

Mission Trip Details: Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota

July 28th- August 3rd, 2019

Pine Ridge Reservation: Pine Ridge is one of the largest Native American reservations in the country located inside the southwest corner of South Dakota near the Nebraska border and faces some of the most deeply rooted challenges. Alcoholism, drugs, unemployment, abuse, and suicide, impact family dynamics and the larger community on a daily basis.

Next Step Ministries: Trip will be run by Next Step Ministries, a non-profit organization which focuses on running Christ-centered student mission trips throughout the world focusing on community development and worship. Next Step Ministries is an interdenominational organization which partners with hundreds of churches from all different denominations. The organization sticks to the basics of the Gospel with the foundation for their ministry to provide opportunities for students to connect and grow in a personal relationship with Christ.

General Information

This mission trip is staffed with a Next Step coordinator who oversees all aspects of the week. The trip is facilitated by 8-10 highly trained college interns. The site staff will include a construction team, worship team, speaker, meal coordinators, and administrative leaders to guide us through the week.

Next Step Ministries have space for up to 90 participants for each mission trip. We can expect other multi-ages groups from around the country to be present during our trip. There will be opportunities during the week to interact with the larger group and other times that TCC youth will be building stronger relationships with those on the trip with them.

TCC's mission trip will be open to current church attendees until November 18th.

Logistics

Age: The trip is open to youth entering grade 6 in September 2019 OR are 11 years of age at the time of the excursion through college age. At TCC, we are targeting 6th to 12th graders.

Safety: Due to TCC's safe church policy there will be at least 4 adult leaders on the trip – a minimum of two female and two males (additional 2 leaders will be determined once youth numbers are finalized). There will be a ratio of one adult to 5 youth. Background checks are required by Next Step Ministries and TCC.

Typical work on the Trip:

- 75% of the trip will be focused on construction. There is a strong focus on safety around construction sites and working with tools.
- 20% of the time will be spent on community activities
- 5% on Relational Ministry

Sleeping accommodations: Lodging will take place at Oglala Sioux Parks & Recreation Center located on the reservation. Sleeping will be on the floor so air mattresses and bedding are needed. There are eight total bathrooms and individual shower stalls in the building, four for males and four for females. There is no AC in any of the buildings, so fans are encouraged. All meals will be enjoyed outside under a large tent.

Schedule for the Week:

SUNDAY (ARRIVAL DAY)	MONDAY - THURSDAY (WORK DAYS)	FRIDAY (COMMUNITY / FUN DAY)
3:00-5:00 pm - Arrive to Mission Location 6:00 pm - Dinner 7:00 pm - Worship & Weekly Orientation 8:30 pm - Church Time, Small groups, Free Time 11:00 pm - Lights Out	7:00 am - Wake Up 7:15 am - Eat Breakfast & Lunch Preparation 8:15 am - Morning Devotional 8:30 am - Depart for Worksite & Begin Working 12:00 pm - Lunch & Devotion 1:00 pm - Resume Working 3:00 pm - Clean Up/Return 4:00 pm - Community Involvement Activity 5:00 pm - Free time/Showers/Leader Meeting 6:00pm - Dinner 8:00 pm - Worship 8:30 - Church Time/Small Groups/Free Time 11:00 pm - Lights Out	8:00 am - Wake Up 8:15 am - Eat Breakfast & Lunch Preparation 9:00 am - Morning Devotion 9:15 am - Leave for Free Day Activity 4:00 pm - Shower Time/Free Time/Leader Meeting 6:00 pm - Dinner 7:00 pm - Worship 8:30 pm - Church Time/Small Groups/Free time 11:00 pm - Lights Out

Evening programming involves a worship experience featuring a band, videos and challenging messages.

Friday Fun day can be going with the organization for a lake day at Angostura Lake, going to Mount Rushmore or perhaps a trip to Badlands National Park. Which event TCC youth participate will be decided later on by the leaders of the trip.

Transportation: TCC youth will fly as a group Sunday, July 28th to Rapid City Regional Airport (RAP) in Rapid City, SD. From there, the group will rent large passenger vans for the two hour drive to Pine Ridge. These vans will be used by our team during the week to access our worksites.

Financial Information

While the actual cost of the trip is not set in stone, it is estimated to be approximately \$1200. While we do hope to offset some of the cost with fundraising. Each individual is welcome to do personal fundraising themselves for this trip.

Last day to withdraw from the trip will be March 10th. Any money paid up until this point can not be refunded. Plane tickets and non-refundable deposit to Next Steps will have been bought at this time.

If finances are a concern, please reach out to Sue Panilaitis to see what can be worked out.

Expectations: Youth participating in the trip will be available for at least once a month meetings beginning in December and continuing through July. These meetings will be used to do some team building, fundraising, faith building and cultural preparation for the trip.

To register for the TCC trip:

1. Participants need to provide a \$150 deposit on or before November 18th. Checks are made out to “Tewksbury Congregational Church” with “Youth Missions Trip” in the memo line.
2. A payment plan for the trip will be as follows. This is to guarantee that TCC will have the funds available to meet Next Steps payment schedule as well as to buy airfare in a timely manner.

Payment Amount	Date
\$150	November 18th
\$150	December 15th
\$150	January 15th
\$150	February 15 th
\$150	March 15th
\$150	April 15th
\$150	May 15th
\$150	June 15th

Any money raised with fundraising will be deducted from that month’s payment.

There will be an informational meeting to discuss this trip and answer questions on Sunday, November 4th at 4:30 pm in the vestry.