

Mariners Summer Mission Trips Packet



Dear Students, Leaders and Parents:

We're excited you are interested in being a part of something bigger than you! Something that could change your life and the lives of others. We realize it is a change for the Mariners group trips to focus not just on you, but others.

As leadership, this year we've prayed that by introducing you to what Jesus' life is like- a life completely dedicated to serving, loving and sharing his truths with others, you will get a clearer picture of what it's like to be a follower of Christ.

We hope you've had a chance to experience the joys of focusing on others this year through things like: the weekly Impact time and all the ways you contributed to the 5pm service; participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday; serving in the inner city with CSM. If not, these mission trips will give you that chance!

We pray that you will walk away with more heart and head knowledge of Jesus, equipping you for the next opportunity He gives you to be Jesus in your character, share Jesus with others in word, and choose to live like Jesus.

With great enthusiasm we unveil the key verse for each of the mission trips:

Random ACTS of Kindness Roadtrip:

Every day they continued to meet together They broke bread ... and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. Acts 2:46-47 (NIV)

High School Arizona Mission Trip:

Celebrate God all day, every day. I mean, revel in him! Make it as clear as you can to all you meet that you're on their side, working with them and not against them. Help them see that the Master is about to arrive. He could show up any minute! Philippians 4:4-5 (MSG)

Let those sink in. Start memorizing them- believe us you will certainly know every word before you leave for your mission trip!

You'll notice both verses include the phrase, "every day". It's a great reminder to all of us that *every day* is new a chance to make different choices, try new things, celebrate, love one another. *Every day* we must wake up and choose Christ!

High School Arizona Mission Trip

WHO Current 8th graders (going into 9th grade) through graduating seniors are welcome to apply. This trip is limited in size. Registrations will be filled on a “first-completed registration in” basis.

WHAT We will fly from San Francisco to Phoenix, serving in the mountain area north of Flagstaff on a Navaho reservation. We will explore Sedona and the Grand Canyon. Our trip will be guided by staff from Wondervoyage missions, www.wondervoyage.com

We will be reaching out to the Navahos through relationship building and work projects, working alongside a local church. Through our actions we hope to convey a message of hope, love and peace to the people we serve and meet.

In Arizona we will experience God’s diversity, beauty and awe. From the astonishingly lush Sonoran Desert to the breathtaking red rocks of Sedona, and from the ancient and multi-layered Hopi and Navajo population to the Grandest of Canyons in the world.

Experiences planned include:

- Explore, the Grand Canyon, one of the most amazing outdoor cathedrals in the world.
- Sing a song of worship on a desert plain where the only lights around are the heavens above.
- Spend hours hiking the inspiring trails around Sedona.
- Engage in storytelling, and taste local delicacies at a true Navajo celebration.

WHERE In case you didn’t catch it above ☺ northern Arizona!

WHEN August 4-10.

THE PROCESS

1) Complete your liability and medical forms and determine your deposit payment by filling in the “How Much I Cost my Family for a Week” worksheet. **Return forms and determined deposit to Mariners by Friday, May 2.** Really, you could easily complete the form today, which would be a good idea.

2) Drop off your completed fundraising letters, address on each **UNSEALED** envelope to the church by **Thursday, 15 May.** Also leave a complete list of all people you are sending letter to for Diane to use in accounting for checks received.

Minimum 10 letters per person, no maximum. If you are only sending out 10 letters, please prayerfully and strategically consider who you are sending the letters to. Each note must include a personal, handwritten, note at the bottom area of the letter.

FYI: We will insert the postage-paid, pre-addressed envelope for your friends/family to return- it will have the church's address on it.

3) Participate with your team (to be assigned) in neighborhood and church stock sales. More details will follow on this.

4) Go on trip!

5) Participate in Sun., Aug. 24 Student Missions Program for all 3 services. 9:00, 10:30 & 5pm.

EXPECTATIONS

Each student will actively participate in all three parts of the fundraising process. Parents may assist students, but may not do all the work for their son/daughter. Once you are confirmed on the trip you will commit fully to this experience and not take it lightly.

