

Group Mission Summer 2019

www.groupmissiontrips.com/trip-types/weekend-home-repair/hammond-in-2019/

What is a Mission?

The word “mission” can have several different meanings... *“a group or committee of persons sent to a foreign country to conduct negotiations... provide assistance, or the like”, “any important task or duty that is assigned”, and our favorite, “an important goal or purpose that is accompanied by strong conviction; a calling or vocation.”* (Hat tip to Dictionary.com) This Mission is exactly that, it’s a calling... there is a reason you and/or your parents are here right now, and we thank you for answering that call.

Where are we going? – Hammond, Indiana

Join the struggle of a proud city determined to overcome adversity.

Once the home of a booming industrial economy, Hammond has been hit harder than most by the recent economic collapse, and with the close of factories, residents have experienced a loss of income and hope. The population has dropped nearly 40,000 in the last 40 years, leaving behind a struggling elderly and young adult population. Jobs are hard to find here, and what few there are don’t pay much.

The people of Hammond know you are coming—in fact, many have waited for years to receive your help. You’ll be amazed at how a simple coat of fresh paint can restore a person’s self-esteem, or how a sturdy new wheelchair ramp can restore the freedom of someone whose disability has kept them trapped in their house for years.

Challenges come and go with changing times, but your group can bring lasting hope and needed service to these great people. Your work here will be truly meaningful as part of an on-going, sustainable effort by caring people determined to rebuild their city. You will truly be changing lives, including your own.

When are we going? – June 21-24, 2019

What will we be doing (once we get there)?

Projects include building wheelchair ramps and porches, repairing siding, painting the interior and exterior of homes, and other home repairs. Residents are excited to welcome you!

Will we stay together?

Our work crews are made up of six people with one adult and five youth--typically each person from a different church. We are happy to keep your group together if needed, just let us know. If the goal of your ministry is to have your youth meet new friends and develop social skills outside

of your youth group, then there is no need to contact us--we'll mix your participants up to make crews.

WHERE DO WE STAY?

A Workcamp can hold up to 400 participants and we house them all typically at a middle or high school. GMT staff transforms the facility into a home away from home--there will be a separate boy's hall and girl's hall, a cafeteria for meals, adequate bathrooms and showers, and either a gym or auditorium for programs.

Participants need to bring twin-size air mattresses, pillows, sleeping bags or other bedding to sleep on classroom floors. Youth groups are assigned to sleeping rooms together, gender separate. Sleeping rooms may be shared with other youth groups, depending on the size of groups and the size of the room.

WHAT IS THE MENU? WHAT IF THERE ARE SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS?

Meals will consist of hot breakfasts, picnic-style lunches, and hot dinners. All meals will be prepared for participants by kitchen staff. Picnic-style lunches will be assembled in the mornings and brought to worksites. The first provided meal is dinner on Friday and the last meal is lunch on Monday.

For registered groups: If you have a participant that has to eat gluten-free--please let us know. We are going to have a few gluten free options at camp this year and need to have an accurate number. The sample menu is located on Your Group Page under the Schedule, Menu, and Packing tab. Share this with your participants so they can start planning. Participants with special diets or allergies are welcome to bring their own food items to fill in as needed during the week. Please know that we do have peanut butter on the menu. GMT is unable to guarantee there will not be any cross-contamination during meal preparation by kitchen staff. There will be a staff member available at camp who will be able to answer any questions about food.

WHAT ARE THE PROGRAMS LIKE?

- **Jesus-centered**
Our goal is to point people to Jesus. Programs focus on Bible passages and daily themes that challenge us to respond to Jesus in ways we will never forget.
- **Interactive**
People learn better by doing. Participants will be involved in sharing, speaking, singing, acting, reflecting...not just sitting and watching.
- **Relevant**
Through creative multimedia thought provoking sound and video, and moving contemporary worship, programs are designed to reach everyone.
- **Fun**
Relationship-building activities, games and having fun are part of every program. Expect to have a great time!

