



Montana Mission Trip

Lame Deer, MT

June 26-July 3

Dear Parents,

If you are reading this note, then you are considering sending your student on our 2010 Missions Trip. This year we will be going to Montana to a Indian Reservation from June 26-July 3. The total cost for each student is \$200, below is a payment schedule to help assist you. A \$50 deposit is due March 28. We will be having one fundraiser this spring. On the back of this letter is information describing what our trip is all about. This trip will be for students who are in 7-10 grades. **If for some reason you are unable to afford the above deposit please give what you can and we can adjust the payment schedule as needed. Please note that the below schedule is a suggestion to help with paying for this trip. You may pay as you can as long as you understand our payment policy as given in this packet.**

I believe that students that get involved in ministry have the opportunity to see God work in and through them in ways they may not ever have. I have seen over the years that students that go on missions trips come home changed in many ways. I have seen as these students grow and graduate from high school that they do not graduate from their faith, rather they get even more involved and continue to allow God to use them in incredible ways. I will be praying for you as you consider this great opportunity. Also if you are interested in going as a leader I welcome that and all of your cost would be covered. If interested please call me at 626-1234 or 441-2180

In Christ,

Pastor Jason Borton

Payment Schedule

March 28/ \$50 Deposit April 25/ \$50

May 30/\$50 June 7/ Remaining Balance

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**ENABLING YOU TO REACH UP TO GOD &
OUT TO OTHERS WITH CHRIST LOVE**

Cheyenne - Montana Details

Lame Deer MT, United States of America
Northern Cheyenne Nation

Your Mission Trip Details

Activities & Opportunities

The Healing Tree and the Cheyenne culture provides an opportunity for growth and fascination. As your team extends God's love through practical relational work, you will be helping with summer camps and a variety of relational events/projects - some of which may include home repair and other outdoor projects for the elderly, work in the local Boys and Girls Club and Prayer Walking.

Projects

The work projects are organized to support the needs and vision of the community and designed to connect team members with the local people in the area. Your team will be involved in basic projects that do not demand experience or skilled workers.

Children's Ministry

Depending on the specific needs of this community, Experience Mission may or may not hold an organized Kids Club. If Kids Club is included as an opportunity for your team, participation will be optional. If your team chooses to participate in Kids Club, Experience Mission will provide the curriculum for your teams use. This Kids Club material will be sent out to Team Leaders in the spring. We always encourage teams to build relationships with local children as they work at their construction site. Bringing a soccer ball, football or Frisbee is a fun way to connect with kids.

Experience Mission works closely with local leaders to identify work projects and ministry opportunities that address authentic needs within the community. We ask that you come with a servant's heart and willingness to adapt to the unique qualities represented in each location. Opportunities can vary significantly from one week to the next. Your team may work at one location or serve at multiple locations each day. Due to the changing needs of our community partners, we cannot confirm your specific activities until your team arrives.

Typical Schedule

Each morning, there is time set aside for devotions and quiet time. Experience Mission has devotionals/journals that are available for purchase or teams can supply their own. This is a valuable time and we strongly encourage everyone to spend it with God journaling their thoughts and experiences as the days unfold.

Each evening 75-90 minutes are set aside after dinner for worship, prayer and a short message by our staff. Following this evening program, there will be time scheduled for individual teams to meet together to share, debrief, have fun and deal with team issues. We make this time a priority for you to spend with your team.

Day One

3:00-6:00 pm Groups Arrive
5:00 - Leader's Meeting
6:00 - Dinner
7:00 - Orientation Meeting
8:30 - Team Time (a time for your group alone)
11:30 - Lights Out

Day Two through Five

7:15 - Breakfast
7:45 - Devotions and Quiet Time
8:15 - Group Prayer
8:30 - Teams leave for Sites
12:00 - Lunch
3:30 - Finish Work for the day
4:00 - Break and Clean-up
5:00 - Leaders meeting
6:00 - Dinner
7:00 - Evening program (as a whole group)
8:30 - Team time

Day Six

7:00 - Breakfast
7:30 - Cleanup/ Packing
8:30 - Commissioning
9:00 - Pictures and Good-Byes

Lodging & Food

Lodging

Description	Teams will be staying at the Healing Tree.
Sleeping	Accommodations are dormitory style. There are separate rooms for guys and girls with 15 bunk beds and space for people to bring a sleeping bag and blow up mattress. In addition there is a Teepee that sleeps up to 20 people.
Showers	There are toilets at the Healing Tree. Showers can be taken at the local Fitness Center (1/4 mile away) and at the local school.
Water	City water is available at the Healing Tree and at all work and outreach sites. Everyone should plan to bring refillable water bottles to stay hydrated throughout the day.
Electricity	There is electricity available to teams at the Healing Tree. Most work and outreach sites have electricity available.
Security	Concern for safety has never been a significant issue.

