

Youth Leaders Forum

NEW this SPRING!

Join with other youth leaders from around the Presbytery to crowdsource what works, what doesn't, planning tips, joys and frustrations of working in Youth Ministry

Date: Saturday, March 4th

Leaders: Rev. James Holeman and Rev. Michael Poulos

Place: Waldesian Presbyterian Church, Valdese, NC

Sponsored by the PWNC Youth Ministry Committee





PRESBYTERY YOUTH EVENTS

Time to Mark Your Calendars!!

March 17-18, 2017

High School Mission Retreat

Bring your youth for an overnight retreat to build relationships and being in service to the Black Mountain Children's Home

Black Mountain, NC

Cost: \$25/person

April 29th, 2017

Youth Adventure Day!! New event!

Register and bring a van full of youth and enjoy a day of adventure at Camp Grier. We will end the day with dinner and be led by the PYC for a closing program.

Cost: \$20/person

July 11-19, 2017

International Mission Trip to Guatemala

Open to PYC and other high school youth in the Presbytery

Cost: \$1300

Limited Space: 8 youth/4 adults

New!! Youth Adventure Day

PWNC AND CAMP GRIER**APRIL 29TH 10:30 AM-7:00 PM****MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH**

**10:30 AM - REGISTRATION
AND GROUP GAMES
NOON-1 PM PICNIC LUNCH
(bring your own!)
1-5 PM - ADVENTURES ON
CAMPUS:**

- Canoeing
- Agriculture
- Global Village
- Pump Track
- Climbing Wall
- Firetower Hike
- Mountain Biking
- Horseback riding (limited)

**5-7 PM - DINNER, MUSIC
AND WORSHIP**

SPACE
LIMITED TO
75. SIGN
UP EARLY!



**REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 1ST. INFO
AVAILABLE @ PRESBYTERYWNC.ORG**

**\$20 per person covers all activities, dinner and
snacks!**

**WHY WAIT?
DO FAITH**
MICAH 6:8 ; ACTS 8:36

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!!

**Presbytery of WNC Youth Adventure Day
Registration Form**

Leader Information

Church Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Contact Email: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Who is coming? _____ number of youth _____ number of adults
(Please plan on 1 adult for every 6 youth.)

Group leaders should collect and maintain any permission forms, including permission to treat and health forms that are required by your church.

Participant Information

| | Participant Name | Youth or Adult (Y or A) | Allergies or Dietary Restrictions |
|-----------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | | | |
| 2 | | | |
| 3 | | | |
| 4 | | | |
| 5 | | | |
| 6 | | | |
| 7 | | | |
| 8 | | | |
| 9 | | | |
| 10 | | | |

Please mail forms and payment to Lisa Pressley, PWNC; 114 Silver Creek Road; Morganton, NC; 28655.
Space is limited so sign up early.

Presbytery of WNC Youth Delegation to Guatemala

July 11-19, 2017

GOALS OF THE TRIP:

- Broaden our understanding of our brothers and sisters in Guatemala and bring us closer to each other;
- Experience the Spirit at work in Guatemala and giving witness to the Spirit at work in Western NC;
- Provide opportunity for the Guatemalan youth and youth from WNC to share stories.
- Demonstrate the strength of our ongoing partnerships with churches and presbyteries in Guatemala focusing on the young people;
- Foster communication between partner congregations through the young people of each congregation so that the youth can lead the way for future relationships.

Youth must have completed 9th grade to be eligible for this trip. Due to limited space we will be accepting 8 youth for the delegation. The cost will be \$1,300* excluding personal preparation expenses (passport, immunizations, malaria pills, etc.). A deposit of \$450 must be sent with the application and received no later than Feb 10, 2017. Make the check out to "PWNC." If we are not able to accept you for the trip, the deposit will be returned. Once plane reservations are made, deposits become non-refundable. The final payment of \$600 is due June 15.

*For all Presbytery Youth Delegates the Youth Ministry Committee and the Guatemala Partnership Team will be funding \$250 of the cost of your trip. Thus leaving individuals with the help of their churches to pay the balance of \$1050.

