

MICAH MESSENGER

Mission Newsletter
January 2020



White Bear Lake
**UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH**

Nourishing the Hungers of Life

*He has told you,
O mortal, what is good;
and what does the LORD
require of you
but to do justice,
and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly
with your God?*

- Micah 6:8 -

Taking the roads traveled less: **WBLUMC Mission trips 2020**

Rapid City, South Dakota

Rapid City is located just northwest of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, home of the Oglala Lakota or Oglala Sioux. The name Lakota comes from the Lakota autonym "feeling affection, friendly, united, allied". Visit Rapid City this coming summer and learn so much more about the Lakota people and history.

Our YOUTHWORKS hosts will help us partner with local service agencies working with children and the elderly of the Lakota community, including Black Hills Works, a progressive and adaptive center for mentally and physically challenged adults. Our team may serve at a food shelf, clothing distribution center, soup kitchen, children's program or elder care facility.

While there, we'll have the option of visiting Mount Rushmore or the Crazy Horse Memorial and learn about other aspects of Rapid City, such as the importance of the Black Hills to the Lakota. We'll also participate in the largest cookout in the region.

Details

Trip Dates: July 26-31, 2020

Who Can Participate: students finishing 8th grade spring of 2020 to 12th graders, and adult chaperones. We have 10 spots reserved.

Cost: \$334.00 per participant and covers:

- Lodging (typically on the floor, in classrooms, on air mattresses)
- 14 Meals
- Service Project Materials
- Evening Activities

Transportation costs to Rapid City and home again (by van) are extra as are costs related to visiting historic sites. We will do some fundraising to help with costs for participants.

Stayed tuned for more details as informational sessions are being planned.



Antigua, Guatemala

For more than three decades, Common Hope has been promoting hope and opportunity in Guatemala by partnering with children, families and communities who want to participate in a process of development to improve their lives through education, health care, housing and family development. Through the "Vision Team" model of complete immersion, individuals are able to visit Antigua and experience the people, culture, and beauty of Guatemala first-hand. An experience as unique as the team itself, each Vision Team experience combines elements of service and education to provide a true cultural exchange.

Details

Trip Dates: November 22-29, 2020 (Sunday to Sunday).

Who Can Participate: anyone age 18+ OR younger students with designated guardian/chaperone at discretion of team leader.

Cost: \$1,000 per participant (\$500 for children under 14) which covers everything except airfare: lodging, meals, all activities, translation services and transportation to and from the airport. There is also a \$500 fundraising minimum per person to raise funds for home construction while on the Vision Team. (Don't worry—we'll give you lots of fundraising help!).

To find out more go to commonhope.org and click on "experience Guatemala."

Informational sessions for each of these opportunities will be held soon. If you want to find out more or to attend the informational sessions, please contact:

Missie Aberle (Next Gen Minister):

Missie.aberle@wblumc.org; or

Lori McBride (Missions & Faith Formation Minister): lori.mcbride@wblumc.org

"UP and OUT of POVERTY"

Update on Solid Ground

Thoughts shared by participants following a recent tour at Solid Ground:

"Solid Ground is a non-profit organization focused on helping families in our community emerge from homelessness. During my recent tour of their White Bear Lake facility, a current tenant said her advice for other homeless women is 'never give up hope'. It was enlightening to hear from her how homelessness disconnects people from their communities. How people they knew well were suddenly afraid to engage with her family once they were homeless, as though they were afraid to 'catch' their homelessness. And how, even though they were able to temporarily land (on couches, in shelters), those places did not provide the same continuity of community or resources you receive as part of a community. Her story reminded me of how belonging to many different communities that provide nourishment for our hungers both physical and emotional is such a gift, and how fortunate we are to have this resource available in our community." *Amy Swanson*

"No matter where ones journey begins and how many challenges confront you, there is always hope. Solid Ground is a place where hope can be nurtured, futures can be brighter and families can be safe as was evidenced by the testimonial given Tuesday by a young woman who is making strides in her life for herself and her children. Solid ground offers a safe haven, a place where children are revered and respected, parents are introduced to skills to help them move forward personally and professionally. And I'd guess lifetime friendships established." *Sandy Kasma*

Our next tour date: January 14 @ 5:30 pm

Until next newsletter, peace to all.

Lori McBride

Missions and Faith Formation Minister