

## **2012 Senior High Work Trip – Eastern Shore, VA July 28 - August 5, 2012**

### **About the Trip**

We will pack the vans on Friday July 27 in the evening. You must be present for this. If you cannot be there, Paul must know a full week in advance (“I have to work” the day before won’t cut it). Unexcused absences from packing night will result in a fine: your family will be responsible for providing snacks for the trip.

We will depart at approximately 6:30 AM on Saturday July 28, traveling to a stopover in the southern PA or northern Virginia area (specific location TBD). We will make the rest of the trip to the Eastern Shore after worship on Sunday morning, when the camp begins that afternoon.

We will be at the work camp from July 29 – Friday August 3. We will depart camp the morning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and spend Friday and Saturday morning in the Washington D.C. area, staying at Vienna Presbyterian Church in Vienna, VA (one of the churches at our work camp last year – they have showers!). Saturday afternoon/evening we will leave Vienna and start the trip home, with a stopover somewhere in between (Cleveland? Pittsburgh? Columbus?).

We expect to arrive back in Elmhurst around dinner time on Sunday August 5. Please try to avoid making plans that evening – we do not control the trip time, especially around the south edge of Lake Michigan.

More details about locations and logistics will be available at the start of the summer.

### **About the Work Site**

We are partnering with YouthWorks, with whom we have partnered most years recently (last year was Group Cares). They have an ongoing commitment to ministry in Eastern Shore, and we look forward to becoming a part of that this year.

The Eastern Shore of Virginia is a narrow peninsula located between the Atlantic Ocean on the east and the Chesapeake Bay on the west. It is 22 miles at its widest point. With more than 128,000 acres of woodland, 143,000 acres of tidal marsh and 263 square miles of water, the Eastern Shore is ideal for getting back to nature. The town of Onancock and surrounding area were heavily influenced by Native Americans in their early settlement, evident today by the names of the towns and villages. Today, however, the residents of Onancock are primarily white (66 percent) and African American (31 percent), but the Hispanic population (3 percent) is steadily growing. The total population is currently 1,525. Housing costs have climbed from a median price of \$79,400 in 2000 to \$94,600 in 2005 and, for many residents, their wages can’t keep up with this increase. An average unemployment rate of 10 percent has led to poverty in parts of the community. The per capita income for the town is \$18,393 and 15.3 percent live below the poverty line.

## **A Typical Day**

### **Breakfast: 7:00am – 8:00am**

All groups who come participate in the preparation and serving of meals and cleanup. This gives youth an opportunity to serve one another and share the responsibility of the housing site. A YouthWorks staff member will be present in the kitchen for all meal preparations.

### **Devotion and Prayer Time: 8:00am – 8:45am**

We set aside time every morning for personal devotions. Everyone is given a devotional journal, authored by YouthWorks, that highlights Biblical passages and messages that will be given throughout the week.

### **Depart for Work Sites: 9:00am**

The largest part of the day will be spent working at work sites. Be prepared to serve, develop new relationships, and have fun! Work will either be work projects (painting, clearing debris, flood relief, etc.) or Kids Club.

**Shower/Down Time: 3:30pm –** Opportunities for this time of day varies from site to site. Adults will have a meeting, but youth get to have fun.

### **Dinner: 5:30pm – 6:30pm**

### **Evening Activity: 6:30pm – 8:30pm**

The staff will have evening activities planned that provide a cultural, fun or educational experience or a mix of all three for the whole group. We require that you participate in all activities and that you are flexible as these may change depending on weather, availability or transportation.

### **Club: 9:00pm – 10:00pm**

The group gathers for singing, skits, games, a Christ-centered talk given by a staff member, and prayer.

### **Church Group Time: 10:00pm – 11:00pm**

After Club, each church group will gather to process all that happened throughout the day. The main trip leader will receive a Church Group Time Guide created by YouthWorks that has intentional questions to help your group process the day.

### **Prepare for Bed/Lights Out: 11:00pm – 11:15pm**

## **Mission Site Theme**

### ***You Are Here.***

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength...Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."

Mark 12:30-31.

## **New For 2012**

Based on our experience and the group we expect to go this year, the following new guidelines apply.

- Each youth **MUST** pack their own bag. Mom can't do it for you. This creates accountability for what you do and do not have. You are in high school. You can pack your own bags. Detailed packing instructions will be provided... so you can do it.
- Friends and guests are always welcome to come with us. In order to do so, they must attend YF at least twice and Paul must meet their parent/guardian before they can consider themselves "booked" for the trip. We haven't had any problems with guests in the past, and we consider ourselves fortunate. This is to mitigate risk going forward.
- All payments must be given to Paul directly – not in the offering plate, mailed to the office, or dropped in a church mailbox. This is to avoid confusion and ensure proper accounting.

## **Trip Cost and Payment**

Total trip cost = \$680 per youth  
(*\$280 for camp fee, \$60 to cover adult volunteer's camp fee, and \$340 for travel related expenses*)

Expected YPC Mission support and key donations lower cost for all youth to **\$450 per person.**

We have two planned fundraisers. Youth who participate in the fundraisers will receive the benefit of those funds. Based on past results from these fundraisers, we expect that they will lower the cost of the trip by about \$100 per person -- or more, if we really make the fundraisers successful! So the net cost could be as low as **\$300 per person.**

An initial deposit of \$150 is due upon reserving a spot for the trip. Until this payment is made, your spot is not held. Spots are available on a first come, first served basis. There is a limit of 23 youth. To assist in our planning process, please commit with your deposit by January 1 (though sooner is always better).

An additional payment of \$150 is due by March 15. You may choose to pay the entire \$300 up front if you'd prefer.

At the conclusion of the final fundraiser, we will determine the final balance due for each youth. Depending on your level of participation in and the success of the fundraisers, this balance could be as little as \$0 or as much as \$150. This payment will be due by July 1.

Please contact Paul if you are concerned about the cost of the trip. Scholarships are available.