WHAT'S THE SCHEDULE?

Friday:

Check-in: between 2-4 p.m.

4:00 p.m. First program, followed by the Adult Meeting

6:00 p.m. Dinner

7:30 p.m. Evening Program, everyone will get to meet their work crews!

9:00 p.m. Youth group devotions

11:00 p.m. Lights-out

Saturday and Sunday:

6:30 a.m. Rise and shine!

7:00 a.m. Breakfast, gather supplies and sack lunches

8:00 a.m. Morning program and then depart for work sites!

12:00 p.m. On-site lunch and devotions

4:00 p.m. Return to lodging for clean-up and free time

5:30 p.m. Dinner

7:30 p.m. Evening program

8:30 p.m. Youth group devotions

11:00 p.m. Lights-out

Monday:

6:30 a.m. Rise and shine!

7:00 a.m. Breakfast, gather supplies and sack lunches

7:45 a.m. Morning program and then depart for work sites!

12:00 p.m. On-site lunch and devotions

12:30 p.m. Return to lodging facility to Check-out

PACKING LIST

PERSONAL ITEMS:

- Air mattress, cot, or foam pad (twin-size)
- Sleeping bag or sheets
- Blanket and pillow
- Towels and washcloths
- Modest swimsuit and shower shoes
- Toothpaste and toothbrush
- Soap and shampoo
- Any prescription medications
- Laundry/plastic bags (for dirty clothing)
- Long pants or jeans
- Modest shorts
- Work t-shirts
- Pajamas, socks and underwear
- Work boots or sturdy shoes
- Water bottle
- Personal health insurance card or copy
- Bible
- Tools from the Tool List
- Jacket
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Bandanas, a hat, or visor
- Insect repellent
- Mirror*
- Camera*
- GPS* (recommended for drivers)
- Rain gear*
- Musical instruments*
- Snacks*
- Fans* (most schools do not have AC)
- Flashlight*
- Alarm clock* (battery-powered)
- Spending money*

*Optional Items

AS A GROUP:

COMMUNITY GIFT: We asked each camp location for a specific need in their community. Your group's mission: have FUN collecting as much of the needed item as you can and bring it to camp with you!

Check Your Group Page, under the "Schedule, Menu and Packing List" tab, to see your camp's requested item. Your gift will be meeting a specific need in the community you are serving--thank you in advance!

- ▶ Involve your congregation, friends and even your local businesses in the effort.
- ▶ Is transportation a problem? Purchase your community gifts when you arrive.

WHAT NOT TO BRING:

- Alcohol, tobacco products, or illegal drugs
- Expensive clothes or jewelry
- Anything really valuable
- Fireworks, weapons or toy guns
- Skimpy or revealing clothes

Please bring clothes that are appropriate in any situation. Longer shorts, t-shirts, modest swimsuits, etc.

CELL PHONES/IPODS/LAPTOPS/ETC.

For security reasons, it's best to leave these items at home. However, we do understand that they are great for capturing moments, sharing life, and communicating back home. If you decide to bring any of these items, don't let them distract from your experience. How can you be tethered to your devices and expect God to work in unexpected ways? If you decide to bring them, be sure to put them away during the programs and on your work sites.

TOOLS TO BRING

EACH YOUTH SHOULD BRING:

- Safety goggles
- Work gloves
- N-95 disposable mask
- Tool pouch, bag or bucket
- Paintbrushes: variety of sizes
- Paint roller
- Paint roller cover
- Paint tray
- Paint scraper and/or wire brush
- Screwdriver
- Hammer
- Spray bottle
- Tape measure

AS A GROUP PLEASE BRING:

- One 5-gallon water jug (1 per 6 people)
- Family-size cooler on wheels (1 per 6)
- Spade shovel (2 per group)*
- One box of rags
- Drop cloths
- At least one wrench/socket set
- Small old containers for paint
- Paint bucket hook (1 per 6 people)
- 16-ft or longer extension ladder (1 per 6)
- 8-ft stepladder (1 per 6 people)
- Post hole digger (2 per group)*
- Jigsaw and sharp blades (1 per group)*
- First-aid kit (1 per vehicle)
- A box of gallon sized Ziploc bags (for paint brush storage)
- A box of large strong black trash bags

*If your group is larger than 50 participants, please double these items.