This application and the "Recommendation, Commitment, & Endorsement" form completed by your Pastor and your Session must be in the Presbytery office at the address below by Feb. 10, 2017.

Mail forms and deposit check to: (Must be received Feb. 10th, 2017)
Guatemala Partnership Youth Delegation
Presbytery of Western North Carolina
114 Silver Creek Rd.
Morganton, NC 28655

Name: _____ Age: _____

Congregation: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone/Cell: _____

e-mail: _____

Name as it appears on your passport: _____

Passport number: _____ Birthdate: _____

Please answer the following questions briefly on a separate sheet of paper:

1. Why do you think God is calling you to participate with this delegation?
2. In serving on a unique youth delegation what gifts would you bring to the table and what might you expect to bring home to the youth back in your church, on PYC and youth involved in Presbytery events?
3. In what ways do you think you might be able to strengthen your congregation because of your participation on this team?
 1. Do you have any health problems or dietary restrictions? ____ What are they?
 2. Do you speak Spanish? If so, with what proficiency? If you have taken Spanish in school what level classes have you taken? Do you have other experiences speaking Spanish?

All participants must make certain commitments before, during and after their mission experience. Please consider and initial these below and sign your pledge to pursue them. If accepted, you will receive an orientation handbook and other materials for reflection and study.

- _____ 1. I commit myself to work with the Youth Ministry and Guatemala Partnership committees to develop a plan to strengthen the relationships among the youth in our three partner presbyteries.
- _____ 2. I will pray regularly for all participants in our delegation and their churches (including myself and my own), and for those with whom we will be interacting in Guatemala, that we will all be sensitive to God's leading.
- _____ 3. I will attend the Team Building/Orientation/Informational meeting (date and location to be announced - mutually agreed upon day and time in late spring or early summer - please list any dates that you would **NOT** be available between April 15th and June 15th.)
- _____ 4. I will study the orientation booklet in preparation for the trip. (This will be mailed to all participants after the selection process.)
- _____ 5. I will abide by the guidelines for the team. I understand these exist for the well-being of the group and our relationship with Guatemalans.
- _____ 6. I will keep a journal of my experience and prepare to share my reflections with others in my church and in other congregations or groups within the Presbytery.

I pledge myself to do the above.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Recommendation, Commitment, & Endorsement of Applicant's Church

MISSION TEAMS:

Your congregation member, _____ has been led to apply to participate in the Presbytery Youth Delegation Mission Trip. Mission teams are partnerships including Presbytery, churches, the individual team members, and the ministries visited. The involvement of all concerned is essential, so before the applicant can be accepted as a member of team, your session must agree to the commitments below.

COMMITMENT OF SESSION:

The session has considered the commitments below and checks its pledge to pursue them.

_____ Our session will set up a "support team" (described on the back) and use some of the ideas (and others that we may come up with) in order to both support our participant AND find ways to strengthen our congregation's spiritual development and understanding of mission.

_____ We will pray regularly and intentionally for our member participant, the team, the visited ministry, and our own church, that all will grow in faith and vitality as a result of this experience.

_____ We will financially support our applicant and mission project as a congregation to the best of our ability.

_____ We will commission this applicant as our representative to the mission team.

RECOMMENDATION:

Mission teams are for those who want to be stretched spiritually, not those who appear to be "spiritual giants." Also, the committee recognizes that how one quests for his or her spiritual home in God varies from individual to individual, so there is no "perfect" participant. With these ideas in mind, please answer the following questions and anything else that you think might be important related to your applicant. Information is confidential.

1. What gifts will this applicant bring that are relevant to the team? These may be skills (for example, music or carpentry), or gifts of spirit or personality (the ability to get along with all kinds of people, patience, flexibility, etc.)

2. How has this applicant participated in the life of your congregation? Do you believe he/she is committed to participating in plans to strengthen your church as part of this experience?
3. In your estimation, how might this experience enhance the applicant's spiritual growth?
4. How do you think the applicant will work in a diverse group of people?
5. Do you have any reservations regarding this applicant as a member of this mission team? If so, what?

