

# Blackfeet Reservation, Montana Senior High Mission Trip 2010

## Who Can Go?

9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade of the 2009 – 2010 School Year

## Dates

Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010

## How much is this going to cost?

**\$500 per student.** The students will also be responsible for food to and from Montana. The cost does include the registration for YouthWorks, transportation, gas, and hotel for one night. Food from Sunday Night until Friday morning will be provided for.

## Chaperones?

We will accept 24 students and 7 adults. If you are interested in being a chaperone, please fill out a chaperone form and turn it into Lynette by **October 1<sup>st</sup>**. Chaperones will be paying \$250.00.

## Ministry

Students will spend two days working with children and two days doing house painting and may also serve with local ministries in the area.

Kids Club – A hands-on program led by youth offering high energy games, crafts, skits, songs and interactive lessons all designed to help kids learn about Jesus.

Work Projects – The group will have the opportunity to do house painting, and if possible, some minor home improvement. Just a new coat of paint brings real hope and an opportunity to share the love of Christ.

Because wonderful things happen when youth from different groups serve together, our groups will be mixed with youth from other congregations this week. They will always be with an adult from our congregation.

## Evening Activities

Evening activities are designed to give participants insight into the lives of local residents and the culture of the area.

A list of activities that YouthWorks has done in the past include –

- \* Game Night
- \* Cultural Activity
- \* Community Cookout
- \* Visit Glacier National Park

## Deposits and Payments –

1<sup>st</sup> Deposit - \$100.00 Due **Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>**

2<sup>nd</sup> Deposit - \$50.00 Due **Feb 1<sup>st</sup>**

Final Payment – Due **June 15<sup>th</sup>**

You may pay by credit card, check, or debit card on the website. If you need information about that, please see Lynette.

### **A Look at the Blackfeet Reservation**

The Blackfeet nation, traveled by Lewis and Clark in 1806, encompasses approximately 1.5 million acres and is bordered by the Canadian province of Alberta to the north. The Blackfeet received their name as a result of the darkened moccasins that were painted black or colored as they walked through ashes from prairie fires while searching for food. The Blackfeet Indian Reservation was established by the Treaty of 1855, and today is home to about 7,000 of over 15,000 tribal members. The reservation belongs to the Pikuni branch of the “Blackfoot Confederacy” and members have been referred to as “the Blood/Kainai and Blackfoot/Siksika, all residing in Canada. The Pikuni suffered a devastating period during the late 1800’s. First, a smallpox epidemic lasting 30 years struck the tribe. This deadly disease wiped out almost two-thirds of the tribal nation. A year after the epidemic, the Pikuni discovered a new process for tanning buffalo. This new discovery led to the severe extermination of buffalo by outsiders for the purpose of industry. As a result, over 600 Blackfeet starved to death during the winter of 1883, reducing their numbers to only 1400 members for some time. Although most tribal members are in the ranching and farming business, unemployment is high on the reservation. The Bureau of Indian Affairs estimates the unemployment rate is 69 percent among registered members of the tribe. The YouthWorks site is located in the reservation community of Heart Butte, a town of about 700 residents. In Heart Butte, nearly 45 percent of the population lives below the poverty line, including 50 percent of those under age 18.

#### **Blackfeet Statistics**

- ❖ Population of Heart Butte is 698.
- ❖ The reservation covers 2.5 million acres.
- ❖ 25.6% do not have a high school diploma.
- ❖ 23% of households earn less than \$10,000 per year.
- ❖ 45% live below the poverty level.
- ❖ Glacier County is the 35<sup>th</sup> poorest county in the United States.
- ❖ 14.4% of homes are heated by wood alone, no gas or electric heat.

- ❖ 10.5% of homes have no telephone.

#### **Important Dates To Mark on Calendar**

- October 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Deposit Due
- October 9 and 10<sup>th</sup>** – Garage Sale
- December** – Bake Sale
- February or March** – Lenten Supper
- March 1<sup>st</sup>** – Flower Sale Starts
- March 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Flower Orders are Due
- March 28<sup>th</sup>** – Palm Sunday Breakfast
- April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>** – Pre-Trip Retreat to Ewalu Bible Camp
- May 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Flowers Delivered  
(Also known as Lynette’s Birthday – How nice to be surrounded by flowers ☺)
- June 14<sup>th</sup>** – 50’s Drive In

July 11<sup>th</sup> – Commissioning Service followed by  
Parent Meeting

July 16<sup>th</sup> – Pack Vehicles at 6:00 PM  
July 17<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 AM Leave for Montana

**Registration Form**  
**2010 High School Mission Trip**  
**Blackfeet Reservation, Montana**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Age** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date of Birth** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent(s) Names** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent(s) Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student's Cell Phone**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent's E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student's E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**Deposit Paid** \_\_\_\_\_

**Check #** \_\_\_\_\_

**2<sup>nd</sup> Deposit Paid** \_\_\_\_\_

**Check #** \_\_\_\_\_