EACH ADULT SHOULD BRING:

- Safety goggles
- Work gloves
- N-95 disposable mask
- Tool pouch, bag, or bucket
- Paintbrushes: variety of sizes
- Paint roller extension handle
- Utility knife and extra blades
- Chalk line and chalk
- Chisel
- Caulking gun
- Circular saw
- Level
- Pry bar
- Square
- Extension cord
- Ground fault interrupter
- Cordless drill 18 volt or better
- Extra drill battery with a charger
- Star Bits Type T-25
- Drill bit kits (including small bits for drilling pilot holes and a 3/8" diameter 6"-8" in length)

The only tools at camp are those that YOU bring! There's a chance you may not use all the tools you bring, but it's better to have a tool you don't need than to need a tool you don't have!

Tools are often shared so be sure to label all tools with your name and church.

Flying to camp? You're still going to need tools! Plan to either ship ahead or purchase upon arrival. You can donate your tools to your resident or ship them back.

We don't expect you to purchase these tools brand new—try to borrow them or buy them used. If you do purchase a tool, keep the receipt in case it doesn't get used.

SMC & SOTH Mission Fundraising

Individual Fundraising:

Letter Writing Opportunity

Thursday, November 29th, 2018 6:00pm in SOTH Coffee House

We recommend your son/daughter bring a list of 10-20 (or more) names and addresses. The list can include family, friends, co-workers, businesses or anyone else that may be willing to help. Your son/daughter will write a short personalized note at the bottom of the standard letter that is specific to their potential donor. Shepherd of the Hills will supply the letters, envelopes and postage for the letter writing event, but teens are encouraged to bring extra letters home with them and mail them out from home (stamps/envelopes not provided after the letter writing night).

The letter includes instructions for donors to mail their checks to Shepherd of the Hills. All money that comes with your son/daughter's name will go directly toward the cost of their fees for the trip. As checks come in to the parish for your son or daughter thank yous will be sent from the parish. During our mission your son/daughter will also write thank you notes to those that gave a donation. If you are unable to attend we still encourage your child to send these letters and be a part of this fund raiser. Letters will be made available on the parish website. Please contact Katie Boehm, DRE for a copy of the letter after November 29th.

(Required) Group Fundraising: Noodles & Doodles 2018

Saturday, December 16th, 2018 9am-7pm

Adult Help: SEE-Trained Mission Trip parents & Chaperones

Teen Help: Mission trip All Teens on Deck. 2 Shifts 8:30-2:00, 2:00-7:30

Daily Schedule

9:00-9:30	Check-in & Open Gym
9:30-10:00:	Cafeteria games
10:00-10:30:	Open Gym
10:30-11:00:	Doodle Session 1
11:00-11:30:	Lunch (Please pack a cold lunch)
11:30-12:30:	Gym Games & Playground
12:30-1:00:	Doodle Session 2
1:00-1:30:	Cafeteria Games
1:30-3:00:	Movie & Snack Time
3:00-3:30:	Set the tables & decorate
3:30-4:00:	Parent Pick-Up
4:00	Mass with parents or Help with Dinner Prep
5:00-6:30	Free Spaghetti Dinner and Doodle Silent Auction

All of this made possible by SMC & SOTH Mission Trip Teens: free will offerings appreciated. This event will be in lieu of 2 collections at either church or Culver's dates and is meant to be the big mission fundraiser. Gift-wrapping will also be available that day. If needed, we will add a Culver's day to the calendar in the Spring.

