



Making Christ-like youth disciples among the nations. Matt 28:19

Dear Pastors/Youth Pastors:

My name is Brian Murrison and I am the Joplin District NYI Zone Mission Coordinator. It is with excitement that I send out this letter to each of you as it has all the information that you will need to assist me in promoting this year's district NYI Mission Trip. This year, we will be traveling to Waco, Texas from June 27th-July 3rd, 2008. While in Waco, there will actually be two separate work projects going on, one for Senior High and one for Junior High.

The Senior High project is all but planned already. They will be going to Mission Waco (www.missionwaco.org), an outreach center in Waco that serves the high number of people living in poverty there. Mission Waco has pre-planned trips for senior high students only. Upon arrival at Mission Waco, senior high students and sponsors will go through a Poverty Simulation for 36 hours. Once they finish that, they will go directly into work projects in the morning and then they will do a vacation bible school in the afternoons. All Senior High students will be staying and eating on the campus of Mission Waco.

The Junior High project is still being planned out as it has more details. I am working with Waco First Church of the Nazarene to assist in planning out work projects and a vacation bible school. The plan is to have a format that runs much like that of the Senior High project. The students will be using the church for room and board purposes, and then they will be going out into the community to do the work projects.

In regards to the cost of the trip, we have done everything we can to keep the price down. We have set the fee at \$390 per student. Since sponsors give of themselves in so many ways to our teens, they will not be charged any fees for going on the trip. The price listed, is based on 40 students and 12 sponsors. The more students we have go, the cheaper the trip will become. We know this in advance, but will keep the price set at \$385. Prior to leaving Waco on July 3rd, we will review the finances and make a decision on how to best distribute any left over monies. You will see the options that will be considered in the packets of information that are enclosed.

While many of the details still need to be worked out, I need your help now. I recognize that the only way to get this information out and in the hands of the youth is to enlist the help of all pastor's and youth pastors/sponsors. So will you help out?

What I need you to do is the following:

1. Look through the enclosed student/sponsor packets and familiarize yourself with the information.
2. Consider if this is an opportunity for your entire youth group or not. Many of us are small in size and planning out a trip that is affordable for our teens is not possible. This trip could be the way to work around that.
3. Post the enclosed flyers around your church and have available several copies of the enclosed student and sponsor packets.
4. Help students prioritize what will be most important for them next summer. Many have always gone to camp, but that is not necessarily what they need to do. Help them understand that it is more important to go where God wants them to go versus where they have always gone before.
5. Pray that God will use this trip to speak to the teens about their future in God's kingdom, specifically missions.

I need each of you to consider one more thing. To make the trip possible, we will need to rely on taking several 12-15 passenger vans. We looked at taking charter buses; however this simply made it too expensive. Charter buses would cost \$6500 apiece. In an attempt to be good stewards with our resources, I felt that it best to use vans from across the district. God has blessed our churches with these vans and so I would ask that you consider if yours will be available for us to use. If your van will be available, please contact me at bjmurrison@yahoo.com or 620-779-1827.

So, will you assist me in getting the news out? I am counting on you! Let's show our enthusiasm and support for missions and our youth by showing our excitement for Mission Waco 2008!

In Christ,
Brian Murrison
Missions Coordinator