

Navajo Indian Reservation, Shiprock, NM Middle School Summer Mission Trip 2008

This Summer's Mission Trip for Middle School is going to be amazing! We are going to have a great time working hard and having fun! Our goal as a Junior High Youth Staff is to provide the youth a very *Safe, Meaningful, and Fun* trip! And most important, a trip *where the Holy Spirit can be felt*. This will take all of us.....staff, parents – and especially the great youth of HPUMC!

It is my hope that the following document will answer any questions you might have regarding the trip! For more information, please feel free to call Drew at 214-523-2149.

If you need to contact us during the trip (emergencies only, please), call Tova Sido , Drew Seelman , or Stephen Lohoefer

Q.: What's this mission all about?

A.: The only Navajo-sanctioned, college-preparatory school for Native Americans, Navajo Preparatory School recruits some of the best and brightest students of the Navajo Nation. Looking to the future, the school offers students a challenging, innovative curriculum in science, math, computers, and other traditional academic subjects. In harmony with the past, it steeps the youth in a deep appreciation of the Navajo Language, culture, and history. Armed with this impressive, balanced education, students graduate with the skills to succeed in college and an understanding of the world around them. Many will become leaders of their people and role models for future generations.

Located in Farmington, New Mexico, a few miles outside the Navajo reservation, Navajo Preparatory School's mission is: "To educate talented and motivated college-bound Navajo and other Native American youth who have the potential to succeed in higher education and become leaders in their respective communities. The school provides a rigorous academic program based on a strong foundation of Navajo Philosophy, supported by a residential environment that enhances individuality and independence. This mission is reflected in the School's motto:

Q.: Is it safe?

A.: **Absolutely!** We are going to an area that Walt Marcum has taken countless trips to and is a huge proponent. We have many adults going on this trip to keep all the youth safe.

Q.: Are there any medical considerations?

A.: We are well equipped to handle most medical emergencies. However, should one of the adults or youth need advanced medical attention, several hospitals are a very short distance away.

Additionally, on the medical form, please include and describe **ANY** and **ALL** pre-existing medical conditions including behavior conditions and medication-related allergies. This information will be held in the strictest confidence, but is required in case treatment of related or non-related conditions is necessary.

If your youth takes ANY medications, it's important to note that we will "take those up" and will have an adult whose sole responsibility is to manage the medications during the trip. This is for the safety of all the youth. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call Drew.

*****Please have all prescription medications in their original package or ask the pharmacy for a package for the week that we will be on the trip. Please have them put a Pharmacy label on the medicine. Please do not bring medicines in plastic baggies unlabeled; this is for your child's safety.***

Do not for any reason discontinue prescription medications (including any behavior-modifying medications) during the trip and ensure an adequate supply is available for the trip.

Q.: What about food?

A.: All meals are organized and prepared by leaders on the trip. The youth will be eating well-balanced meals through out the week.

Q.: What are the sleeping arrangements?

A.: Cots & sleeping bags! We will be sleeping on a high school gym floor. (girls on one side, boys on the other, and the adults in the middle!!)

Q.: Can I bring my cell phone or other electronics?

A.: The youth staff recommends that all cell phones stay at home. If you feel that your child needs the phone to call home during the trip cell phone is permitted for that use only. Many times cell phones become a distraction; we don't want anything to distract us from our mission. The Youth Staff will have their phones with them for the trip, which may be called in emergencies.

Also, the plane ride is short so we ask that a youth does not bring video game systems, DVD players, etc. for that time. They may bring an iPod or music playing device to listen to on the plane – but must be put away while in New Mexico.

Remember, anytime that a electronic item becomes a distraction the youth staff will keep the item until we return to Dallas.

Q.: What do I need to bring?

A.: It is important to remember that you are going on a mission trip and your stuff could get pretty dirty! Please don't bring anything nice.

Gear:

1. Sleeping bag, blanket, and pillow
2. Cot or camping pad
3. Toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, brush, soap, and shampoo)
4. Flashlight (bring extra batteries) the new LED type have very good battery life
5. Water bottle or canteen
6. Sunglasses and hat/visor
7. Work gloves (leather is best)
8. Work shoes (two pair. need to be sturdy and ones you don't mind getting dirty)
9. Work clothes (**no** dresses, shorts, or tank tops)
10. Swimsuit (modest)
11. Socks & Underwear for every day we are there
12. Long sleeve t-shirts (for sun protection)
13. Sweatshirt/fleece (just in case it gets cold) – put in carry on – we are going to be hiking in the mountains before we get to our stuff
14. Jeans for work (old that you don't mind getting REALLY dirty)
15. Shower and camp shoes
16. Rain gear
- 17. Bible**, journal, and pen
18. Spending money
19. Camera and film (disposable cameras are great)
20. Towel(s) and wash cloth
21. Sunblock and lip balm
22. Insect repellent
23. Aspirin, Tylenol or ibuprofen

Mission Schedule

Thursday, June 19: Please bring your sleeping bag, pillow and cot between 5-6pm to the church. These items must be loaded in the cargo van. You cannot check these items on the airline.

Saturday, June 21: Be at **DALLAS LOVE FIELD** at **6:30am** – this is a must to be at the airport this early *DO NOT BE LATE!* Meet at the Southwest ticket counter – DO NOT go through security with out the group. We are flying on Southwest #2148 to Albuquerque, NM – we land at 9:00am

Saturday we are staying at the YMCA in Albuquerque

Sunday, June 22:

We will be driving to Shiprock, NM where we will be spending the week. We are staying at Shiprock High School at US-491 & US-64

Monday, June 23 through Thursday, June 26

6:45a – Wake Up

7:15a – Breakfast

8:00a – Morning Devotional Time

9:00a – Head to Navajo Prep School to work

12:00(ish) – Eat Lunch

5:00 – 6:00p Break for the day and return to Shiprock High school

7:00p – Dinner, Evening Activities, Worship

10:00p – Sleeping Time!

Friday, June 27

We will be driving into Colorado today to Mesa Verde National Park and exploring the Park. We will return to Shiprock High school in the afternoon.

Saturday, June 28

Fly back to Dallas, from Albuquerque on

Southwest flight # 1195 -Arriving into Dallas Love Field at 10:55pm

Please be at the Airport to pick up your child on Saturday night

Sunday, June 29

Come to the church between 1:00 – 2:00p to pick up your sleeping bags, cots, and pillows