



Worcester Work Camp

Thank you to all who helped us in our Worcester Work Camp effort. It was a huge success by my standards, Jeremiah's Inn standards and by the kids' standards. Though the weather was not ideal for camping (we got rained on Thursday night and poured on Friday night) the attitudes definitely were ideal for doing

God's work. We had an ambitious group of young men and women (and a few older men and women) who got down to business and transformed two bedrooms and the library with paint and carpeting. The area rugs that were donated looked very nice with the wall and floor paint as did the wall to wall carpet donated by Mr. Ladroga. Thank you all for your generosity. In addition, I still thank God that Greg Hamel answered our prayers and gave above and beyond to help us refinish the floor in Jeremiah's emergency food pantry. He came by to consult and advise on Friday afternoon, stayed the rest of that day and came back for hours on Saturday to help us complete the job. Many thanks, Greg! I think Sasha Pacek has found a new career in floor refinishing!

Chris Hanson was our master Grill Man on Friday night when we cooked dinner for and ate with the residents of the Inn. Thank you Debbie Nickerson for your yummy salads. They were enjoyed by many.

When we were off duty, we were in the water at Wells State Park. We played keep away ("adults" vs kids) and swam across to the opposite shore and back. Pastor John brought his kayaks and canoe as well. Some of us were more sore from that than the work we were doing during the day!

On Sunday, having finished our hard labor, we celebrated the Lord in downtown Worcester. Our first service was at The Dream Center in a huge old church that has been retrofitted with multi-media performance equipment that made Pastor John and our band drool. The second service was on the lawn of the City Hall where we shared communion and our prayers with about 75 homeless people. One man I met and talked with was a former resident of Jeremiah's Inn. He spoke well of the program and the home and yet, there he was. Homeless.

All in all, the Director, Walter, was very pleased with the work we did and the men were quite appreciative. It was a good weekend. We shared our gifts, our talents, our time with each other and with our neighbors right here in Worcester. Special thanks to Brian LeBreton, Mama Stone and Pastor John for coming on this journey so close to home. I couldn't have done it without you.

*"What you all did over the last two days is absolutely phenomenal! It was hard, dirty work completed with joy, love and a great sense of humor..
Thanks so much for making this a better place."*

Walter Spencer
Executive Director, Jeremiah's Inn