

YOUTH IN MISSION 2010

Ministry Information Letter #2

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ADVANCE TRAINING

Youth In Mission has established the requirement for all participants who are on or close to one of the Nazarene University campuses in the USA to be actively involved in what is known as Advance Training. Advance Training starts in February on most campuses. This is a vital aspect of preparing for ministry.

Advance Training includes working through a variety of materials with your campus Youth In Mission group and your Lead Ambassador. The Lead Ambassador is empowered to creatively structure your time together.

If you are the only student from your school who is participating with Youth In Mission, please make yourself accountable to someone who can help you with the Advance Training. We recommend that you connect with your team mates and discuss what they've been covering in Advance Training. You can contact our office for ideas and suggestions as well.

Please make Advance Training a high priority during these busy months of school. It is also recommended that you take an active role in bringing your campus group together for sharing, planning, and growing. Remember, this is a group effort and experience.

MINISTRY LOCATION ASSIGNMENTS & COMMUNICATION

You may remember at the time of your acceptance that you were assigned to a team on a tentative basis. Your team assignment should now be confirmed, unless you have heard differently from us. As always, world events such as war, tribal conflicts (where applicable) and epidemic disease or personnel changes on the mission field may dictate that Youth In Mission redirects an individual or teams. Should something of this nature occur, we will include you in the decision as quickly as possible.

Youth In Mission corresponds with each of the site coordinators on a regular basis. You will be receiving updated information regarding ministry plans and expectations as it is made available to us. You will always want to know more, but realize we are dealing with real people and ministries in other cultures. Mission sites experience change and we will keep you updated as needed. We will send you all the information we have. If you are unclear about something, contact us right away -- chances are high that others may be unclear also. **TALK TO US. WE LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

When you have questions, begin by re-reading your Ministry Information Letters (MILs). Then, talk with the Youth In Mission Ambassadors on your campus. They undoubtedly have a wealth of information! Also, touch base with your Advance Training Coordinator—others may have the same questions that you have.

COMMITMENT

When you returned your Youth In Mission Letter of Agreement, you made a commitment to be involved in a self-giving, sacrificial ministry for the summer in addition to raising a ministry contribution. We believe you have sought the Lord's guidance and accepted your appointment believing and trusting in His power to meet your needs.

You may grow discouraged at times and become overwhelmed in the midst of a busy year. Term papers, exams, spring fever, and difficult circumstances may attack at full force. You may experience having second thoughts. If this happens, pause and reflect upon your commitment to serve God in this unique form of ministry for the summer.

God's promises are trustworthy. He is faithful! As each of us fulfills our responsibilities, He will fulfill His! From the beginning, put your trust in the Lord and believe by faith that He will bring you through.

Remember that the people you will meet and work with this summer are excited about your commitment to their ministry. They, too, are praying and believing that God will do great things through you and your ministry. They are praying for you!

TRAINING CAMP/ RE-ENTRY CAMP

Training Camp for all participants will be held at El Paso First Church of the Nazarene in El Paso, Texas.

- The camp will begin on Wednesday, May 26, 2010, and will end on Monday, May 31, 2010.
- Re-Entry Camp will be from Thursday, July 22, 2010, through Sunday, July 25, 2010, in El Paso.

IMPORTANT TRAVEL DETAILS:

- You must arrange for your own travel to/from El Paso, TX. (*Remember, this is a personal expense in addition to the funds you are raising for your YOUTH IN MISSION experience*).
- Flights need to be booked in/out of El Paso Airport (Airport code: ELP). If you have any questions, please contact us immediately.
- Plan to arrive in El Paso by 1:00 PM MST on Wednesday, May 26, 2010. Any exceptions should be approved by the YOUTH IN MISSION office.
- If you are traveling by air, shuttle service will be arranged for you from the airport to Training Camp.
- If someone is driving you to Training Camp, we will provide directions upon request in May.
- Youth In Mission cannot provide summer-long parking to students wanting to drive and leave their vehicles – if you plan to drive yourself, you will need to find somewhere to park your vehicle – on your own.
- You may depart El Paso in late morning (after 11:00 AM) on Sunday, July 25, 2010.

Details regarding Training Camp are being finalized now. We will be sending you more information later.

**YOU CAN EITHER INVESTIGATE PRICES ONLINE
OR CONTACT OUR PREFERRED TRAVEL REPRESENTATIVE:**

Jan Bell – Journeys By Jan
Toll free number: (800) 736-5252
Email: janbell@midrivers.com

PARENTS

Please keep your parents informed about information you receive from Youth In Mission relating to your summer. We will be happy to answer any questions they have that you are unable to answer.

We feel that it is important for you to carry the responsibility of communication. Although some parents have more questions than others, **it is essential that any questions they raise are directed through you.** If you or your parents have any concerns or questions, we ask that YOU be the one who communicates with our office. We love your parents and are thrilled that they get to experience Youth In Mission through you. Keeping in touch with us is a vital part of your Youth In Mission experience.

One way you can inform them of important information is to connect them with our web site. Invite them to explore the information here, and share these Ministry Information Letters. Also, there is a special section for family members. It can be found by going to our web site www.youthinmission.org, selecting "About Youth In Mission," then selecting "Information for Family Members." Be sure to write them a note to tell them about this! Another thing you can do is forward them the emails we send to you and/or copy this letter to them.

