

2018 Mission Trip Research for High School Youth Group:

There has been a lot of research about the various mission trips through organized groups. We have evaluated each based on the cost, what was included, our responsibilities, our safety, and the time frame that was available, but more so on what we would be doing to enhance not just our own lives, but those that we work with. Five primary locations; Alaska, Idaho, Texas, Missouri, and Oklahoma were evaluated. Each had specific aspects that made it a great choice.

Alaska's cost would be nearly \$1500 per person - including airfare. It included food and lodging. A group or 10 TLC YG members would cost \$15000. We do not have that money in our account, and the possibility of raising that by summer is very minimal. Also the dates that were available were not aligning with school release times and another previously made commitment. Everybody would work on the same mission - youth ministry.

GraceWorks Alaska <http://www.graceworksak.com/>

Idaho included everything other than transportation for \$300 per person. Cost of our van would be \$2500 including gas. The overall cost for TLC YG members would be \$5500 (not including fun money for the drive trip there and back - including food costs) which we have the majority of already raised. YG members would work in teams with other youth group members from around the world on tasks suited to their talents. Members would work with other people, including other chaperones. TLC chaperones would be there in the evening and morning, but may not be on a particular task with each member, but a chaperone would be there regardless.

Idaho Servant: <http://www.lutherhaven.com/idaho-servant-adventures/>

Texas, while hit hard this year, remains to be developing as a mission trip site through many of the organized groups. Through Praying Pelican, the initial cost is \$400 for housing and \$500 for airfare. This does not include food, ministry supplies, construction supplies, ground transportation, or construction equipment. The simple cost per person is \$900, but the expected cost would range from \$1500 to \$2000 per person. The overall cost again could be \$15000 to \$20000 to do this mission trip. We really hope that we could be there, but like Alaska, this cost is by far more than what we have currently and honestly out of our range by Summer still.

Praying Pelican Ministries : <https://www.prayingpelicanmissions.org/>

Another Texas group focused on the recovery and mission work also costs \$450 per person. However there is a lot of the costs that are included such as food, ministry needs, project materials. St. Augustine would be the best option for this one. We still need airfare and a vehicle. Airfare is still \$500 and ground transportation is \$2000 with fuel. Again simple cost is roughly \$1250 per person but provides much more than the other Texas Mission group.

Next Step Ministries: <http://www.nextstepministries.com/san-augustine-texas/>

Missouri and Oklahoma costs are very similar to the second Texas mission. These are very much construction project mission trips. We suggest Missouri or Oklahoma due to the current focus on Texas and a lack of resources going to the others. Currently Missouri would be cheaper to fly. We would go to Tulsa and drive the 3 hours there.

Next Step Ministries: <http://www.nextstepministries.com/joplin-missouri-2/>
<http://www.nextstepministries.com/moore-oklahoma/>

Recommendation:

Option 1)

Due to the costs, but also based on YG talents, the Idaho mission trip, Lutherhaven, through Idaho Servant Adventures seems to be the best match. This would be the 1st through the 6th of July, 2018. While we do not have all the funds for this trip, the expected fundraising that each person would need to do is \$250 which includes the \$50 if 10 people go.

October through June to Fundraise: 9 months.

With 10 people going \$300 per person (with extra spending money) would need to be raised. That is \$34 per month that needs to be raised by everyone.

Option 2)

If we know exactly how many would be going, the Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; St. Augustine, Texas; or Joplin, Missouri mission trip could be viable. They are more expensive and would require **EVERYONE** to fundraise. Since we do have some money set aside already, it would leave around \$8500 need for us to fill. Fundraising for each person would be roughly \$850 per person if 10 go. If less go, then the cost increases due to fewer members to split the cost. As a breakdown of this cost:

October through June to Fundraise: 9 months.

With 10 people going \$1000 per person (with extra spending money) would need to be raised. That is \$112 per month that needs to be raised by everyone.

Commitment:

Those interested in going need to do two things. First, sign up utilizing TLC YG Mission Trip form (provided) and return to Chuck and Lisa by October 8th, 2017. Second, a \$50 holding registration fee is required from TLC YG members by November 5th, 2017 regardless of which Mission Trip site we finally determine. This will be the required cost by YG members to raise for the trip - aside from any other spending money. We would prefer the \$50 on October 8th, but understand that might be difficult to raise in that time. If you have a difficulty in raising the \$50, please talk to Chuck and Lisa, they will be able to provide you with ideas and options to raise those funds.

Registration forms:

I would like all parents/guardians to fill out a Mission Trip registration form for their child(ren) so we have current contact information on file. Please fill out a separate form for each child that will be participating in the mission trip. It might be the same information, but it is important that we have information on our trip. As we near the mission trip time, we will ask for updates to the information.

Medical Release forms:

There will be a medical release form that will need to be filled out for your child(ren) for the Mission Trip. We will keep these on file so we have it readily available for travel but like the registration form, we will verify all information just prior to our departure.

On the Road Meals for Youth:

During our travel there to the Mission Trip site in Idaho, there will be stops along the way for food and some site seeing. Please bring extra money for food. If you have specific dietary needs, please be ready for areas that may not be as readily able to provide those specific needs. You might need to pack some of your own food to bring on the trip.

Getting Prepared:

A list of items to bring will be included later.

Should you have spending money:

Yes. For food on the way there and back. Also for any other things you want to purchase along the way - or while we are there. There are some activities at the site that do cost. Please look at the papers in this packet for more details.

When will we leave EXACTLY:

This is a little fuzzy. While we know exactly when we need to be there in Northern Idaho 4pm Sunday the 1st, and when we leave 8:30 am Friday the 6th of July, we will try to make arrangements to stay an extra night along the way (going or coming back) possibly for some other recreation / mission trip. Please reserve two days before and after just in case we are able to determine an extension.

Fundraising and Volunteering:

We will be doing several activities in the coming year and recording who is participating and the length of time that they spend on the activities leading up to each event. We recognize that not all youth will be able to participate 100% in the activities but want to avoid an uneven system. We do encourage everyone to try to participate in any manner.

At the year end the amount of time that is put forth by each member will be taken into consideration when deciding on the monetary benefit they receive to participate in the mission trip.

This will hopefully avoid a disparity of efforts vs rewards among members of the Youth Group Mission Trip Team.

Group Etiquette:

Respect God, Respect Others, Respect Yourself. Listen and participate.