

Link: <http://www.cmglc.org/>

I had the blessing of spending a week in the Lower Ninth Ward with 8 other members of my church community and while there, was blessed to work with the people at Carpenter's House 2. While working at Carpenter's, I hauled boxes, searched for lighting fixtures, helped serve food to the community, and was given the opportunity to paint a mural with my friend, Suni. Working at Carpenter's lifted my heart because I knew that I was surrounded by good people working for a better world. I was able to meet people from many different areas of the country and hear the stories of the survivors of Katrina. What surprised me the most about my experience was the joyful attitude of everyone I met volunteering-- including those members of the community who survived the storm. Everyone worked amidst tragedy with attitudes that truly reminded me of Philippians, the text my church was studying during our stay. I expected a trip filled with tears, but my trip was full only of tears of gratitude and joy as I realized how truly blessed my life is and how truly meaningful it was to be doing God's work in the world. This trip touched my life in a way that nothing else ever has and I hope to be able to return soon.

Thank you so much for the generosity and good will I found at Carpenter's.

Peace,

Joliene Wade

Sunnyvale, CA

Comment from: Joao Morroco

I agree 100% with you Joliene this was my 4th time to New Orleans and my 1st to Carpenter's House and even though I arrived there all by myself. I left with a bunch of dear new friends in my heart. Carpenters House is a blessing to those that volunteer and the residents as well.

If anyone wants to see the face of God in the midst of tragedy the Lower 9th ward is the place to be...I should return in due time God willing....shalom....

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