

Summer Mission Trip 2024 ***July 28-August 3 to Hazard, Kentucky***

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 through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and Housing Development Alliance (HDA) in Hazard, KY. The two organizations are working together both for new construction in an impoverished area, and also for flood relief from the summer 2022 floods. HDA strives to eliminate substandard housing in the area and believes that a good, high quality, affordable home empowers low-income people and families, and can break the cycle of generational poverty. **The mission trip is open to students entering ninth grade through adults.**

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

Where is Hazard, KY? Hazard is 250 miles (4.5 hours) from Salem, southeast of Lexington, KY.

What work will we be doing? The work will be arranged for us by a group from HDA who assess the needs of the community. We will know more specifically closer to the time of the trip the types of jobs we will be doing, but likely we will be putting in subflooring, installing windows and doors, putting up insulation and sheetrock, painting, and landscaping.

Where do we stay? We will be staying at First Presbyterian Church of Hazard. We will stay in the Sunday School rooms, some of which have cots or bunk beds. We will need to provide our own sleeping bags or linens. The showers are located at the Recreation Center a block away, and there is also a pool (for after showering). There is a kitchen at the church. We will eat together as a group, but will have responsibilities to prepare our meals.

Who provides leadership? There will be both youth and adults on this trip and responsibilities will be shared. Janet Chisom will be the staff person on the trip. In addition, there will be carpenters from HAD on site to help lead the construction work.

How do we get to Hazard? We will carpool together and use those vehicles to get to the worksites each day. Typically, we will split into smaller groups of 5-6 and work at a house for several days. If we have enough people, we can work on improvements for several houses during the week.

How much does it cost? We are asking each person to pay \$100, which will help to cover costs of food, transportation, and supplies. If you would like to give more, we will make sure to send it on to them! If you need help with the \$100, just let us know!

Why do we do it? There are five reasons for our work 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

What do you need to do now?

1. Fill out the Registration Form below and return it to the church by **Sunday, January 28.**
(There will be opportunities to add people right up until the date, but we need to make sure we have enough people to make the trip viable!)
2. Include with your Registration Form a check made payable to “Salem Presbyterian Church” for \$100.00.

What happens next? Invite others to join us. Closer to the date, we’ll meet with everyone who is going and parents of youth to review last minute details and questions. You will need to fill out several forms: Medical Information, Volunteer Consent, and Construction Information.

Additional questions? I know this only begins to answer some of the questions you might have. If you have other questions, please give Janet a call. The number at the church is 540-389-3881.

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REGISTRATION FORM

To register for our trip to Hazard, KY July 28-August 3, fill in the information below and return this form to the church with a check for \$100 made payable to *Salem Presbyterian Church* by January 28, 2024.

Name: _____ Current Grade in School: _____

Address: _____ Birthdate: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Emergency Contact (Name and Number): _____

Construction Skills (if any): _____

Signature of Participant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian (if under 18): _____ Date: _____