

**St. John's  
Youth Travel  
to Kokomo**

**Mission Possible  
Reflections**

**July 19-25**

**2009**

**Special points of  
interest:**

- 45 teens and adults came from Iowa, Ohio, Illinois and Indiana to serve the disadvantaged.
- 13 homes repaired in 4.5 days!
- We learned that "Faith Without Works is dead"

**Team Puts Faith into Action**

**By Rose Sprosty, DCE**

Mission Possible was such an amazing opportunity for youth and adults to come together and serve local adults and families in need. Watching these kids was so AWESOME; they worked together with such a servant heart in such an amazing way.

have an amazing, positive attitude!

**Working together  
and serving was  
contagious!**

moving experience to be a part of her new journey. She was such an inspiration.

This is a trip I would DEFINITELY go on again!"

The group of people I served with helped out a woman, Rhonda Allen, who wasn't able to leave her house because she was in a wheelchair.

We were able to build her a ramp and get her out of the house. Everyone was in tears; it was such a



*Rose & Abigail before going out to work for the day*

**G O D I S  
GOOD, and HE** was there watching, guiding, listening, and helping us throughout our whole week of service. Working together and serving was contagious; you couldn't help but



*The Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer of Kokomo, Indiana hosted the 7th Mission Possible Servant Event. It is an all-church effort. Over two dozen members take a week's vacation to serve as Project Managers, Cooks, Runners and Team photographer. Many more open their homes to provide lodging for the teens and counselors.*

*God Bless the Congregation of Our Redeemer!*

**Mission Partners . . . Thank you for your support!!**



Thank you!

Thank you! for your generous financial support for this trip.

Thank you! for providing this opportunity to serve Him

And most of all Thank You! for your PRAYERS.

You prayed for our safe travel, to give us the heart of a servant, and to keep us safe on the job site! And He answered in full!

**We love you!  
Rose, Abigail, Matthew,  
Clara, Michael  
and Jeremy**

## We Were in Heaven!

By **Jeremy Christian**

The first three days at Mission Possible, my group and I worked on a lady's house. We built walker accessible steps so she could get in and out of her porch and house. It took us almost all day Monday to get the outline for the stairs all set up. On Tuesday, we started prepping our new stairs by taking the old stairs off. That same day, we started repainting the tin roof white. We got about 1/3 repainted.

Wednesday was a hard work day. We finished painting the roof and nearly completed the stairs. Thursday was a more relaxed day and filled with fun. One of the girls in my group had her birthday and we had a small party with our second home owner. She was 85 and living in a room with mold growing where the addition had been put on years earlier. She has a dog named Phoebe that loved our company, being picked up and petted all the time we were

there. We had orders from her to clean out a freezer, move furniture and fix a cabinet on top of the floor and wall being moldy and fixing the roof. Friday we had to split up our workforce. We started out at the second home, finished there and half the group went back to the other house to put the second coat of paint on the roof. We finished late, but by golly we finished!

Michael and I went back to our host parents home and decided to watch a movie and relax. Since they had a mini fridge stocked with soda and lots of crackers, we were literally in heaven. We even had our own bathroom. They were so nice. They had hundreds of movies and said we could watch any of them.

Michael & I didn't want to leave, mainly because of the mini fridge and crackers. Our host parents made us a continental breakfast every morning. Saturday was a more quiet day. We all said our goodbyes. Rose, Clara

and I left Michael there. (He was being picked up by his parents later). We stopped on the way home to get McDonalds. Several hours later, we were finally home. Of course, Rose and Clara took it easy at home while I met friends at Founders' Days. I only stayed home for 20 minutes. That's what our week was like at and after Mission Possible.



*Jeremy & friend at work site using a saw.*

## To God be the Glory!

by **Abigail Bock**



*Girl Power! Abigail and Clara can take on any job!!*

So often it is said that the small things in life make all the difference. Mission Possible was a week that reminded me how richly God has blessed me with the big and small things in life. My work team was assigned two sites. In the first we built a 42-foot wheel chair ramp, and on the

second we completed some small maintenance projects. On the first site the man was confined to a house that didn't have a wheel chair ramp. Building that ramp gave him what he needed to leave the house without help. We also painted a nearby shed to remove vulgar language. The other site had a wheel chair ramp from a previous Mission Possible that needed to be stained, and the woman needed a lock on her back door. Before she had only used a screwdriver to lock her home. It was a wonderful way to experience fellowship and witness to others. It was also a great learning experience. Not only in the realm of power tools, but in remembering what is important in life and sharing that with others.

