kimmey  
Theresa Laumann  
Caitlin Lowry  
Anna Mayer  
Hana Mendoza  
Hannah Noonan  
Sam Noonan  
Nathaniel Perry  
Lucas Raab  
Nick Thompson  
Emily Westervelt  
Marla Westervelt  
Paige Whippo  
Andy Wszalek

### Young Adults and Adults

Emmanuel Bronson  
Chris Freidhof  
Patrick Hatch  
Bonnie Kimball  
Bob Kimmey  
Justin Lowry  
Jim Mayer  
Randy Pankau  
Marty Sierra-Perry  
Dwight Raab  
Marcia Raab  
Maciek Swiech  
Jim Westervelt  
Judy Wood



**“I know that service will be a big part of my life when I go off to college next year, and I hope to share my experiences with the people I meet.”**





**“The mission trip made me open my eyes with the different lives of people and their living situations.”**

"I realize how many people live in poverty and how every little thing we do can help."



Catch a lot more of the action by checking the parish Web site ([www.stpaturbana.org](http://www.stpaturbana.org)) for more photos of CREW working, playing, and praying on mission, 2007.