

WE'RE IN THE BUSINESS OF BEING KINGDOM PEOPLE

“ Kingdom people seek first the Kingdom of God and its justice; church people often put church work above concerns of justice, mercy, and truth. Church people think about how to get people into the church; Kingdom people think about how to get the church into the world. Church people worry that the world might change the church; Kingdom people work to see the church change the world. ”

IT IS OUR BELIEF THAT SERVICE WITHOUT EDUCATION IS EMPTY.
WE ARE COMMITTED TO SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE AS PEOPLE NOT
ONLY ENGAGED IN SERVING OUR NEIGHBORS, BUT ALSO AS BEING
FIERCE ADVOCATES FOR JUSTICE.

Because homelessness is a complex situation that requires complex conversations and answers, SPARK and The Dwelling offers opportunities for young people and adults to spend a week during the summer or fall/spring break participating in a Service Learning experience. (An abbreviated weekend “service plunge” is available, too)

Hosted (housed) at local partner churches, participants engage in a week of relationship-building, education, story-telling and service alongside formerly or currently homeless individuals. In doing so, participants will better understand the complexity of the systems and institutions perpetuating homelessness, how the church is responding as Matthew 25 people, and ways that they can continue to advocate for justice, accessible mental health care, affordable housing, and more in their own communities.

Each day, participants will learn and then serve. For example, each week we will focus one day on food insecurity and the direct correlation between nutrition and homelessness. Learning from guest speakers, including nutritionists and other health professionals, participants will take the deep dive into the systemic issues of poverty and wellness affecting our homeless population. After learning a quick lesson on nutrition, participants will plan, budget, shop, and prepare a meal that will be served to our neighbors that night.

Homelessness is not localized. Many of the problems facing individuals experiencing homelessness in Winston-Salem are the same across the country. This service-learning opportunity has the power to mobilize national change and spark the church to action.