



St. Croix Valley
Faith Formation/LIFE TEEN
presents.....

Mission Trip 2010

Memphis, Tennessee

hosted by SHINE Catholic Work Camp

June 13 - 20, 2010*

For all 15-18year-olds
(as of June 2010)

*Dates are not final but will not vary more than a day or twoon either end.



Apply by March 1, 2010

St. Croix Valley LIFE TEEN

SHINE Catholic Work Camp Mission Trip 2010

Application

Memphis, Tennessee
June 13-20, 2010

For ages 15-19 (as of June 2010)

***Applications must be turned in by March 1, 2010
but will be reviewed upon reception***

Full Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone (home) _____ Telephone (cell) _____

Email Address _____

Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Are you applying as an adult chaperone? (Must be at least 21 years old) _____

Parish your family belongs to (as registered members) _____

Please describe your present and past involvement with the churches of St. Charles, St. Mary, and/or St. Michael; St. Croix Valley Faith Formation; and/or St. Croix Valley LIFE TEEN.

Why are you interested in participating in this mission trip?

What are your expectations for this trip experience?

What are some of the gifts you feel you would bring to this group experience?

In what other, if any, service or volunteer experiences have you participated? (*i.e. Summer Stretch, Volunteering at the Nursing Home, etc.*)

What are your skills, interests, or hobbies that may be useful on this trip?

*Please return this application to:
Annie Fochtman no later than **March 1, 2010***

*St. Croix Valley Faith Formation
218 Willard St. E.
Stillwater, MN 55082*

Fax: 651.379.1279

Emailed applications will not be accepted

the scoop.

How do I get to go?

All 16-19 year-olds must fill out the enclosed application and return it to the Faith Formation office by March 1, 2010. Priority will be given to active members of the St. Croix Valley Catholic community.

How will we get there?

We will be driving by van from Stillwater to Memphis over the course of 2 days. (About 13 hours road time.)

What will we be doing?

Our Stillwater group will be joining youth groups from all over the country and working with an experienced Catholic youth service organization, SHINE Catholic Work Camp (www.shinecatholicworkcamp.com). Each day will be spent either refurbishing homes by doing such things as painting, weatherizing, housecleaning, landscaping, yard work, basic construction, hanging doors or windows, etc..., cleaning up vacant lots, helping at a day care center for low income families, or working at a shelter. The goal of the service projects is for the participants to build up hope in the community and to search for ways that they can go back and serve in their own communities. But our days will extend beyond manual labor. Each day will have a number of opportunities for the participants to deepen their Catholic faith such as: daily Mass, vibrant praise and worship experiences, youth group prayer times, adoration, and more. You will also have one free day to participate in social and cultural activities around the city.

What if I don't have construction experience?

Don't sweat it. There will be a number of different service opportunities that you will be able to choose from. And, if you want, you can always learn some new skills.

How safe is this?

SHINE takes safety very seriously. Their worksite supervisors have a great deal of experience not only in the project itself, but also in supervising youth. Though we may be participating in some hard labor, teens will never be asked to do anything that would put them in harm's way.

How much does it cost?

\$500 (paid over a period of time) covers:

- Transportation
- All meals (expect free day and travel days)
- Lodging
- Inspirational, motivational faith building programs
- General liability insurance
- A SHINE t-shirt
- Organizational costs



Where do we sleep?

SHINE has a partnership with Bishop Byrne Catholic School in Memphis who will be hosting us. We will sleep in the classrooms!

Can parents come?

Of course! Though the spots reserved for adult chaperones are limited, we welcome parent involvement so long as you have agreed upon this with your child. If you are interested, please fill out the attached application and indicate that you would be volunteering as a chaperone. Chaperones will be asked to pay a reduced rate to participate. All chaperones must attend special trainings and undergo a background check.

What do we need to do before hand?

First, apply. After you have submitted your application, we will be contacting you to let you know whether or not you have been accepted to join us on our 2010 Mission Trip. If you are in fact accepted, there will be two MANDATORY preparation meetings on dates to be determined. You will also be given a payment schedule which must be completed by June 1.

Ok, so I know what to expect. What will be expected of ME?

On any extended trip, especially one based on serving others, it is important that we all keep some important things in mind:

- **Openness:** You will be exposed to a different culture, different foods, and different people. This experience of the Body of Christ is a gift and requires our hearts to be open to receive it.
- **A servant's heart:** This is not a vacation. The goal of this trip is not to have fun (though it's probably going to happen!), but to serve – to live outside of ourselves. You may be asked to do things you may not want to do, but it is important to do so without whining or complaining. When that happens, you rob yourself of a potentially fruitful and grace-filled experience.
- **Appropriate dress:** The way we dress says something about ourselves so we ask that everything about us says to the people we serve, "Respect." For that reason modesty will be enforced.
- **Leaving the world behind:** We live in a noisy and busy world. One of the most unseen, yet fruitful gifts of a trip such as this is that we will be able to leave the world we know behind, enter into one that is not typical of our own, and – above all – enter more deeply into the life of God. Because we do not want to distract ourselves from these gifts, no cell phones or iPods will be allowed. (*Chaperones will have cell phones for emergency purposes only.*)
- **Alcohol, drugs, tobacco, weapons of any sort, and pornography are strictly prohibited. Possession of these items will result in the participant being sent home at his/her own expense.**



For more information, questions, or concerns contact:

Annie Fochtman
Coordinator of Youth Ministry & Confirmation
St. Croix Valley Faith Formation

651.351.3175

afochtman@scvff.net