



**MCLEAN  
PRESBYTERIAN**



**2025 FAMILY  
MISSION TRIP**

# CONTENTS

02

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTORS

03

IMPACT WEST VIRGINIA

04

APPALACHIAN CULTURE

05

VISION + LOGISTICS

06

WEEKLY SCHEDULE + POLICIES

07

DATES + DETAILS

# LETTER FROM THE DIRECTORS

Dear Capital Pres. Families,

**We are excited for you to join us on the second annual Family Mission Trip to West Virginia!** We know this is no small undertaking to set a week aside in the year to serve together, so we thank you for seeing the value in partnering with your church family to live “on mission.” We believe that God is not only at work in West Virginia but also in us and amongst our church family. **Therefore, this mission to partner with God in caring for our neighbors is one we hope will not only provide practical care for families in Appalachia, but will also mature us spiritually, socially, emotionally, and physically.** In so doing, we believe this experience will bring us into closer relationship with one another and allow for many opportunities to have **fun** and experience the goodness of the God who calls us out to serve him in the first place.

With a gracious relationship with God and one another as the foundation, we look forward to growing in relationship with each one of you during our time together. **If you have any further questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to either of us using the contact information below.** We look forward to seeing all that the Lord has in store for us as he calls us out to partner with Him this summer!

Daniel, Judah and Caroline  
Mission Trip Directors



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# IMPACT WEST VIRGINIA



Impact West Virginia is an exciting and rewarding outreach ministry, **designed to equip those with no mission experience or to challenge those who have served for years.** We have multiple teams who have returned over the last 25+ years. It is well suited for a variety of skill levels. **High school & middle school groups, college students, families with children, and all adult teams have successfully served in this ministry.**

**The projects take place in and around Fairmont,** which is in the heart of West Virginia's "coal country". This is a unique culture that will inspire and reward everyone open to investing in it.

**Homes are repaired and painted, handicap decks and ramps are built, and children's lives are encouraged through local Parks n Rec/VBS.** There are opportunities to visit local Nursing/Assisted Living places to reach out and encourage the residents. Relationship building is the key to positive ministry efforts. **It's through these relationships that doors open for sharing the Gospel. Team building and individual Christian growth are natural consequences of serving together in this Kingdom-building opportunity!**

# VISION FOR FAMILY MISSION TRIP

## OBJECTIVES

We desire for the participants to grow deeply in:

- Maturity in their relationship with God. This includes:
  - Compassion for the physical and spiritual needs of their neighbors
  - Love for God and his word leading to personal character growth and development
  - The ability to relate cross-culturally
  - Vision to love and live “on mission” with fellow church members

This Will Be Accomplished By:

- Serving together at job sites and VBS camps
- Participating in personal and group devotional times
- Having FUN Together at the cabin and on half-days off

Primary Objectives:

- Serve, love, and connect with Appalachian families and children at job sites and VBS
- Engaging with fellow church members throughout the week

## COST

**Project Cost: \$545/person, each person will pay a \$50 deposit, and then a payment of \$495**

To assist families who are attending together, we offer the following family discounts:

Couples - Spouse receives \$50 discount

Youth age 13-18 attending with a parent - \$50 discount

Child age 6-12 attending with a parent - \$195 discount

Child age 2-5 attending with a parent - \$395 discount (under 2 years are free)

Kitchen Workers Discount - A limited number of workers are needed to assist with meal preparations during the week. A discount of \$195 is provided. Please confirm your interest with the Project Director to make sure help is needed for your week.



# APPALACHIAN CULTURE

## OVERVIEW

The federal government defines Appalachia as parts of West Virginia, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi. It incorporates 397 counties in 13 states, covers a total of 195,000 square miles, and has a current population of over 20 million. The word Appalachia is an old Indian word meaning "endless mountain range." The Native Americans thought the Appalachian Mountains went on forever and ever and ever. The mountains kept Appalachia isolated from the rest of the country and other people's involvement in their lives. Therefore, the people in this region developed their own distinctive culture. A land of steep wooded hills, narrow valleys, and winding streams is one of immense beauty, but also of contradictory tragedy.

To fully understand Appalachia, it is important to recognize this diversity. Made up of many unique backgrounds - Native Americans, Irish, English and Scotch, and then a third immigration of Germans and Poles - all blended across the region. Today, Appalachian people are more diverse than ever, both rural and urban. Nevertheless, they share a common pride, common values, and a common heritage. Appalachians may be described as independent, contented with the places where they live, close to nature, and displaying a deep sense of being kind and helping one another. With that said, as the mountains have separated them from outside cultures for so long, they also display a deep mistrust of anyone new making them resistant to change.

Appalachian culture has been preserved mostly by families and churches. With that being said, while religion is important in Appalachia, the reality is that better than 65% of the region is unchurched. Some counties are as high as 80% unchurched. Culture and religion are interwoven, and while mountain people believe the Bible, respect the church, and welcome anyone who comes in the name of the Lord, the organized aspects of religion have not been important factors to the people of Appalachia.

The people in this region have suffered from industries such as oil, coal, mining, timber, and others. Having extracted the

resources from this region and enjoyed many years of prosperity, a lot of these industries have left, leaving the landscape scarred yet beautiful, exploited yet underdeveloped. Even after all this, you will still find a people that are proud of strong family values, self-reliance, and pride.

## DEMOGRAPHICS OF FAIRMONT

City: Fairmont is located at the junction of the Tygart and West Fork rivers, which form the Monongahela, one of the few northward-flowing rivers in the world. It was established in 1820, then called Middletown, and was first called Fairmont (Fair Mountain) in 1842 by the Virginia Assembly.

