**Mission 2017 Informational Meeting:**

**Trip Itinerary:**

* June 30th: Leaving the SSLC Parking lot at 4pm SHARP. Our first night will be arriving in Sioux Falls, SD and staying at First Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls.
* June 31st: We will be leaving early AM and heading to Cody, WY for the evening stop at a hotel.
* July 1st: Early Morning Run into Yellowstone National Park- Then stopping for the evening in Wind River, WY at our host site for the week.
* July 1st through 7th: Staying at our host site in Wind River, WY.
* July 7th: Leaving earlier in the day to head to Mitchell, SD. Staying at a congregation in Mitchell for the night.
* July 8th: Heading HOME: We will leave Mitchell, SD on our way home. This is a 6-hour drive (without stops) trip home. This means that we will most likely be home late evening. (4-8pm.) We will contact families a few hours out.

**Transportation:**

We will be renting vehicles from Hoglund Bus Company in Monticello. We will pick them up the morning of the 30th. We have a 15-passenger van, 2-10 passenger vans, 1 minivan and a truck towing a trailer in the mix. If anyone wants to loan us a minivan or 6-passenger vehicle for the trip we would be able to save some money this year.

**Typical Day:**

7:00 a.m. Breakfast   
8:00 a.m. Devotions / Quiet Time   
8:45 a.m. Group Meeting and Prayer   
9:00 a.m. Depart for Service Sites   
12:00 p.m. Lunch at Site   
3:30 p.m. Leave Site – Shower Time   
5:30 p.m. Dinner   
6:30 p.m. Evening Activity   
9:00 p.m. Large Group Gathering \* This is the evening program consisting of sharing time, music and a video.   
10:00 p.m. Church Group Time \* This time is set aside for each group to spend time debriefing their day. 11:15 p.m. Lights Out!

**Site Specific Information:**Due to the nature of YouthWorks we will not know specific jobs sites or work crews. There are some assumptions we are able to make that may help ease your students and your minds.   
  
1. Service Projects: These can range from volunteering at a Boys and Girls Club, to Salvation Army, Soup Kitchens, House Painting, Repair projects, neighborhood beautification projects etc. Plan to get dirty, and plan to run around.   
  
2. Kids Club: A VBS based program. Students will play with kids, run around, lead worship and Bible activities etc. These sites involve a lot of playing and having a great time.

**Cell Phone Policy:**

This year’s cell phone policy will be slightly different then previous years. This year we are ok with students bringing their phones for the travel portions of the trip. We realize that 17+ hours in the car may require time to disconnect from the group, and recharge if needed.   
  
We will ask that students NOT have cell phones upon arrival during to the YouthWorks site. Students that are not fully present at the site will feel isolated, disconnected, and not have a great experience. Our aim is that we become fully engaged with the community we serve in the short time that students are present. This cannot happen if students are worried about home, or that one friend, or the drama that exists at home.

We will provide:

* Baggies to keep phones or electronics for the week.
* Secure locked storage of phones or devices for the week.

What we are not responsible for:

* Providing chargers or other necessities to power devices.
* Damaged or lost electronics/phones during the time we are together. You are responsible for what you bring. Once the item is locked it will be Jeremy’s responsibility to ensure they are safe and secure. You will receive them back after the final evening’s activities. Giving you ample time to charge your devices.

\*\*\* Parents: Please understand that after years of leading trips we notice students that feel disconnected, frustrated, or have a “bad” trip are usually the ones that sneak their phones with their parents permission. You are spending a great deal of money for your students to not feel engaged. Help us ensure that your students have a great experience and allow them to disconnect for a few days. You can always send messages to Jeremy’s cell phone and I will pass the text on to them and let them respond. We want you to feel connected but do so in a way that lets students engage and be free of all of the other pressures to be connected. Thank you for helping us be fully present to what God is doing on these trips.

**Notes about Clothing:**

A few things to be aware of with clothing. Youthworks has a very strict policy regarding dress. Please be aware that clothes that are revealing, short, or have disrespectful things on them will not be allowed for the week.   
  
- Shorts- Keep them past your fingers on the sides. This means that your shorts should pass your fingers when you arms are straight at your side.

- Shirts: No tank tops, or cut up shirts. If you can see bras, or bare chests please do not bring them.

- Swimsuits: While we travel you can wear whatever suits you want. Make sure you have a one piece in case you work with kids who go to a pool. Modesty is the best policy. Guys… no speedos.

- Clothes may get ruined on this trip. We usually have someone upset about shoes, pants or something getting ruined. If you bring your best stuff be prepared for it to get messy. I recommend a visit to a thrift store or really old clothes you can get messy in.

**Communication:**   
We will provide parents with a phone number sheet the morning we depart. That will include all cell phone numbers of the adults attending the trip. Please contact Jeremy first before contacting other adults on the list. My cell phone is on 24/7 and is paid in part by South Santiago Lutheran. My minutes are part of the job.

We will update the following during our trip:

Facebook: South Santiago Lutheran Church, Clear Lake.

Twitter: SouthSantiagoLC   
Email: [sslcjeremy@gmail.com](mailto:sslcjeremy@gmail.com)

You can leave messages for your kids there during the week and we will let them know. Encouragement and uplifting of spirits is a great thing!

If you have questions or concerns between now and the trip please contact me at   
612-201-6382

[sslcjeremy@gmail.com](mailto:sslcjeremy@gmail.com)

Thanks,   
Jeremy Hallquist