

Prairie Lutheran



Youth Mission Trips Summer 2012

Green Bay, WI
Centralia, IL

1 John 3:18
Love in Action

Prairie Lutheran Church

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Mission Trip FAQs

Who can come? Prairie Lutheran Church is a community of Jesus followers committed to making Jesus Christ known. The church organizes this summer trip as a way for teenagers in our congregation and their friends to experience the amazing love that God has showered on his people, and awaken their God perspective for the world. Prairie Lutheran provides transportation and leadership for the trip, while partnering with a mission organization located in the city to provide direction and volunteer opportunities.

What is a Mission Trip? Mission Trips are weeklong experiences designed to show teenagers the true character of Christ, through service, worship, and fun. Participants leave their comfortable world behind in order to step into the lives of those less fortunate. The primary focus of this trip is service which may include time at a soup kitchen, day care, food shelf, painting, building, cleaning or other tasks. Each evening the mission trip participants will gather for worship, games, and other activities in the community. Through these service projects, relationships with other mission participants, and the work of the Holy Spirit, teenagers see God in new ways.

Why should I come? At Prairie Lutheran, we've found that teenagers who give a week of their life to God's mission find a new stronger identity as a Christian. They experience rich friendships, deeper commitment to a relationship with God, better understanding of their own gifts and talents, as well as a new perspective of poverty and their role in God's world.

Important Notes for High School Trip

Group Workcamps:

The Centralia site through Group is one where there will be approximately 450 participants traveling from around the nation to come and serve the people of this community. This means that Prairie Lutheran's large group of 50 total participants will not overwhelm other groups, but rather we will blend in and get to know people from a wide range of different backgrounds.

Service Groups:

Though it might sound scary to be in a group with people we do not know, but it is amazing what can happen in the matter of a week. During our week of service in Centralia, our group will be separated during the day into smaller groups where we may not know the majority of the people in our group. This is done intentionally so we can each build relationships, learn to serve along side one another, and experience the challenge of working with new people.

Tools:

Since we will be doing more physically engaging service on this mission trip, each participant will need to bring several tools along. These tools include things like safety goggles, work gloves, N-95 disposable mask, tool pouch, bag or bucket, small, medium and large paint brushes, paint roller, paint tray cover, paint tray, paint scraper and/or wire brush, screwdriver(s), hammer, spray bottle, tape Measure.

We will also be collecting several larger tools that will be returned at the end of the trip. This list includes things such as ladders, drills, circular saws, etc. Keep an eye out for when we begin collecting these items.

Don't worry parents, participants must be 18+ in order to use power tools.

Dates to Mark on Your Calendar:

Payment dates:

PLC Member Registration Begins - December 7 until full, requires non-refundable \$100 deposit

Friend Registration Begins—December 14 until full, requires a non-refundable \$100 deposit

Once each trip is full, overflow students will be put on a waitlist in the order that registrations are turned in.

Payment Dates

Final balance opens December 21-March 21

You may pay with credit card or paypal online at www.prairielutheran.org by simply clicking on "Register and Pay" and follow the instructions. Checks can be made payable to Prairie Lutheran Youth. You can drop deposits and payments off at Prairie Lutheran Church, or send this registration form to the address below. Mission Trip spots are filled on a first come, first serve basis. You are not registered until your initial deposit is paid and registration received.

Prairie Lutheran Church
Attn: Youth Ministry
11000 Blossom Rd.
Eden Prairie, MN 55347

Upcoming Meetings

We will be meeting multiple times prior to our mission trips in order to get to get to know one another, develop teamwork, and determine our gifts. These meetings will also allow for forms to be received and collected and questions to be asked.

Meetings will be held on Wednesday evenings TBA and each trip will meet separately for approximately one hour.

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How do I get involved? You can sign up for this mission trip by completing the **enclosed registration form**. When you turn in this form with a trip deposit you'll be officially registered for the trip. **Non-refundable Trip deposits are \$100 for Green Bay and Centralia.** From there we'll be sending you updated information as the trip draws closer, including a payment schedule for the remaining money and mandatory pre-trip meetings.

Can I bring a friend? Yes! This is a great way for you and your friends to experience something fun together. Many times the friends we bring end up sticking around our group throughout the year because they've found such a strong connection. We can't promise that you and your friend will be together all week long, but we will make sure that you make lots of memories together. **In an effort to allow our members to sign up, registration will open up to friends on Wednesday, December 14.**

Can adults come? If you're looking to take a big step forward in your faith life, we want to talk to you! Each year we give adults the opportunity to lead teenagers during these trips and their hearts and lives are changed. Young adults who are ages 21 and over are also welcome to join this mission as leaders. Please contact Justin Daleiden if you think you might be ready to help volunteer on a trip like this. He will train the trip leaders and help you become a minister to our teenagers. We will need adults for both of our groups.

Middle School Mission—Green Bay, WI

Who: Current 6th— 8th

When: July 8—July 13th, 2012

Spots Available: 30 students, 7 Adults (21+)

Student Cost: \$400



What's it like there?

Green Bay, Wisconsin has all the amenities of a big city, but offers the simple pleasures and relaxed pace of a smaller town. The Green Bay of Lake Michigan, for which the city is named, offers a beautiful setting to bask in the sun. While the city has been consistently recognized as a great place to live, this is not the case for all residents. There still are those who struggle with poverty and even homelessness. Through ministry at homeless shelters and through outreach to both children and the elderly, Prairie Lutheran Youth will have a unique opportunity to shine the light of Christ into the darker parts of this city.

How Can I SERVE through YouthWorks?

Participants **SERVE** in a variety of ways during a YouthWorks mission trip. Students may spend all week at one ministry or switch between ministries during the week. Our goal is to partner with local organizations and programs that seek to address the very basic needs of residents. Students may serve at places like: Children's Programs, Elderly Centers, Soup Kitchens/Homeless Shelters and Thrift Stores. We ask that you come with a willing and flexible spirit!

High School Mission—Centrاليا, IL

Who: Current 9th—12th

When: July 21—July 28th, 2012

Spots Available: 40 students, 10 Adults (21+)

Student Cost: \$500



What's it like there?

Centralia, Illinois lies an hour east of St. Louis and is steeped in the rich history of the railroad and coal mining era. Like many communities that built their roots in these industries, the changing times and technologies have taken a powerful toll on the lives of residents who relied on these businesses for their livelihood. However, family and moral values still serve as a shared foundation for the excellent quality of life and are an everyday part of living. These values and the area's low crime rate have continued to enhance the spirit of dedication, pride and love the citizens have for the area. The residents who need your help. Invite you to "share the spirit" of this mid-sized community, where cooperation is a tradition and everyone participates with enthusiasm and a sense of community pride and service.

How Can I SERVE through Group Workcamps?

At Group Workcamps, youth groups come together to serve individuals and communities, while building strong, long-lasting relationships with their friends and youth leaders. In six short days, hundreds of kids from youth groups across the country will repair and transform homes while strengthening and transforming their own faith. Part of the faith building comes in the form of the daily challenges. Now we don't mean we're going to ask kids to scale a tree with a chainsaw but we do want to challenge them to do something they may not have done before. For some, that might be painting a house for the first time; for others, they may learn how to use a chop saw or drill. Whatever the case, sometimes getting a little uncomfortable and vulnerable is exactly where God wants us.