



## Your pledge donations are making a difference: Youth Ministries

**Proverbs 22:6** *Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.*



*This is the first of a series of columns we plan to highlight some of the differences your pledge donations are making.*

**Doug Mar reports:** The 2017 Confirmation Class consists of eight youth, their mentors, the staff, and Session. One of the highlights of the 19-week program is “A Day in the City,” when our confirmands focus on service for others.

This year we began at Capital Area Food Bank, where we helped sort eight tons of frozen meats for distribution. We had lunch at Salina Halal Grill (11<sup>th</sup> and K St. NW) because Rev. Katie Strednak Singer had read about the generosity of the Muslim owner who feeds the homeless after the lunch rush. Don and Rachelle, speakers from the National Coalition for Homelessness, joined us. They told our group about their own personal stories of being homeless. They taught us how to reach out and talk to people in Franklin Park as we handed out socks, water, and clementines. After the park, we helped sort and organize a clothes closet at the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church.

The most moving comments were from the time spent with Don and Rachelle in Franklin Park. The human to human interactions have given a tangible starting place for both young and young at heart.

The Youth Program is blessed to have such wonderful support. Our youth began picking potential themes for their annual Youth Sunday during our Ski Trip. In Sunday School, with the help of our leaders Lynley Ogilvie, Sarah Erickson, Craig Saunders, Luke Fisher, Brian Moore and Lea Mulder, the “Water” theme was overwhelmingly popular. The selection of scripture led to sermonizers (Anna Marie Hollar, Olivia Ware, Sean Hollar and Sophia Abi-Najm), music selection as well as an energetic drama (Beth Van Gieson, Matt Brow, Sean Moore, Sarah Curry, Katie Moore). The youth really stepped up with 24 participating. Sarah Sherman was instrumental in preparing our vocalists and musicians. Brian Wilhour graciously supported our music selection. Dick Curry trained our ushers the day before. Our program wouldn’t be possible without the wonderful support of our staff, members, friends and parents.

All this is possible because of your gifts and talents being offered to the glory of God in pursuit of our constant faith development.

-Doug Mar  
*Immanuel Youth Director*

*Thanks, Doug. Please reach out to any Stewardship Committee member with your questions and suggestions or your desire to join:*

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