Food: A wonderful team of local people and Experience mission staff will prepare your meals each day. The menu includes a tasty selection of food. Bring a big appetite as there will be plenty to eat!

Team members should plan to bring their own plate, bowl, cup and silverware for meals.

Community Profile

The Healing Tree and Experience Mission have partnered to provide an amazing opportunity to serve alongside the Cheyenne tribal people and their amazing culture.

History

The Cheyenne are a Native American nation of the Great Plains, closely allied with the Arapaho and loosely allied with the Lakota (Sioux). They are one of the most famous and prominent Plains tribes.

The Cheyenne nation is composed of two united tribes, the Sotaae'o and the Tsitsistas, which translates to "Like Hearted People".

Cheyenne nation comprised 10 bands, spread all over the Great Plains, from southern Colorado to the Black Hills in South Dakota.

In the early 1800s the tribe split into two factions: the southern band staying near the Platte Rivers and the northern band living near the Black Hills near the Lakota tribes.

In 1851, the first Cheyenne 'territory' was established in northern Colorado. The Fort Laramie Treaty of 1851 granted this territory.

The Northern Cheyenne participated in the Battle Where the Girl Saved her Brother (Rosebud Battle) Battle of the Little Bighorn, which took place on June 25, 1876. The Cheyenne, along with the Lakota and a small band of Arapaho, annihilated George Armstrong Custer and his 7th Cavalry contingent of Army soldiers.

Geography

With a land area of 145,552 square miles (376,980 km²) the state of Montana is the fourth largest in the United States (after Alaska, Texas, and California). To the north, Montana and Canada share a 545 miles (877 km) border. The state borders the three Canadian provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan, more than any other state. To the east, the state borders North Dakota and South Dakota. To the south lies Wyoming and to the west and southwest is Idaho.

The topography of the state is diverse, and roughly defined by the Continental Divide, which runs on an approximate diagonal line through the state from northwest to south-central, splitting it into two distinct eastern and western regions. Montana is well known for its mountainous western region, most of which are geologically and geographically part of the Northern Rocky Mountains. The Absaroka and Beartooth ranges in the south are technically part of the Central Rocky Mountains; however, about 60% of the state is prairie, part of the northern Great Plains. Nonetheless, even east of the Continental Divide and the Rocky Mountain Front, there are a number of isolated "island ranges" that dot the prairie landscape. This island range region covers most of the central third of the state.

The Bitterroot Mountains, one of the longest continuous ranges in the entire Rocky Mountain chain from Alaska to Mexico, divide the state from Idaho to the west, with the southern third of the range blending into the Continental Divide. Mountain ranges between the Bitterroots and the top of the Continental Divide include the Cabinet Mountains, the Missions, the Garnet, Sapphire, Flint Creek, and Pintlar ranges.

life of the Cheyenne.

Lifestyle

Jobs are scarce and poverty is pervasive on the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation, but rich coal deposits lie beneath the buttes where wild horses roam.

For decades, many members of the tribe have resisted coal mining. Now, increased demand for coal and the election of a new tribal president who is determined to create jobs are reigniting debate over energy development among the reservation's 4,500 residents. It's a conflict between tribal traditions and economic self-sufficiency that has long divided people here and on other reservations across America.

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Needs

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Language

English is a necessary skill for the Cheyenne and most are fluent. However, traditionally the Cheyenne of Montana and Oklahoma both speak the Cheyenne language, with only a handful of vocabulary items different between the two locations. The Cheyenne language is a tonal language and is part of the larger Algonquian language group.

Traditional Cheyenne Religion

Cheyenne religion recognizes a number of deities. The two most important ones are the Wise One Above and a god who lives in the earth. At each point of the compass are four spirits. Central to Cheyenne ritual was the sun dance. This involved staring into the sun while dancing in order to enter into a trance. This gave the dancer enhanced power and ensured the renewal of the cosmos. Another cosmogonic ritual was the Renewal of the Sacred Arrows. The ceremony is performed annually over a four day period around the time of the summer solstice. Only males can participate in the ceremony; the women must remain in their teepees during the four day ritual. The focal point of the ceremony are sacred arrows which empower the men of the tribe. In more recent times the Peyote Cult (See Native American Church) has become part of the religious life of the Cheyenne.

Event Payment

Event Payment:

Payment for events is due on the date designated by the leader of the event. All payments must be turned into the events payment box located in the old offices of the education building.

Late Fees:

A ten dollar late fee will be assessed to all payments that are made after the designated due date, unless other arrangements have been made with the event leader.