This is a journey of community, which will require us to lay down our lives for those on the team. There are several differences between a community journeying together and a group of people traveling together:

- *A group* is "me" motivated. Everyone looks out for himself or herself first.
- *A community* is servant motivated. We look to the needs of the others as well as our own.
- *A group* comes as glorified tourists looking for excitement.
- *A community* comes as seekers, learners and listeners.
- *A group* is torn to shreds through adversity.
- *A community* is built up through adversity because of their commitment to fellowship.

Every day there will be a sharing time. Everything shared within the group is confidential. No one will be forced to share. When someone is sharing we'll all focus on that person, and not interrupt or try to "fix" the person speaking

As a part of the group, you will participate in whatever work is needed. No activity is optional. We will serve with joyful and willing hearts.

Wondervoyage, their staff, and our Mariners leadership reserves the right to send you home- at your parents expense. The following actions may cause a team member to be sent home: engaging in illegal activities; recurrent insubordination; sexual misconduct; endangering oneself or the team; any substance abuse; jeopardizing future relations with host team or location contact; stealing; causing division and strife; physical fighting.

We will be fasting as a group from cell phones, email, and practical jokes.

No money is needed. Everything will be provided for from the fundraised monies. Be praying that the right amount of funding comes in to accomplish whatever God desires for us to do!

No MP3 players, video games, or anything that would distract you being a part of the group experience.

We will all have a positive attitude at all times, no complaining or whining. If a “boo” slips out, 3 thoughtful “yea’s” will follow until you speak another word- leaders included. More on that later.

You must bring a Bible. We will be memorizing scripture. Expect that when we are having a teaching time (whether in the car or anywhere) that you will be respectful, listening for what God wants you to learn. These “Encounter” times are the most important part of the trip, the journey toward the heart of God. When people meet the Lord face-to-face, lives are changed.

Expect to have a blast, be amazed at God! Expect to have prayers answered daily. Expect God to show you His love. Expect for people’s lives to be touched and most of all yours!

Our attitude and actions can be summed up in RELATIONSHIPS:

Recognizing God values everyone

Encouragement

Laughter & celebration

Acceptance

Time with friends & families

Intentional follow-up

Outreach oriented

Non-threatening

Sharing God’s grace

Honesty

Involve ment

Professional

Students matter

Realizing we were each created for a purpose

Strengthening each others’ faith

Having fun that glorifies God

Meeting one another wherever we are

Building relationships with each other and families

Taking time to care

Looking beyond ourselves

Making sure we have a safe & stable environment

Striving to live out of God’s love & acceptance

Encouraging an authentic atmosphere

Involving ourselves with the church as a whole

Doing things well

Showing students they are first-class citizens in God’s family

Dear friends and family:

How are you? I hope that all is well with you! There are many exciting things going on in my life and I want to share one of those with you. This summer I have a chance to make a difference in the world and help others.

I'm joining the youth group at my church on a mission trip to Arizona to serve in the Navaho Native American community from August 4-10. We will be reaching out through relationship building and work projects, working alongside a local church. Through our actions we hope to convey a message of hope, love and peace to the people we serve and meet.

Did you know that... 42.9% of the Navaho Nation live below the poverty level in contrast to 12.4% for the United States as a whole.

Our hope is by serving the less fortunate we can do share the love of Jesus in action. "Those who are kind to the poor give to the Lord, and God will reward them for what they have done." Proverbs 19:17

I'd like to be your representative in giving to the less fortunate in the Navaho nation. In the early church people were "sent" by friends and family to spread the good news and serve others. We're doing the same, and are looking for friends and family who will financially help with this mission. I'd love to represent you report back how God uses us.

I am including a postage-paid envelope for you to use if you feel led to contribute. I need to raise all my funds by June 4. Know that any contributions you make go to both my participation in the trip, as well as the service projects we are taking on. All contributions are tax-deductible.

Please make checks payable to *Mariners Church*, please note my name in the memo field of your check.

Thank you so much for considering being a part of this!

God bless,