Population: The population of West Virginia is approximately 1,855,684 (2011). Fairmont has just under 20,000 residents. Many of these are older, poorer people, of various ethnic backgrounds.

Topography: Fairmont is in a valley, mostly level. It covers 311 square miles and its average elevation is 911 feet.

Climate: Usually the climate for Fairmont, because of the elevation, is cold in the winters, with average temperatures of 30F, with a high chance of snow. Summers are usually hot during the day, but cool at night, with average temperatures of 65 - 70F.

Time Zone: Eastern Standard Time.

**THE MINISTRY OF  
SERVING THOSE WHO  
STRUGGLE LIVING DAY  
TO DAY, IS ONE OF THE  
REASONS WE BELIEVE  
THE LORD HAS CALLED  
US TO SERVE HIM IN  
WEST VIRGINIA.**

# SCHEDULE+POLICIES

SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MON/TUES/THURSDAY		WEDNESDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
4:00 PM	Registration at Dayspring – Staff Cabin	8:00 AM	Breakfast	6:00 AM	Arise & get ready for a day of serving!	6:00 AM	Arise & get ready for a day of serving!	6:00 AM	Arise & get ready for a day of serving!	6-8:00 AM	Breakfast & Packing, Cabin Inspection, Pics & Good bye's!
6:00 PM	Dinner	9:00 AM	Team Leader's Meeting with Impact Staff	6:15 AM	Devotions (personal or group)	6:15 AM	Devotions (personal or group)	6:15 AM	Devotions (personal or group)	10:00 AM	Please depart NLT than 10:00 so we can prepare for the next week.
7:15 PM	Welcome & Orientation	10:00 AM	Worship	6:50 AM	Announcements & prayer	6:50 AM	Announcements & prayer	6:50 AM	Announcements & prayer		
9:00-10:30 PM	Free time	12:00 PM	lunch	7:00 AM	Breakfast	7:00 AM	Breakfast	7:00 AM	Breakfast		
10:30 PM	In cabins	1:30 PM	Teams visit project/VBS site, final pres – Free Time	7:45 AM	Leave for Project Site	7:45 AM	Leave for Project Site	7:45 AM	Leave for Project Site		
11:00 PM	Lights Out	6-7:00 PM	Dinner	10:00 AM	Break	10:00 AM	Break	10:00 AM	Break		
		7-8:00 PM	Prayer	12:00 PM	Lunch (devotions – please invite host family for lunch)	12:00 PM	Half day off	12:00 PM	Half day off		
		8-10:00 PM	Free time	4:00 PM	Return to Dayspring	10:00 PM	In cabins	6:00 PM	Dinner (host family appreciation)		
		10:00 PM	In cabins	5:30 PM	Dinner	10:30 PM	Lights out	7:15 PM	Evening program		
				7:00 PM	Evening Program			8:30 PM	Free Time		
				8:00 PM	Team Debrief & Prayer / Staff Debrief & Prayer			10:30 PM	In cabins		
				8:30 PM	Free Time			11:00 PM	Lights out		
				10:00 PM	In Cabins						
				10:30 PM	Lights Out						

## POLICIES

The following policies are for your family's safety and peace of mind during our trip. While not all of the policies are to be followed outside of the trip, due to the unique nature of serving in cross-cultural ministry, all participants must adhere to the following policies while they serve in this context:

1. All safety guidelines in accordance with Dayspring policy will be followed. Continued violation will lead to the prohibition of work-site privileges for the remainder of the trip.
  - a. This includes the wearing of adequate safety equipment and dress on the job site.
  - b. Cell phone use is allowed, but encouraged to be used wisely on the job site. All members of the team must be aware of their surroundings in a construction zone.
2. The use or purchase of alcohol and tobacco is prohibited at all times. Participants who use or purchase alcohol or tobacco will be sent home at their own expense.
3. All guidelines in accordance with Dayspring's Youth/Adult policy will be followed.
  - a. The ordinary and customary procedure for the supervision of youth on all IMPACT WV projects will be the "two adults" rule. The "two adults" rule states that a minimum of two adults should be involved in the supervision of youth at any given point on a project.
  - b. Further guidelines will be discussed in detail at the team meeting.

# ADDITIONAL DETAILS

## DETAILS

### Trip Dates:

June 15th-22nd, 2024

### Lodging:

Impact WV teams stay at Dayspring Camp and Conference Center (Dayspring), which has bunk beds in open bay cabins along with some divided cabins for small families and groups. The camp can hold approximately 175 participants per week. Teams will need to bring towels and bed linens/pillows. Breakfast and dinner are served at the camp; sack lunches and water or lemonade are supplied for the work site.

### Travel:

Each team provides its own transportation for all travel to and from Dayspring Camp, all work sites, and off-campus activities.

### Address:

Dayspring Conference and Retreat Center  
992 Hornors Run Road  
Shinnston, WV 26431

### Dayspring Office #

681-753-8465

### Impact WV Website

[www.dayspringcampwv.com](http://www.dayspringcampwv.com)

### What Should We Bring?

The weather in WV varies greatly; bring clothing for both cool and hot weather. T-shirts, long pants, and closed-toed shoes are required for the worksite. The camp has a clothing policy that encourages modesty, see handout for further guidelines on dress and what to pack.

### Family FUN:

- The following opportunities are available during the Wednesday afternoon half-day off:
  - Tygart Lake:
    - Boating
    - Hiking
    - Swimming
  - Valley Worlds of Fun:
    - Laser Tag
    - Mini Golf
    - Bumper Cars
    - Bowling
  - Cheat River Outfitters:
    - Whitewater Rafting
    - Rock Climbing
    - Paintball
  - Restaurants
    - See Handbook for more information





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Pay your  
deposit here:

