

# **BIG SKY. BIGGER MISSION.**

## **JULY 5-12, 2023**

**Who Can Go:** Any high school student that is interested. It should be noted that our first and primary reason for going is to serve others and, at times, get dirty doing it! Yes, we'll do some exploring and some fun stuff too while we're out there. However, if you're primarily coming for "the fun" or to use this as a vacation, this probably isn't your trip! It's a very fun trip, but our primary mission is to "serve one another in love" (Galatians 5:13).

**When Are We Going:** July 5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>

**Where We Are Going:** We are planning on flying into Kalispell, MT. Depending on ticket availability, we MAY have to fly into Missoula. It is about 2 hours south of Kalispell. We'll primarily be working in the Flathead Valley in the Kalispell area. We'll also do some group activities in Glacier National Park and the Flathead Valley.

**Cost:** The cost will be \$500 per person (including adults). We will have opportunities to help you raise your trip costs! Another highly effective tool for raising your money is by writing letters to people to help raise the money (We've had multiple people write just a few letters and get their whole trip paid for!). We are happy to give you some tips on how to write an effective fundraising letter. We never want money to be an issue, so we'll try and offer as many opportunities as we can! However, if you still come up short after participating in these opportunities, please let us know and we'll work to make things happen! Also, plan on having to pay for luggage on the flight (\$30 each way), one meal a day, and any money you want to spend on souvenirs.

**Deadline:** Because the area fills up so much during the summer months and because of the complexity of planning such a trip, the deadline to sign up for this trip will be January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023!

**Everyone must pay a \$100 non-refundable deposit by January 1st...WE WILL NOT GET A TICKET FOR ANYONE THAT HAS NOT PAID THIS DEPOSIT!!!** If someone wants to come after this date, it will only be IF we can get a plane ticket AND have room for lodging, etc. There will also be a \$100 late fee for anyone that signs up after January 1<sup>st</sup>!!!

**Where We'll Stay:** Bigfork, Montana. We will stay in the same condos as the last 2 summers.

**What We're Doing/Who We're Working With:** We will be working again with Lighthouse Christian, a home/farm for special needs adults. One of the unique things about the facility is that by being on a farm, the residents help with chores on the farm. We'll do farm work, repairs, teach the residents and do special activities with the residents. We will also be volunteering with Camp Promise, which is a Christian summer camp for special needs kids and adults. We'll be working with the Camp to set up for a big event they do the final 2 days

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of camp. After setting things up, we'll get to run the event for the camps and will have direct interactions with the campers. The camp itself takes place at Big Sky Bible Camp.

**Leadership/Teambuilding:** We also want to take advantage to be away from the day to day distractions we live with when we're home! We plan to do some hikes (nothing that you have to be an expert hiker to do) and some other activities to help us grow closer as a group. We'll also spend some time seeing the sights in Glacier National Park. There will be multiple service and leadership expectations while we're on the trip. Examples include delivering a devo, helping cook meals, teaching residents at Lighthouse Christian, helping clean after meals/activities, etc. While we'll spend a lot of time serving, it's also our goal to use this as an opportunity for some leadership training and growth within our group--- we've got some great high school students that have some amazing leadership potential! Any student that is coming on the trip will be expected to be actively participating in the service opportunities that we offer prior to the trip. We also expect students coming on the trip to be regularly attending Bible class and active withing the group. This will also include leading within the group before we go out (participate in youth led worships, leading in Bible class: prayers, songs, reading scriptures, and leading children's church, etc.) If you're not leading and serving here, then chances are you're not going to lead and serve 2,000 miles away from here!

**Meeting Expectations:** We will have several other meetings before the trip. We will make every effort to advertise the meetings through the in advance. THE MEETINGS WILL BE IMPORTANT AND TEENS ARE EXPECTED TO BE AT THE MEETINGS. If a teen absolutely cannot make a meeting, they MUST let Daniel know ASAP BEFORE the meeting. **If a teen misses multiple meetings or doesn't let Daniel know they'll be missing meetings, they will not be allowed to go.**