Name and telephone number of person filling out the RECOMMENDATION

_____ Phone _____

ENDORSEMENT

Our session endorses _____ as an applicant on a mission team.

Clerk of Session: _____

Date: _____

Presbytery Youth Mission Trip tentative plans (as the details for our time are finalized we will be sending each participant a final schedule)

Tuesday, July 11 - Wednesday, July 19, 2017

Arrive in Guatemala City

Finca (coffee farm) experience, orientation, cultural experiences

Youth to Youth (time with several of our sister Presbyteries to form relationships, learn about the partner churches and areas in which these host youth live)

Participation in the Youth Rally and overnight Retreat for sister Presbytery and WNC youth at the Seminary with Guatemalan youth (possibly both Sur and Suchi) sharing lives, stories, talents and leadership ideas.

Service work alongside youth from Guatemala

Presbytery of WNC Youth Delegation to Guatemala July 11-19, 2017

GOALS OF THE TRIP:

Broaden our understanding of our brothers and sisters in Guatemala and bring us closer to each other.

Experience the Spirit at work in Guatemala and giving witness to the Spirit at work in Western NC

Provide opportunity for the Guatemalan youth and youth from WNC to share stories.

Demonstrate the strength of our ongoing partnerships with churches and presbyteries in Guatemala focusing on the young people;

Foster communication between partner congregations through the young people of each congregation so that the youth can lead the way for future relationships.

Adults on the trip:

Along with the approximately 8 youth that will be going on the trip, we will have up to 4 adults also attending. All adults will be expected to fully participate in the entire trip, and to stay with the group throughout the trip. Adults in the group will serve in one of these two capacities:

Translator: Adult chaperones serving as translators will be expected to translate English/Spanish throughout the entire trip. This will include times of group discussion, one to one conversations, and translating in more formal and public settings like worship services. Translators are expected to have prior experience in serving in this kind of capacity. Awareness and sensitivity to Guatemalan (Central American) culture and expectations will also be an important part of this role. The group will have 2 translators in the delegation.

Trip Leader: Two adult chaperones will be serving as trip leaders. Between them, they will be expected to function in specific capacities, including:

- Monitoring where the WNC youth are at all times
- addressing any behavior issues with members of the WNC delegation during the trip
- Coordinating with our Guatemalan leaders on site
- Shepherding the delegation during travel times
- keeping and spending the group's money, following the budget set for the trip
- ensuring pictures of the trip are taken
- offering pastoral care to WNC youth delegates when needed
- leading or coordinating any devotion/debriefing times during the trip
- speaking on behalf of the group when called upon during meetings, gatherings, or services.
- communicating with appropriate WNC partnership people back home during the trip.

Prior experience in youth ministry and/or trip leadership is expected.

Costs

The cost will be \$1300 excluding personal preparation expenses (passport, immunizations, malaria pills, etc.) A deposit* of \$450 must be sent with the application and received no later than Feb. 10, 2017. Make the check out to "PWNC." If we are not able to accept you for the trip the deposit will be refunded. Once plane reservations are made, deposits become non-refundable. The final payment of \$600 is due June 15.

Translators will have the entire \$1300 trip cost waived (*deposit waived).
Trip Leaders will have \$650 of their trip cost waived.

This application and the reference form are due at the Presbytery office at the address below by Feb. 10, 2017.

Mail forms to:

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Presbytery of Western North Carolina
114 Silver Creek Rd.
Morganton, NC 28655

Name _____

Congregation _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Name on your passport _____

Passport # _____ Birthdate _____

Please answer the following questions briefly on a separate sheet of paper:

1. Why do you think God is calling you to participate with this delegation?
2. What experience do you have with Spanish/English translation?
3. What experience do you have in youth ministry?
4. What experience do you have with leading trips such as this one?
5. Do you have any health problems or dietary restrictions? What are they?

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Signature: _____ Date: _____

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