## I made it back for Trip #2!

By Clara Johnson

I was so happy to be able to go back to Kokomo, IN for Mission Possible this summer. It was FANTASTIC being able to be back with all the friends I made last year serving beside them. This year, the group I worked with built a wheelchair ramp, enabling a man to finally be able to leave his home. I was amazed with the work that we were able to do in only a short week's time.



Clara drilling holes for a wheelchair ramp

## Faith Grows through Serving

by Matthew Burmeister

Seeing as how I had never been on any sort of mission trip before I really had no idea what to expect; of course, I had heard all the great things that people had said about them but could I really believe them? Regardless, I knew I had to experience this for myself.

I found myself delighting in the company of both the people I was serving and the people around me during my trip. By weeks' end I realized that this was the kind of thing that makes your faith grow stronger, seeing the joy of Christ in the eyes of everyone was a very moving experience.



The Power of Prayer! It sustains, protects and unifies the team.

## Team Builds Wheelchair Ramp

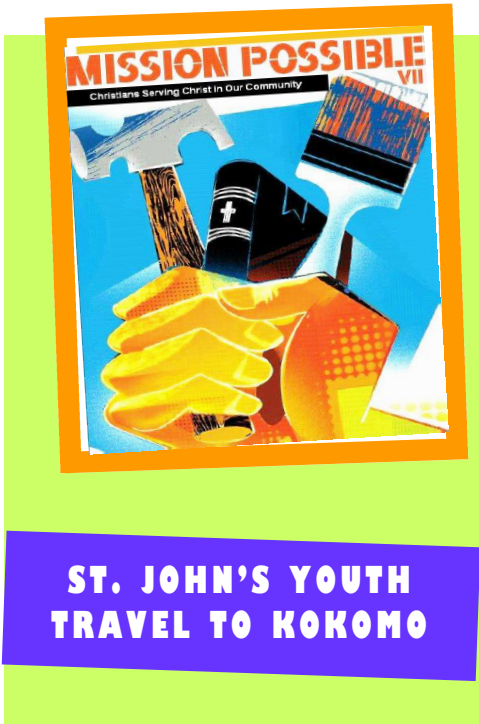
By Michael Banwart

My Mission Possible VII experience was truly one of a kind. I had been on the previous trip, but it was never quite the same. This year, my team built a wheelchair ramp as its primary goal. However, after we arrived we realized much more had to be done. The front gardens needed weeding, the entire backyard had to be reorganized, a leaning fence had to be replaced, and a few trees had to be trimmed. I quickly struck up a friendship with a leader named Clint as we

moved wall plants together, as we shared a similar appreciation for types of music. I caught up with friends from last year, made new ones, and grew closer to God. I really enjoyed the Bible study that we did that week as well. Receive As Gift (RAG) really applied to me for appreciating some of the things that were really bothering me. It made me look at the brighter side. I already miss the trip and would love to go again.



Michael relating to playing the guitar.



**Mission Possible Makes Front Page of the Kokomo Tribune**

**“Teens with Tools”**

The local paper had some amazing things to say about these teens who came from the Midwest for Mission Possible. 13 local Lutheran churches came together for a week of service, serving God, serving others, and serving themselves. Here is what the paper had to say about us...

“God has blessed me so very much this week with these kids”, said Packard a local resident. The teens had installed a wheel chair ramp for her, also cleaned up and weeded her yard.

Teams helped by repairing houses, building wheel chair ramps, landscaping, doing yard work and other chores that the homeowners could not do themselves

“These kids gave up a week of their summer instead of going to the pool” said site leader Greg Kuhlman.

“When the workers finished at the sites each day, they would then head back to the church where they would have prayer and Bible study. After dinner, the church planned activities for them such as swimming and Mission Possible Olympics. “

“The project will end with a potluck dinner for all the workers, homeowners and hundreds of other staff members and families who helped”. “It’s a HUGE support, probably 200 or 300 families”, said, “Sarge” Tucker, the Grand Pubah of Mission Possible, “You couldn’t do this without it”.

Mission Possible is on the Web!  
[missionpossible.redeemerkokomo.org](http://missionpossible.redeemerkokomo.org)

**PHOTO GALLERY**



Another youth celebrates her birthday by serving others.



Part of a wheelchair project



Theirs is always fun at Mission Possible!  
 Here’s one volunteer’s scavenger hunt find-



Playing games after working all day.