

May 25, 2010



Saints Celebrate: 'In Christ We Can'...Be Stewards! Incredible Class Trips...Dayspring, Washington, D.C., and St. Augustine...

Dear Friend of St. Michael,

In May, we are learning that "In Christ we can...be stewards!" As our middle school students prepared to embark on their various class trips, they were reminded that they would be representatives of St. Michael Lutheran School. As always, our students did not disappoint in their roles as Christian stewards. The comments and reviews from tour guides, hotel managers, and camp counselors were consistently glowing!

The Sixth Grade made their annual trek to Dayspring Camp in Ellenton, Florida. Dayspring is sponsored by Pathfinder, Inc., a non-profit organization, that helps youth create a more positive and fully engaged learning community. Participants learn new skills for greater problem solving, effective collaboration and responsibility for themselves and each other. Through their exciting, hands-on curriculum, participants feel energized for learning while having fun in the process. **Comments from Dayspring: "It was an amazing couple of days with St.**



Michael's. I always love to see young people that give me great hope for the future, and you guys showed me that! Thanks, Adam" and "Thank you for coming! We appreciate what you are creating with the students and we are glad to be a part of it!-Michelle, (Program Director)"

The Seventh Graders excitedly flew to Washington, D.C. for a busy week of sightseeing and learning in our nation's capital. They were treated to classic sights such as the Washington Monument, Ford's Theater, Arlington Cemetery, the National Cathedral, the Lincoln Memorial, Mt. Vernon, and The Smithsonian, just to name a few. It was an action-packed couple of days and the students returned tired but very eager to share information about their trip. **Washington, D.C. comments: "A flight attendant said the only reason our plane took off on time was how quickly the students got into their seats. They also appreciated the fact they we had checked**

the students' baggage and commented that we were much better passengers than the business men who fly regularly. Another Delta employee came to me and said they were the best group he had seen in years. The tour guide at the Washington Cathedral told me he was impressed with their questions and behavior. Visitors at Mount Vernon came up to me and commented that our group was the best behaved group they had come across at Mount Vernon, and they had been there all day!"-Katie Schlotterbeck (7th grade teacher)

Finally, the Eighth Graders ventured to St. Augustine for an up close and personal lesson in the history of Florida. They visited the Old Florida Spanish and Indian Museums, Fountain of Youth, Mission Nombre de Dios and Castillo de San Marcos. As a celebration of their graduating year at St. Michael they also went to Busch Gardens and Disney World. At Disney World, they participated in the youth education program called "Energy and Waves". **Comments from the 8th Grade trip: "Please tell the kids that I am still hearing awesome comments about how well behaved they were in all the attractions and restaurants...It is always a big pleasure being your tour guide because I know that the students are really interested in our history! God bless you all, Ines (tour guide)"**



Our students are ambassadors for St. Michael Lutheran School and the Christian way. We are proud to offer opportunities to expose our children to the world they are learning about in school, and in turn expose the world to the St. Michael difference!

We are instructing for life, here and for eternity! That's the St. Michael Difference!

In Christ,

Robert J. Ziegler Principal, LEA Distinguished Lutheran Elementary Administrator
U.S. Department of Education and NAESP National Distinguished Principal

P.S. The Saint Michael Foundation, Inc. continues to work toward the establishment and funding of various endowments. Check out the "Support St. Michael Today & Tomorrow" program by visiting: <http://foundation.smlcs.org/index.html> .