

Dear Senior Pastor, Youth Pastor and Youth Worker;

I hope and trust this letter finds you well rested and refreshed following the Christmas and holiday season.

With the New Year having arrived, I want to take a moment of your time to remind you about this summer's NYI mission trip and ask for some assistance in getting the word out about the trip.

If you have not heard, we will be traveling to Waco, Tx on June 27-July 3, 2008. While in Waco, our Senior High students will be going to Mission Waco, a non-profit ministry that reaches out to the homeless of Waco. While there, the students will take part in a 36 hour poverty simulation, followed by a 3 day outreach campaign and work projects. The Junior High students will be joining in with a local Nazarene church and various community ministries, reaching out to the homeless and elderly. They too, will take part in an outreach campaign and work projects. This trip promises to be one that emphasized outreach to the marginalized people of our culture.

I strongly believe that God desires to use the youth of our district to make a difference in the world around them, not just in their local communities but, for some, at the global level. With every teen that participates in Mission Waco 2008, we are praying that God will speak to them about missions as it relates to reaching out to the marginalized back in their home towns. Many times though, it is an experience like Mission Waco 2008 that will be a starting point for a teen to begin to sense, or reaffirm, God's calling in his or her life for a career on the mission fields of this great world.

While some churches may elect to organize and participate in a mission trip through their local NYI, many churches may not be able to do this due to the overall cost of a trip. That is why we have the district NYI mission trip each summer-to partner with the local NYI programs to assist them in encouraging students in becoming more like Christ. This trip will be the only way that many of the students across our district are able to participate in a mission project. That is why I need you and am sending this letter.

For our trip to be successful, I need you to join in on the process of Mission Waco 2008. What I need from you is to do the following three things:

1. Show the excitement and joy of missions work through out your church: As teens see an excitement in us adults about missions, they will then catch on and desire to join with us.
2. Advertise this great opportunity directly to the teens and any youth volunteers from your local NYI: I have enclosed an informational flyer for you to copy and give to them. You can also print them off and hang them up around your church, place them in a Sunday morning bulletin, etc. Just be creative and help us get the word out.
3. Encourage your youth volunteers and teens both to participate in the trip and assist them in obtaining and completing the necessary paperwork while paying attention to all deadlines. The first deadline for a \$100 non-refundable fee is March 15<sup>th</sup>. After that, there will be an additional \$50 late fee that is also non-refundable.

While the overall cost of the trip may seem high, it is the absolute cheapest we could get it. The cost is based on having 40 student participants and 12 sponsors. We have a goal of 100 total student and sponsor participants going on the trip. Because our volunteer sponsors work so hard and are dedicated to the spiritual formation of our students, we have made this trip free for

them. Our sponsors will already be giving so much of their personal time from work that it would not be right to have them pay to participate.

It will be important that you point out to any person that would like to participate, the deadline and late fee as stated above. I failed to put this in the packets that were sent to each church which indicated a pay schedule. This was meant to serve only as a suggestion to assist students in making small monthly payments vs. one large payment. So again, they have until **March 15<sup>th</sup>** to have their first non-refundable payment of \$100 sent in. After this, there will be an additional non-refundable \$50 fee added. We will not be able to accept any applications for the trip after April 15<sup>th</sup>.

Remember that all of this information is available on line at the district website: [www.joplindistrictnazarene.org](http://www.joplindistrictnazarene.org). If you have additional questions, please feel free to call me at 620-325-2565.

So how about it! Will you assist in this awesome and wonderful opportunity of ministering to the people of Waco? Join with me in giving the students of the Joplin District NYI the opportunity to experience serving Christ in a way like never before!

In Christ,  
Brian Murrison  
NYI Missions Coordinator