

GROUP MISSIONS & PHOENIX YOUTH

2025

South Dakota Summer Mission



Travel Dates **June 14-21, 2025 (Sat thru Sat)**

A Trip for **Ages 14+ (& adult leaders)**

Travel to **Mission, South Dakota**

- Home of the **Lakota Sioux Nation**

Visit **Amazing Places ...**

- Mt Rushmore National Monument
- Crazy Horse Memorial
- Custer State Park
- Tubing on the the Niobrara River

Cost per participant: **\$350 (plus fundraising)**

- All participants will be expected to participate in fundraising to earn money for the total trip expense. If you were to pay 100% for your trip without fundraising , the total cost would be \$700 (includes excursions).

Important Dates

- **Registration** (\$100 Deposit) due March 15
- **2nd Deposit** (\$250): Due May 15
- **April (all month)** Flamingo Flock Fundraiser
- **May (Date TBD)** Bake Auction Fundraiser
- **Final Deadline** for registration/\$\$: May 15
- **Depart:** June 14 from First UMC, GWS
- **Mission Work Camp:** June 15-21
- **Return:** June 21 to First UMC, GWS

More Information & Links:

At Group Workcamps, hundreds of teenagers from youth groups across the country repair and transform homes while deepening their faith and building new relationships with their peers and youth leaders. Workcamp trips are mid-sized gatherings with up to 400 teenage participants that focus specifically on residential home repair. Beyond the physical transformation that happens in communities, teenagers bring the hope and light of Jesus to the residents they serve.

- More @ <https://groupmissiontrips.com>
- YouTube Link:
<https://youtu.be/-orZwS4FZsg?si=hQ187oXIP8HSJLiw>

We will be traveling by van and private vehicle round trip over 2 days from Glenwood Springs to Mission, South Dakota. On the way, we will see Mt Rushmore and Crazy Horse Memorial parks, before overnighing in the comfort of the cabins of Custer State Park. We'll shorten the trip on the way back, and plan to return by about 6pm on Saturday, June 21. Each adult chaperone/driver will be required to complete a background check for participation.

Preparation

1. **Prepare for fun:** This trip isn't just for working! It's also for learning, playing, and having a great time with your friends. We'll get to see traditional Lakota dance, music, and learn about native art. We'll explore Mt Rushmore and the lesser known Crazy Horse Memorial areas and take in the views of these famous mountain carvings. We'll even get to relax by the campfire outside our cabins at Custer State Park. Then Mission, the heart of the Rosebud Lakota Sioux, will await us.
2. **Prepare your hearts:** Prepare for a life changing trip! Start with a desire to have fun and to make a difference this summer. Broaden your horizon, and go beyond to serve the needs of others.
3. **Raise your funds (we got this!):** See the deposit & payment schedule. Participate with the group to fundraise the other 50% of your trip cost. Don't forget to hit up your community for contributions...what you're doing is worth supporting!
4. **Pack your (tool) bags:** Spend time collecting items on your packing list, including "typical" camp items such as a sleeping bag & shower kit, but also "tools" for the trip, such as work gloves, tape measure, even paint brushes! And don't forget a camera/phone to take pics. ALL gear and tools will be dropped off 1 day prior to departure. (List to be provided)
5. **Widen your circle:** Arriving on the Rosebud reservation, home of the Lakota people, we will join the staff & youth from around the US for a 'camp' like none other. We'll eat, sleep, play, laugh, worship, and work together to learn from and serve the people of the Lakota Sioux Nation.

Fundraising info:

Fundraiser #1 -

- April 6, @ TBD Flamingo Flock Kickoff! Keep your eye out for the announcement on the big kickoff for this super fun way to earn cash for your trip! Flocking will continue in small groups through the month of April

Fundraiser #2 -

- May/TBD: Community Bake Auction. Details to come!

Individual/Family Giving -

- *Have a friend or family member interested in supporting your cause? Here's how they can give! Remember, your commitment is \$350, which you can earn by mowing lawns, babysitting, and by telling your grandparents or other family members about this awesome mission you're going on! The rest of your funds will come through group fundraisers!*
- *Your supporters can give online @ <https://roaringforkumc.breezechms.com/give/online>*
- *Checks can be made to: First UMC; Write Youth SD Mission" & participant name in memo.*
- *Cash can be submitted in envelope labeled with participant name and dropped at any one of the United Methodist Churches in the valley (Basalt, Carbondale, and Glenwood).*

