

OUR YOUTH MISSION TRIP RESUME

July 2006 -First Presbyterian Church, Raton, New Mexico: Vacation Bible School with Hispanic and Caucasian children plus helped with a carpeting project, painting projects. The mountain bears would visit nightly and that intrigued us.

July 2007 - Omaha, Nebraska: Sudanese American Presbyterian Fellowship where we painted, cleaned, landscaped, and held a Vacation Bible School for about 50 Sudanese children from infants to teens. We also provided sewing machines and older computers for updating the Sudanese abilities to accomplish more technical skills.

July 2008—Ferncliff Camp in Little Rock, Arkansas on Mount Matthew: Our group moved mulch up 45 degree angles up mountain routes, dug trails, and built steps and platforms on the convoluted trails. A small group went to the Jackson House in Hot Springs, Arkansas, to prepare meals for the homeless daily.

July 2009, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina Race Path Neighborhood, an African American community, of Myrtle Beach under the "Beach Castles" ministry of First Presbyterian Church. Roofed, built a handicapped ramp, and painted another home and worked with 50 – 70 children with their recreation/day care center needs daily.

July 2010, Camp Burnamwood, Irvine, Kentucky: We built a porch floor, painted and added siding to two homes in the Appalachian Hills and held an outdoor Vacation Bible School at the camp.

July 2011, Southside Chicago, Illinois: Helped with the demolition of a 1920's pool hall which is now transformed into the Living Hope Church near University of Chicago. We also held a large Vacation Bible School for the mostly African American children at Southside Gospel Church. Lots of fun!

July 2012, Dogwood Acres Presbyterian Camp, Vernon, Florida: We built a 60' bridge over an environmentally preserved ravine, repaired cabins and painted many structures. Also held a VBS in Panama City at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church.

July 2013, Highland Presbyterian Camps and Conference Center, Allenspark, Colorado: We re-roofed a 180' recreation cabin; drilled into lava rock and built the foundation for an amphitheater to seat 100; and held VBS at Lyons Community Church and First Methodist in Berthoud, Colorado. One of our favorite sites.

July 2014, Various Churches in Olathe and Kansas City, Kansas: We extended the fencing for a playground and built a swing set at Grandview Presbyterian Church; did some plumbing and tiling at Bethel Presbyterian Church; and Painted and performed general upkeep at United Church of the Good Shepherd—all in Kansas City, Kansas. Then we hosted an all day VBS for children of black, Hispanic and Caucasian at First Presbyterian Church of Olathe.

July 2015, Kayenta Presbyterian Church, Dennehotso Presbyterian Fellowship, AZ; and Oljato Presbyterian Church, Utah. Added most of the roof on a Hogan at Kayenta, while staying there; reroofed Dennehotso's home for fellowship, and held a large VBS at Oljato around the mesa from Momument Valley for over 50 Najavo children. They loved the tie dye shirts! We loved the experience.

July 2016, Beautiful Pioneer Presbyterian Camp, Lead, SD, and Whitewood Presbyterian Church, Whitewood, SD. While staying at the camp lodge, crews built a 30 'bridge over a creek then assisted with building 12 bunk beds and laying tile in 3 cabins. VBS was held in Whitewood where our Heifer Project curriculum encouraged knowledge of animals for food around the world. We meet baby rabbits, goats, bees, buffalos, cows, and goats. It was fantastic.

July 2017, Central Presbyterian Church, St. Paul, MN. While staying at Central, crews went to homes and painted the exterior and reshored a porch while another crew rebuilt a garage out of code and cleaned up a messy yard. An all day VBS was held at the church next door to Minnesota Public Radio. We shared their green lawn for recreation in the downtown area. Lots of urban fun.

July 2018, Belle Terrace Presbyterian Church, Augusta, GA. Working in tandem with this outstanding and wonderfully loving African American congregation, we collectively put on a Vacation Bible School for 80+ kids. It was an all day affair with music, crafts, recreation, science, Bible Study and introduction to lauded African American citizens in Augusta. Also a pavilion was erected, horse shoe pit created and swing set fixed among other construction projects. We loved this congregation!

July 2019, First Presbyterian Church, Glenwood Springs, CO. We worked with First Presbyterian Church to put on a 5 church ecumenical Vacation Bible School held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. It was an all day, all week affair with so much fun infused! Our construction crew helped out Wulfsohn Gardens with benches and plant boxes, built a porch for the Presbyterian Manse, painted an Episcopalian's house (outside) and did some trail maintenance for Roaring Fork Outdoor Trail Volunteers. Thoroughly enjoyed our stay there!

July 2020, due to the pandemic, we opted to work locally with Justice Ministries of First United Methodist in Fort Worth. 1/2 of the week, we built a playground for a family in Everman, a suburb of Fort Worth; and the other 1/2 was spent building a playground for a family in north Fort Worth. Both families were Hispanic and the children had suffered child abuse.

July 2021, a doctor from our church lent her country home for our use in Rio Vista, a town south of Fort Worth about 1 hour. We again worked with Justice Ministries of First United Methodist Church, Fort Worth, on helping a family of abuse. We built swings, a playhouse located in a tree, a fire pit, garden area, and a trampoline. Similar to our 2020 trip, we created lots of activities on a large country area of Alvarado, south of Fort Worth. We also helped a church family of ours in the same area with gardening needs as the husband had pancreatic cancer.

Hope this helps to understand our past so that we may find a locale that is in search of our skills for a perfect union!

Sincerely,

Beth Fultz, Director of Christian Education Beth.fultz@ststephenpresbyterian.com 817.875.9704 cell 817.927.8411 office