

The DOCK Ministries

"...Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

John 17:23

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Reflections from the Perimeter

This year, God had me take on a more supportive role at The DOCK, which gave me time to observe and reflect from the perimeter instead of being in the middle of the activity. Now, there were still times when I was in the middle of the mess of ministry, getting to know kids, hearing their stories, and sometimes dealing with the chaos that is middle school ministry. However, being a bit of a "fly on the wall" has taught me a lot about ministry, particularly urban ministry.

"It takes a village" – We have all heard this phrase expressing the idea that it takes more than a mom and dad to raise a child; it takes a community of people surrounding that child as they grow up to guide and teach them. This can include teachers, extended family, youth group leaders, neighbors, etc. This year at The DOCK we had more contact with parents than I have ever seen. Parent involvement took on many forms: a mom playing basketball with the boys, parents calling in to check on their child's behavior, and

parents looking for someone to walk alongside their child as they went through a hard time. The DOCK Team is happy to walk alongside these parents as their kids traverse middle and high school.

When you step back from the "mess" you can see the beautiful picture God is creating – Most of us have probably seen the videos online of an artist



working on a piece of art and seemingly making a mess. But then at the end of the video they shake off the dust or peel back a layer and a magnificent work of art emerges. That's what The DOCK is like. Sometimes the day-to-day ministry is just messy with kids crying, fists flying, and literal trash everywhere. It's easy to get caught up in those moments and wonder, "What is God doing?" But then you hear stories of kids bringing their family to church or learning memory verses or teaching their peers something and you see it – a beautiful masterpiece that is God's creation.

Everyone needs a family – Families look different in today's world than they used to, but does that make them any less of a family? We use the words "broken" and "dysfunctional" to describe families, and while this is true, do we think about what a "whole" and "functional" family looks like? Is there such a thing? When Adam and Eve sinned, the world became "broken" and "dysfunctional". However, before sin, God created Eve because "for Adam no suitable helper was found." (Genesis 2:20). He was alone and he needed someone similar, but who would complement him as they did the work God gave them. Thus, the first family was formed. Psalm 68:6 tells us "God sets the lonely in families"; he doesn't want anyone to be alone. In fact he adopted us into his family through Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:5). We all have an innate desire to be a part of a family and Christ makes that possible! The students who come to The DOCK have the same desire and no matter what their earthly family is like, they get a picture of an eternal family through the volunteers and staff at The DOCK.

Christy Haviland

Highlight Reel 2015-2016...





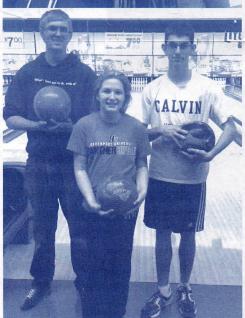
Anthem

Our Anthem students stepped up to the plate this year!

This year at The DOCK, we saw high school students running the candy store, tutoring middle school students, and reaching out to the lonely and hurting. Many of these students have been coming to The DOCK since they were in middle school and they all know what it's like to be in middle school, so it was a blessing to watch them take what they have learned from The DOCK Team and put it into practice. Because our high school students reached out, our middle school students know that someone cares. This is a beautiful picture of discipleship and we are so blessed by all our high school students!

- 25+ Bible Memory Verses
- Students going to church
- 45+ Bibles handed out to students
- High school students leading middle school students
- Art Projects from clay to painting to drawing
- Homework actually being done
- Connections with parents
- Connection with Kelloggsville Public Schools
- Students asking questions about the Bible
- Jesus Christ's name proclaimed!





Partnership for the Gospel - Accelerate

As the Body of Christ, we are called to work together for the Kingdom. This was evident this year through a pilot program at Kelloggsville High School called Accelerate. In connection with One Wyoming 1 on 1, Evergreen Ministries, and A Father's Walk, members of The DOCK Team met weekly with students at the high school during one lunch hour per week. The purpose of this program is to teach students about leadership. The students were chosen by teachers and DOCK staff as students who show potential, but may not have the opportunity to show it. From day one they were told that they were chosen because someone believes in them; for some students this may have been the first time they heard this. It was a pleasure to get to know these students and to see them grow over the semester.



Student Stories

Recently, The DOCK held its annual benefit dinner to help spread the word and grow the support of The DOCK. As part of the dinner, we invited some of the students of The DOCK to share their experiences. This year, we were blessed to have six of our students involved! First, four of our sixth grade students shared about why they enjoy The DOCK. While "hanging out with friends" is always top on the list, they also shared how The DOCK has helped them learn more about God and helped them with their schoolwork. It is encouraging to hear from the students that God is making a difference in their lives. They also shared what they dream to be when they get older, which included: a Paleontologist, a Marine, a Doctor, and a Professional Football Player/Police Officer. The DOCK Team hopes the encouragement and support we give our students now will help build some healthy habits and goals so they can achieve their dreams.

Donation Requests



Donation Request List

- Gift Cards to McDonalds, Taco Bell, Wendy's, Meijer, GFS, etc.
- New Art Supplies easels, canvases, sketch books, drawing pencils, paint, etc.
- New Sports Equipment soccer balls, footballs, volleyballs, basket balls
- · Games card games, board games
- Tutoring Supplies pencils, pencil sharpeners, lined paper, calculators (standard & graphing)
- Chromebook Computers
- Office Supplies white & colorful printer paper,
 Staples gift cards
- Baked Goods cookies, brownies, etc. make 1-2 times per month

In addition to these four sixth grade students, two of our high school interns shared about their experiences. Throughout this year, these girls have been going through the GRIL U (Grand Rapids Initiative for Leaders University) Program and have been actively serving as leaders with our middle school students. Both girls expressed how challenging this year has been, but also how much they have grown while being stretched out of their comfort zone. It is a blessing to watch these girls grow from being in middle school to now serving the younger students and as they grow in their faith.











https://www.razoo.com/us/story/Dock-Ministries



The DOCK Ministries 4669 South Division • Wyoming, MI 49548

Prayers and Praise!



- · Praise for another successful year and all the lives we were able to reach!
- Pray for our students to have a safe summer and that they will continue to be impacted by God's Word.
- Praise for our 4 teen interns, for the growth they experienced, and for the impact they made at The DOCK!
- Pray for our annual High School Retreat, August 8-10. Pray that our students will
 continue to grow in faith and leadership.
- Pray for continual guidance as we follow God's will for The DOCK.

•••• SAVE THE DATE – Kelloggsville Community Celebration •••• Friday, September 16, 2016 | 4:30-7:00 pm | Kelloggsville Middle School Sponsored by The DOCK, Kelloggsville Public Schools, Immanuel CRC, South United Methodist Church, Gordon Food Service, and the City of Wyoming

Would you like to join our e-mail newsletter? Email us at: thedockministries@gmail.com

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