Youth Development Program

Early in 2018, following a significant period of prayer for discernment, Settlement leadership became convinced God was leading us into a new focus on community youth development. We spent the majority of the past year making adjustments to our youth programming to achieve a better balance of spiritual development, relational and job skills development and recreational objectives.

The initial target of this effort has been our Summer Recreational Program. More than 300 modules of content were developed for this year's program, including expanded devotional experiences, workplace visits, more frequent shifts in topics, expanded out-of-community experiences, and increased investment in program leadership training. Additionally, we have partnered with First UMC of Birmingham, MI and Pierce Chapel UMC of Midland, GA, with each leading a full week of the 6 week Summer Recreation program. The opportunity for our community youth to learn to love and to work and serve closely with the groups coming from other parts of the country continues to change lives in very meaningful ways.



First UMC of Birmingham, MI


A local teen learning job skills: Resumes & filling out applications


Pierce Chapel UMC of Midland, GA

Here is what one of this years' teenaged participants had to say:

"I really enjoy working with Pierce Chapel. My first year I was very nervous, but they welcomed me with open arms. Everyone is like one big family. We share stories and memories. I love morning worships and singing together. As we work we get to know the family of the house (a family being served by the group mid-week). They (the family) played music with us, shared stories, and he (family father) even gave his testimony. We all came together like we had known each other our whole lives. Getting to hang with them is truly a blessing. So I wanna give a big thanks for them changing my life and for them letting me help change theirs."

Hawaiin Week Fun





Vacation Bible School "ROAR"





A visit to a park and a hiking trail.















Athletics work the body and the mind for healthier happier kids.

During careers week we visited the Frakes Volunteer Fire Department, the Frakes Post Office, and the farm.



