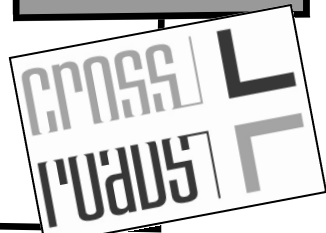


Inside this issue:

Kids Camp	2
Service Projects	2
General Trip Details	2
Fundraising Info	3
Pine Straw Sale	3
Threads of Hope	3
Budget Breakdown	4

Dates To Know:

- Registration Due: March 14
- Pine Straw Sale: February 14- March 7
- Pine Straw Delivery: March 13th
- Trip Prep Meetings: May 9th, June 6th
- Trip \$\$ due July 3
- Packing Night: July 15



philadelphia, pa

whowhatwhenwherewhy?

When: July 17-24

Where: Urban Philadelphia, PA

Why: To obey the Great Commission, Spread the Word of God, and Have Fun Doing it!

First Presbyterian's youth ministry has a long standing tradition of serving others joyfully and of taking CHRIST to every place that we go on mission. This year, after much prayer and discernment, we are planning to travel to Philadelphia, PA. On this trip, we will be doing a mixture of different service opportunities- including working with children, the homeless, and other populations.

We are travelling to Philadelphia through the Center for Student Missions, the same organization that hosts our Middle School ministry when they travel to Washington D.C. Since we have worked with this

program in the past, we are confident that our experience will be good, and that we are travelling with reliable people.

If you are reading this, it means that you are probably considering having your high schooler go on this trip with us. We want to openly acknowledge that this trip may be uncomfortable for them- in a good way. Our goal is to teach students how God is moving in ALL parts of the world, through people and cultures that are familiar, and also unfamiliar to them. We truly believe that God wants us to engage with Him in all circumstances, and sometimes, by obediently following him outside our comfort zones, we learn more about his character and love than we might otherwise. We also promise to engage students in real discussions about the world, American society, and how God is actively redeeming this nation, and moving in our lives.

what do i do to be able to go???

We only have 47 spaces available for students on this trip at this time. This means that our roster will be filled on a first-come, first served basis. We cannot guarantee that there will be spaces still available even up to the March 14th Registration Deadline! The best thing to do in order to secure your spot is to turn in your paperwork and deposit ASAP!

In order to be registered for the trip, please turn in your Mission Trip Registration Form, a \$150 non-refundable deposit, and the medical release form.

We plan to have 2 mandatory preparation meetings for this trip, where trip members will

learn about the projects we plan to do in Philadelphia, the call Christ has put on us for missions, and the expectations for conduct for the trip. These meetings are scheduled for May 9th and June 6th after the 11 AM Service.

Students going on the trip will also be expected to help plan our program for Kids Club events. Students will be placed on teams and will be expected to plan at least one day of programming for the Kid's Club program. Each student will be expected to pull their own weight in the planning of Kids Club, as well as when running the program itself. This trip is going to be fun, but we are also going with our primary goal as spreading the word of Christ!

trip details...

philadelphia- at a glance*

The fourth largest city in the US, Philadelphia is known as the city of brotherly love, the birthplace of cheese steaks, the home of liberty, and the Land of Rocky Balboa. William Penn founded Philadelphia in the late 1600's and called it his 'religious experiment' because of his desire to see it as a city where people of all religions could live. According to the 2000 census, 1.5 million people live inside city limits, with an additional 3.6 million living in the metro area.

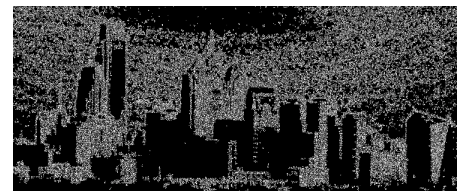
It is estimated that about 23 percent

of the total population lives below the poverty line, including 31 percent of those under age 18. In several neighborhoods the percentage of people living in poverty is over 40% and 38% of children live at or below the poverty line.

On any given day in Philadelphia, approximately 6,500 people are homeless. Sixty percent of the homeless population are families. Many of them live on the street or in abandoned buildings. Only 56% of adults in the city are able to find steady work. Similar to

many large cities, about 1 in 5 children live in a household with no working parents. 72% of the city's children live in a home where no father is present.

*Data provided by Center for Student Ministries, and Youth Works Ministries.



kids camp

"On any given day in Philadelphia, approximately 6,500 people are homeless. Sixty percent of the homeless population are families."

One of the most rewarding aspects of the trip for many of our students is the kids summer camp that we will be working for each afternoon while we are in Philadelphia. This summer camp is a Vacation Bible School-type program that our group will be putting on for the children in the neighborhoods where we will be working.

We are actively seeking students that are willing to share their gifts of music, art, teaching, creating, dance, and

ORGANIZATION with us during the trip! We are looking for students to head the planning teams for the Kid's Club program. These students will coordinate team meeting times, and help decide what projects and lessons their teams will teach at Kids Club.

All students will participate in the kids camp in some way, as a team leader, a Bible teacher, or a performer of skits or music. We are going to have a lot of FUN with this process!

fun activities!

- Yes, we are going to serve in PA, but we also are going to have a lot of FUN! We are planning to stop in Washington DC on our way to Philadelphia for an overnight, and we have lots of fun activities planned for there.
- We are also going to have a free night on our trip, where we are going to go to a Philadelphia Phillies Baseball game! Don't worry- we will also have a chance to check out the sights and tastes of this new city. Have we ever let you down on the fun factor before?

service...

