

Summer Mission Trip 2010
June 27-July 2, 2010
Clintwood, Virginia

Mission trips are a week of hard work, lots of fun, good friends and an opportunity to do something that makes a difference in the life of another person or family. This summer we will be working with Binns-Counts Community Center near Clintwood, Virginia, in one of the coal counties of southwest Virginia. They are committed to education, health care and decent housing for all. We will work with the people at Binns-Counts Community Center to make houses safe, warm and dry, and will do jobs such as repairing roofs, adding porches, building wheelchair ramps, replacing floors, and painting. **The mission trip is open to students entering ninth grade through adults, but younger students are accepted as long as a parent comes with them.**

Here are the answers to some questions you might have...

Where is Clintwood? Clintwood is in the southwest corner of Virginia near where Virginia, West Virginia and Kentucky meet in the heart of the Appalachian region. We would travel south on I-81, then near Abingdon head north about an hour.

What work will we be doing? The work is arranged for us by a group from the Community Center who assesses the needs of the community. One third of the houses in the area are mobile homes which require more upkeep than frame houses. Jobs we are likely to do are repairing roofs, adding porches, replacing floors, painting, and building wheelchair ramps. We will know more specifically when we are closer to the time of the trip the types of jobs we will be doing.

Who provides leadership? There will be both youth and adults on this trip and responsibilities will be shared. Janet Denton will be the staff person on the trip. Some of the jobs we do will depend on what skills we bring to the group. Each evening we will spend time together debriefing the day, sharing what we've learned, or engaging in the local culture.

Where do we stay? We will stay at Binns-Counts Community Center. There are 40 beds there, several showers, and a large kitchen and meeting space. We are responsible, as a group, for our own meals, so we will arrange easy menus and cooking teams. Breakfasts and lunches will be simple, probably cereal and toast for breakfast and sandwiches for lunch. Dinners we will eat family-style.

How much does it cost? Binns-Counts Community Center asks for a donation per person to purchase building and renovation supplies as well as cover the costs of our housing. It is estimated that the cost per person (including materials fee, housing fee, transportation, and food) will be between \$250-300. However, each person is being asked to pay \$125 for this mission trip. The church, through donations, budgets, and possibly fundraising, will offset the other expenses. If costs are a problem, scholarships are available.

How do we get to Clintwood? We will carpool together and use those vehicles to get to the worksites each day. Typically we will split into smaller groups of 6-8 and work at a house for several days. With several groups we can work on improvements for 3-4 houses during the week.

Why do we do it? There are at least five reasons for our mission trips...

- To live out God's commandment of loving our neighbors as ourselves
- To help others
- To experience a different cultural setting from our own
- To learn from those with whom we work
- To share the experience of living, working and having fun together

SO . . . WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO NOW?

1. Talk with your family about the trip.
2. Fill out the enclosed Registration Form and return it to the church by **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7th**.
3. Include with your Registration Form a check made payable to "Salem Presbyterian Church" for \$125.00.

What happens next? There will be more forms to fill out and lists of things to gather. In addition, closer to the date we leave, there will be an informational meeting to make sure teams are formed and questions are answered. Of course, questions can be asked and suggestions made prior to that meeting!

Do you have additional questions? I know this only begins to answer some of the questions you might have. If you have others please feel free to give Janet a call. The number at the church is 389-3881.

Janet

It is our policy that everyone who would like to go on any church related trip goes. If there are financial considerations that make paying for the trip difficult, please speak with Janet Denton.

Salem Presbyterian Church

Mission Trip to Clintwood, VA

June 27-July 2, 2010

To register for our trip to Clintwood this summer, fill in the information below and return this form to the church with a check for \$125 made payable to *Salem Presbyterian Church* by February 7th.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE NUMBER _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

GRADE IN SCHOOL: _____

WORK EXPERIENCE: _____

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE: _____

SIGNATURE OF PARENT
OR GUARDIAN _____

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