



Adult Mission Experiences and Travel 2019-2020



Fall- Nov. 9, 10, 14. Local experiences with Habitat for Humanity and The Night Ministry.

[Register here](#) by November 1.

Habitat Build Day- Nov. 9 we will participate in a Habitat for Humanity “build day” in the Chicago area. Meet at the church at 6:30 AM. The cost for this is \$250/person. We have some scholarship money- so not let money keep you away from this. We have 13 spots available.

Cooking- November 10. If you would like to help cook for the Night Ministry, please register to cook. We will work from 12 to 4 PM in the church to prepare meals for both the 10th and 14th.

Serving Food- On Nov. 10 we will serve with The Night Ministry in Humboldt Park, preparing and serving a meal for homeless persons. Meet at the church at 5 PM. 6 spots available.

Serving Food- On Nov. 14 we will again serve with The Night Ministry in New City, again preparing and serving a meal for homeless persons. Meet at the church at 4 PM. 6 spots available.

Winter- February 3-8, 2020. Puerto Rico Disaster Response

[Register here](#) by January 1.

We will be serving with the Methodist Church in Puerto Rico with ongoing disaster response. Trip cost is \$425/person excluding air fare which each participant will need to purchase on their own. We will be assigned to a “camp” where the Methodist Church is running Disaster Response efforts in a local community. We will work with their construction supervisors and under their direction. Our experience last year was that we were possibly more valuable in our presence and connection to people than in our labor. We will have a host to help our group get around as well as a translator. We will work and we will get time to see the local towns. We will stay in a camp or church building and our meals will be cooked for us. There is a maximum of 10 spots available.

Each participant needs to be at the airport in San Juan by 3 pm on February 3. Your return ticket needs to be booked for any time after 3 pm on February 8. You are more than welcome to extend your trip on either side of these dates.

Spring: March 25-29, 2020. Home Repair with the Appalachia Service Project

[Register here](#) by February 1.

We will work on home repair and may be assigned projects ranging from painting and finishing work to roof replacement, repairing flooring and hanging drywall to installing plumbing. We will work in partnership with the ASP staff to make sure we can manage the work and will have at least one skilled person leading each project. We can take up to 25 people on this trip ☺

We will stay at Appalachia Service Project's year-round center in Jonesville, Virginia. We will stay in dormitory style rooms with bunk beds- it is possible you may need to sleep in a top bunk! We will eat in their dining room and have the luxury of hot water for showers! Their cooks will prepare breakfast and dinners for us and they will provide lunch supplies for us to pack and take to the work site.

The following statement is from the ASP website and illustrates the nature of their work:

While we strive to make homes warmer, safer, and drier, ASP is also a relational ministry. We encourage our volunteers to take time to get to know the families they are serving. Often the ASP experience serves to enlighten everyone that the differences between us are only perceived--deep down we all want to be loved, to belong, to own something, and to create something worthwhile--no matter where we live, our economic status, education, or ethnic identity. No one walks away from the ASP experience unchanged--not families served, volunteers, or staff.

Physical Requirements for the Habitat, Puerto Rico and ASP trips:

Volunteers will participate in house construction, repair and rehab assignments. As such, participants must be able to tolerate physically taxing workloads. Furthermore, they must be able to demonstrate the strength, flexibility, mobility, coordination, and equilibrium (balance) enough to fully support the work of the assigned project and other volunteer team members. For example, participants must be able to lift potentially heavy objects (with or without assistance), bend, kneel, and stand to sustain work over several hours (up to 4 hours) at a time. Participants can also expect to sleep on a bunk bed (yes, even the top bunk) in a shared space.

Prior experience or special skills necessary?

You do not need any prior experience for any of these trips! If you do have experience with home repair or construction- you will be able to use that to help others learn. We always have a variety of levels of skills and we WORK TOGETHER to help other learn. Our goal is to create a meaningful experience for all participants and help each other learn.

I love this vision from Habitat for their volunteer experience: Habitat will provide all the necessary tools and instruction for volunteers on their build. Every helping hand makes a difference. We value the quality of the build and our participants' experience over speed, so have fun while learning along the way!

Registration Deadlines:

Fall Experiences deadline is November 1! Winter Trip deadline is January 1, Spring Trip deadline February 1. It is a HUGE help for all participants to register EARLY! This helps with planning and securing our spots with the organizations we are serving.

You can find registration links for all these experiences at www.faithatfirst.com/registrations.

Questions? Contact Jane Cheema, *Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry*, at jane@faithatfirst.com or at 847-864-6181 x215.