Here is a brief snapshot of some of the organizations we will be working with in Philadelphia...

MANNA (Metropolitan AIDS Neighborhood Nutrition Alliance) is a non-profit organization that delivers nourishment to people living with HIV/AIDS. Volunteers and staff work together to provide three nutritious meals a day, free of charge.

Philabundance Food Bank works to end

hunger and malnutrition in the Delaware Valley by providing agencies with inexpensive food products. Our groups assist the Food Bank with this process by sorting and organizing all of the food donations.

Sunday Breakfast Rescue Mission provides chapel services, meals, short-term emergency sleeping, men's recovery/discipleship program, and a thrift store. The mission started by

servicing meals on Sunday and now they do three meals a day. Our groups help prepare lunch and attend the chapel service.

Hands of Hope is an outreach ministry to homeless. The goal is to scripturally meet physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of hurting people in a practical way. Our groups get to hand out lunches, talk to, and pray with people on the streets.

fundraising info!

pine straw 2009

Traditionally, the pine needle sale has been a great fundraiser for 1st Pres students! We take advanced orders from friends and neighbors for pine straw, purchase it from a local vendor at roughly \$3.50 a bale, and then sell it for a \$1.50 a bale profit. Students can charge an additional \$2 per bale* to spread the pine needles. Therefore, your student has the potential to earn almost \$4 per bale!

Advance pine needle sales will take place

on Sunday, February 14th through Sunday, March 7th. There will be an info meeting scheduled on February 14th to explain more about the sale. The distribution date for the sale is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, March 13th, from 8 AM - 4 PM. Each student is responsible for securing their own transportation (i.e. pickup truck) on the pine straw distribution day.

We are still in need of a parent coordinator for this fundraiser. Please

be advised that if we do not have a parent coordinator,

it is not likely that this fundraiser will take place. If you are interested in helping with the project, please contact Marissa! (marissaj@1stpres.com.)

*A 10% tithe from funds raised at this fundraiser will go to the youth mission trip fund.



threads of hope

This is our NEW fundraiser for 2010! Threads of Hope is an organization that helps people in the Philippines support themselves and their families by making bracelets and selling them to people in the U.S. Without the income provided by these bracelets, many of these families would be forced to participate in the sex trade or be caught in the web of human trafficking.

We will be selling the bracelets made by these families! Thin bracelets will be sold for \$2 and thicker bracelets for \$3. This may seem inexpensive, but it

will add up quickly! Out of the sales, 50% will go to support these families in the Philippines, and 50% will go directly towards your trip! That means at least ONE DOLLAR of each bracelet you sell will be helping you on your way to Philadelphia!

One great thing about this fundraiser is that you are not asking people to pay a large amount of money. Once they hear the benefits of the bracelets, and know they only need to pay a few dollars, hopefully your sales will add up QUICKLY!!!

lowes cards

We have an ongoing sale of Lowes Foods Gift Cards. Individuals can purchase these cards to pay for their regular groceries and their student earns 6% of the total value of the cards. *Ex: if you purchase \$500 in Lowes Cards (in \$25, \$50 & \$100 amounts) then \$30 would be credited to that student's "account" for the trip.* This is a way to raise funds without actually spending extra money- just imagine that 6% of your normal grocery expenses are going towards your trip! Cards can be purchased on the first Sunday of each month in the Worship Center (10:40-11am & 12-12:20pm) or Fellowship Hall (12-12:20pm) OR at the front desk of the church during regular weekday office hours. **(A maximum of \$200 can be raised for each student by this fundraiser.)**

support letters

Support letters are a wonderful way to recruit family and friends to support a student missionary through prayer and through financial means. It can be humbling to ask for money, yet its also such a big blessing to receive gifts of support and prayer from others.

Guidelines for support letters will be available, and it's a good idea to start

thinking now about the people you would like to ask for prayer and financial support for this trip. Think of the goal in writing the letter as 3-fold: telling your friends and family about the opportunity they have, asking them to support you in prayer, and finally, asking for financial support. If you are having problems drafting a letter, please ask Marissa or Amasa for help!

contact info

Marissa-
336.723.1621 x246
marissaj@1stpres.com

Molly-
336.723.1621 x239
mollyf@1stpres.com

Amasa-
336.723.1621 x237
amasam@1stpres.com

<http://1stpres.com/youth/crossroads/crossroads.html>



soul care

I know that summers fill up fast, and that too often the students go rushing from one great event to another, with little time in between for doing laundry, much less processing what has happened in the past week! This mission trip has potential to be life changing for many of our students; often they have never encountered this type of poverty, culture, or service. An experience such as this has the potential to revolutionize a person's view of the world and of faith, but we need to allow room for God to work in their lives. Because of this, we challenge you to create space for the students after the trip. Stay at home.

Allow the students to tell you the stories of what happened. Allow students time and space to reflect.

I know that there are beach weeks and soccer camps and a million other wonderful experiences to be had. However, I do think it is important to give God room, and TIME to work. You can do your part, by encouraging your son or daughter to take a breath! Sometimes saying NO to a great opportunity is healthier than rushing along to the next thing. They will need some time to process, whether they recognize it or not...

if you are interested in coming as a leader to philadelphia, please email marissa!

all right- how much is this thing gonna cost me....

Total Cost:

\$725

This includes:

Transportation

Lodging in Philadelphia

Fun Activities along the way

Food for the week

Phillies Game

Costs for Kids Club

T-Shirts

