

KATRINA MISSION WORK TRIP

When is it scheduled?

We will be in New Orleans the week of April 11-17th, 2010. The team will leave early Sunday morning the 11th in order to check into the Village by 7 PM in New Orleans. The team will return Southern Indiana on Saturday the 17th arriving late evening.

Who can come?

Participants must be at least 18 years of age. The volunteer villages organize special youth weeks in the summer, but other times the village age minimum is 18 years old. If a congregation has only one person interested that is Okay. We would like representation from as many of our cluster churches as possible. Participants need to have health insurance. The general insurance carrier for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has provided for a limited number of volunteers to be covered if they do not currently have insurance. If any participant would need this coverage we will need to know as soon as possible.

What will it cost?

The per day rate for room and board in the Village is \$20. We will share the transportation costs to and from New Orleans so this cost will be affected by group size, number of vehicles taken, whether or not we rent a van. First Presbyterian Church in Jeffersonville has offered the use of their church van again this year (thanks FPC!)

Will we need to pack special tools?

The Presbytery of South Louisiana is organizing the work assignments. Each house that is to be worked on has a full set of all tools and equipment needed to do the job. It is a large construction tool box on wheels. All supplies are in place when the teams arrive.

What skills are needed?

Since we are past the unskilled labor of cleaning and tearing out drywall and soggy carpet, there is a serious need for skilled labor. However, painting and caulking jobs still remain. Drywall skills are also needed. Janet Moore will stay behind and organize the food preparation and cleaning of the village. She will need assistance so cooks and cleaners are welcome as well. About one month before we go we will all fill out a skills inventory to be sent to New Orleans so that the work assignments will match the skills represented in our mission team.

Where can we get materials, videos, recruitment info?

Please check the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance web site (www.pcusa.org/pda). Under Work Teams you will find a great deal of information under Work Teams. Videos, posters, and other information is available through the web site.

What is the village like?

Olive Tree is a regular building (former Presbyterian Church) with a men's and women's dormitories. The beds are hugely uncomfortable so a good sleeping pad and sleeping bag are required. There are excellent shower facilities, as well as laundry facilities on site. The space is conditioned (heat and air).

Is the need still great?

You will be shocked to see how much work remains to be done. Our work makes a big difference, provides hope, and is essential to the recovery process.

Will we see any of New Orleans?

On one evening we will go out for a meal in the French Quarter as a break from the routine. Last year we also spent one afternoon getting a full tour of the damage and to see what various groups are doing to support the recovery. We will also learn about the environmental challenges that helped create the disaster and that still need to be addressed.

What does my church need to do to participate?

Please notify Janet Moore (JanM215@insightbb.com ph: 948-9931), or Susan Ryan (susanryan94@yahoo.com ph: 923-9164) of your interest. We would be happy to come and talk with your mission committee or interested persons. An orientation dinner will be held after the first of the year.