

Morgan Hill Presbyterian Church

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January 27, 2011

High School Parents:

Each year we have challenged our high school students by giving them the opportunity to experience the love of God through direct service. In recent years we have taken our team to work at an orphanage in Mexico and we have served in our own backyard in urban San Francisco and other year round local opportunities. This year we were doing research and praying through a lot of possibilities that were out there. Our mission team philosophy has been to challenge the students in their relationship with Jesus through hard manual work, direct relational ministry to the poor and doing this by partnering with the local church. It is important that all of those qualities were present in the location we take our students.

This year we have scheduled our sr. high team to serve the Western Navajo people through a mission group called Experience Mission (<http://www.experiencemission.org/>). Our team will have the opportunity to work and serve in Black Mesa, AZ. We will be helping out local families with home repair and remodels and have a chance to work on a specific project for the local church we will be staying at. The group will also get to work with the local Kids Club group, which will be similar to the VBS style ministries we have helped with in the past in Mexico. This will be a great challenge for our students; I look forward to seeing their commitment to Jesus expand through this experience.

We have “grabbed space” for our trip, which means we have let Experience Mission know our interest in bringing a team June 26-July 1 and they are working to secure the space for us. However, we need to officially register our group, which includes a \$100 deposit per team member that is non-refundable. We will make an estimated registration by mid-February. **It would help us greatly if you could give us an idea if your son/daughter is interested in attending so we can make an educated guess to block off spots.** A mission team application will be posted online, which needs to be turned in by Feb 16th, along with that \$100 deposit for your child. We encourage you to guide them through the questions and encourage them to take time in their responses. The application is a valuable part of the mission process.

There is also a parent meeting following the 2nd service on Feb 13th for more information about the trip. Please come to get information about fundraising, dates and our parent/student covenant; as well as ask questions about the trip.

Important info for the trip:

- We will be serving in Black Mesa from June 26-July 1, but will need to have extra days for travel (our leadership team will post specifics later). Black Mesa is in northern AZ, about 2.5 hours from Flagstaff which has an estimated daily temp of 72 degrees in June.
- Estimated cost before fundraising is \$600-650 per person.
- Our current plan is to drive there, with an estimated driving time of 13.5 hours. It is about 3 hours longer than our drive to Mexico and about 5-6 hours longer than if we flew (given time estimates for the airport, rental cars and the 2.5 hour drive from the airport to Black Mesa). Driving also provides the best cost for each team member.
- Our fundraising will be similar to last year. We will have a pancake breakfast on Palm Sunday, but will be changing the Rent-a-Kid program a little bit and possibly adding one more fundraiser.
- Another way to bring cost down would be borrowing vehicles instead of renting.

Want more info? Go to www.experiencemission.org, click on the mission trip tab, the Western Navajo link followed by the Sr. High tab. Click on any of the links for “trip details” for a breakdown of the ministry.

Please be praying for this trip and this team.