The thing I will always take from REACH is the look of hope and great fullness on my homeowner's face when we finished with his house. That, paired with the best work crew and best church ever, made REACH very memorable. The kind of work I did was gutting a room of almost all the insulation, adding structural support to two sagging beams, adding new insulation to the rough frame, covering the house with sheetrock and painting to finish the room. This really made a difference in the appearance and safety of the home.



Each year, REACH has a theme that drives the study, prayer, large group worship and individual and work crew devotion times. The theme this year was 'Connections' - with each other, our homeowners, the world and with Jesus. This impacted me particularly because I was the only one from my church to be in my crew and it was the best experience ever. I made a lot of great friends. They are the best crew because they made me feel at home and I really enjoyed being with them.

God also challenged me and taught me to trust him more. I grew in my faith and was able to just give up all of my faults to Him and to just love Him more. I really learned that I am surrounded by people who love me and I don't have to keep things bottled up anymore. I can just give it all up to God and he will always be there for me.

This has been my 2nd REACH trip and I love it. I would say to someone who would like to go, that it is the best thing ever. If you love God and serving others, then REACH is for you!

Nathaniel Luke Smith