



The Sentinel

Sunday, March 14

Our first full day started with a hearty breakfast and then it was off to church at the National Cathedral. There were a few enthusiastic nods during the sermon which apparently meant strong agreement with the pastor. Lindsay, Brittni, and Riley had the privilege of bringing the elements forward for communion!

As we left the Cathedral, we went down Embassy Row and arrived at Ford's Theater and the Peterson House. Seeing the state box in the theater where Lincoln was shot, the derringer that Booth used, and the bed where Lincoln died gave us a snapshot of the sadness the country went through when we lost this great man.

After lunch in Alexandria, we went to Mt. Vernon. When you think of Mt. Vernon, you automatically think of the beautiful home of George and Martha Washington with the 100 foot back porch and a sprawling lawn leading down to the Potomac River. We found out that it is so much more! We not only found out about George Washington's life, but also what life was like living in the late 1700's on an 8000 acre plantation. The mansion with its artifacts and artwork was certainly the highlight of this stop, but the old and new burial sites of George Washington and 25 of his family members were a close second. It was especially meaningful to read the inscription on the wall above George Washington. It was a quote from John 11:25 - 26 which says, "I am the resurrection and the life saith the Lord. He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

We thought we were having dinner at McGills. Some of us were excited because we thought that might be like McDonalds, only seafood. When we got there, it was MaGills and it was pizza and buffet. It was delicious!

After dinner, we headed off to the FDR Memorial and the Jefferson Memorial. The FDR Memorial used waterfalls to symbolize the turbulent period of the great depression. It also taught us the four freedoms he stood for: Freedom of speech, Freedom of religion, Freedom from want, and Freedom from war.

The iconic columns of the Jefferson memorial were impressive and beautifully lit in the night sky. The 19 foot high bronze statue of Jefferson surrounded by four of his most famous quotes was the centerpiece of this memorial. The quiet waters of the tidal basin provide a serene setting for the memorial.

It is now past 10:30 and all our students are present, accounted for, in their rooms, and being watched over by our hallway guards 😊.

Quotable Quotes of the day?

Student: Mr. Wit, why do we have macaroni and cheese for breakfast?

Mr. Wit: Those are eggs - they are just a little runny...

Parent: "I am so impressed with our tour guides. They are using the sights and sounds of our nation's Capitol and applying it to everyday life lessons. There is more of a Biblical perspective than I imagined!!!"

Mr. Wit: "Name two people who are buried in Washington's tomb at Mount Vernon."

Student: "George Washington and Helen Keller"

"When they relocated George Washington's body, how did they know they got the right bones from the family tomb?"