Financial Assistance:

No student will be excluded from any event because of financial distress. Parents may call and speak with Pastor Jason about their need. Payments may be set up with Pastor Jason at that time. If in the event the financial need is great a sponsor will be sought in aiding in payment for the event.

Cancellations:

In the event that a student decides to change their mind about attending an event that they have paid for the following will take place.

1. The deposit will not be refunded.
2. If the student has paid the full amount and the student cancels prior to the events cut off date then they will be reimbursed the amount of balance (not including deposit)
3. If a student has paid the full amount and the student cancels after the events cut off date they forfeit the entire amount
4. If a student has not paid the full amount and cancels after the events cut off date they are required to pay the final balance. If that balance is not received they will not be allowed to attend other events till it is paid in full.
5. If a student cancels because of sickness or family crisis, they will be reimbursed for the full amount paid.

*Cut off dates are typically two weeks prior to the event

*Student may find a substitute to take their place (they are responsible for finding one)

Modesty

Modesty:

Our youth ministry mission is to enable students to REACH up to God and REACH out to others with Christ love. A vital part of reaching up to God involves holiness in our inward heart and outward life. (Romans 12:1). God has called each one of us to “Be holy as I am holy” (1 Peter 1:16). Holiness is the practice of drawing near to God and becoming more like Him in character and action. We are living in a society today that advocates to students that they can be who they want to be and do what ever feels right for you. This philosophy flies in the face of what the Bible teaches and how it admonishes every student to live. (1 Timothy 4:12)

Just because everyone is doing it does not make it right. Just because it’s the “in thing” does not mean its justified. God’s Word teaches that our lives should reflect Christ’s so that others might see God in us. (Matthew 5:14-16) Because of this the way we live our lives matters to God and should matter to us. God calls us not to be a stumbling block, so that people will see Jesus in us. (2 Corinthians 6:3).

In order for our youth ministry to value Godliness and admonish both our students and leaders to strive to be like Christ and not like the world, we have developed the guidelines below. These guidelines are not a vice for legalism, but one to encourage purity and godliness.

None of the items below may be worn during or at any youth ministry function.

Wife-beater tank tops, low-cut tank tops, halter tops, spaghetti strap tops, sheer tops, mid-driffs, low-cut pants, low-cut shorts, shorts above 1/2 way up thigh, mini-shirts, low-cut muscle shirts. Anything for which undergarments can be seen, including boxers. Anything that over-accentuates the body.

Swimming Policies:

Girls need to wear a regular non-white shirt.
Guys need to wear a regular non-white shirt.

Swimming is not allowed for mixed gender events.

BASICALLY WHEN IN DOUBT DON'T DO IT

Events

Attending an Event

Once a student has arrived at an event or program they are not allowed to leave for any reason unless they have a signed note from a parent stating when and the reason for leaving.

Event Waiver

Each student, in order to attend events, must have filled out an up to date waiver form. This form is good from September through August for each calendar year and must be turned in by the first event of that year.

Friend Event Waiver

Each friend that is brought to an event must have a signed event waiver form in order to attend that event.

Event Volunteer

We often need volunteers to help with the events. Volunteers must sign up in advance for each event. Volunteers must be either members or regular attendees of Harvest Time Bible Church.

Misc. Event

Students are not allowed to bring radio, cd, mp3 or game type devices to any youth ministry related events unless otherwise designated (eg. Xbox nights)

Students are not allowed to bring practical joke material

Students are not allowed to bring cell phones, pagers, or two-ways.

Student to leader ratio will be at most 5 to 1 for every event.

Disciplinary Action

Disciplinary Action:

The steps for Disciplinary Action listed below will be taken for those who are unwilling to comply with youth ministry GUIDELINES. These steps are progressive.

1. The student will be given verbal warning. (Students in violation of the modesty guidelines will be asked to change or wear a t-shirt that will be provided)
2. The student will be given verbal warning and parents will be notified.
3. The student will be asked to leave the event immediately and parents will be called.
4. The student will be asked to not attend youth ministry events until willing to comply with youth ministry guidelines. Parents will be notified and counseling will be available to help restore the student to good standing.

Disciplinary Action for Trips:

1. Same steps will be taken as above with the exception of #3
2. If a student is asked to leave, their parents will be called and will be responsible for getting their student home.
3. The student will be asked to not attend youth ministry events until willing to comply with youth ministry guidelines. Parents will be notified and counseling will be available to help restore the student to good standing.

Scriptural Reference:

¹⁵"If your brother sins against you,^[1] go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. ¹⁶But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.'^[2] ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

¹⁸"I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be^[3] bound in heaven, and