POLICY ON THE ATTENDANCE OF WEDDINGS/OTHER EVENTS

A number of students always ask about the possibility of leaving Training Camp or their ministry assignment to be a part of a wedding or other family oriented events. Because we are bringing many students together for a shared experience, our policy is that we do not allow students to attend weddings/other events during Training Camp, during their summer ministry, or during our Re-Entry Camp.

Whenever a team member leaves, the dynamics of the Youth In Mission experience are significantly altered. We offer you our regrets, but realize that ministry often includes uncomfortable sacrifice.

MINISTRY CONTRIBUTION

If you have some anxious thoughts about how to raise your contributions, don't worry!

Don't hesitate contacting your Lead Ambassador or our office. We'll try to help you walk through some steps to get you on the right path.

The key to effectively raising your contributions will be in your preparation and your follow through. You have already received several aids towards this purpose. We will continue to provide you with resources as they are available to us. Make sure you continue to refer to your Acceptance Packet for friendraising information. Don't hesitate contacting us if you feel like you need further assistance.

Take time to read all the materials you receive. Take time to pray and to plan. Support raising is perhaps the first of many significant steps of faith you will face in committing to Youth In Mission.

Each of these faith building moments will better prepare you for future challenges in life. Please remember the Youth In Mission staff in your prayers, as each year we face similar challenges in bringing together a summer of ministry for you. As you face anxieties, be assured of our continued prayers for you and be confident that the Lord is faithful.

If you are having difficulties in coming up with a support raising plan, let us remind you of a few places to begin:

- **Your Local Church** - Talk to your pastor first. Ask if you might have about ten minutes during (or before) a service to share about Youth In Mission. Present your need of prayer support, as well as your need of financial support in such a way that involves each member of the congregation whether they are able to give a contribution or not. Present Youth In Mission as a ministry opportunity for every person who joins your support team.
- **Your District (for Nazarene students)** – In February, letters will be sent to your District Superintendent, District NYI President, and District NMI President. It is your responsibility to follow up that letter with a phone call or personal visit. Many districts are more than happy to assist their students, but they must be asked by you first.
- **Your Friends and Relatives** - This aspect of the plan is what strikes fear into the minds of many students and their parents. Approach this step much like you approach your church family. Keep in mind the philosophy of fundraising that suggests you are not just asking for money, but you are also asking for prayer and relational support for a life-challenging opportunity. The key is realizing that your life is not the only one worth the potential to be changed. Each member of your support team can be challenged and changed by sharing in your experiences. Begin making a list of at least 50 people who have been a part of your life and who you might feel comfortable in asking for support. Consider all the different people you relate to at home, school and work. Please refer to the fundraising letter that was sent after your acceptance letter.
- **Your Campus Community Church** - Don't feel reluctant about talking with your college pastor about Youth In Mission. If other Youth In Mission students attend your church, talk to your pastor together. Open the door for your college church to join your support team. Be creative, be thankful, and include everyone. Also remember that there are many who have a heart for ministry and missions, but for one reason or another can't personally serve in a program like Youth In Mission. There are parents, grandparents, and Sunday School teachers who would love to use you as an example to present to their children. Present your experience as a faith building opportunity for everyone.
- **Matching Gifts** - You may want to seek persons who would be willing to commit a certain percentage of whatever you save or raise on your own. If you commit to saving a small amount each week, you could save a substantial amount. With the support of others, this amount could then be doubled by the time Training Camp rolls around. Share the Youth In Mission material you have received, share your dreams, and challenge them to join you.
- **Special Support Raising Projects** - Consider sponsoring a fundraising event whether by yourself or with a group. The old, faithful car washes, baby sitting, and candy selling options are still successful with some new creativity and solid planning.
- **"What Is My Contribution Amount Used For?"** - All of your contribution amount goes toward:
 - Training Camp (site rental, lodging, food, speakers, seminar leaders, entertainment, ground transportation, and miscellaneous supplies),
 - Print materials (for ministry information and Advance Training),
 - Airfare/travel expenses from Training Camp to your ministry site and back,
 - Re-Entry Camp, and
 - All of your basic needs from the time you land in El Paso until you head home, not including personal items, excursions, and souvenirs.

The Church of the Nazarene subsidizes your contribution amount to cover Youth In Mission expenses throughout the year including set up trips for ministry sites, communication between the Youth Missions office and the field, recruitment, and staffing.

POLICIES ON YOUTH IN MISSION CONTRIBUTIONS

- Schedule - The payment schedule is set up for a reason. Its purpose is not only to help keep you on track, but also to make sure that there is enough money in the Youth In Mission accounts each month to care for purchases that must be made in advance.
- Deadlines – At least sixty percent of your total contribution amount is due two months before your trip. If this amount (your fourth payment) is not received by the Youth In Mission office on or before that date, then you could be prevented from participating in Youth In Mission. We ask for your complete diligence and commitment.
- We are already beginning to purchase ministry materials and pay deposits for Training Camp. We also will be purchasing your airline tickets between Training Camp and your ministry site by early spring. You must have enough funds in your account to cover this expense. If you do not, you could be prevented from participating in Youth In Mission.
- Airfare - As just mentioned, airfare from Training Camp to your Ministry Site and back to the Training Camp location is covered in your total Youth In Mission contribution amount.
- Airfare from your Home to Training Camp and from the Re-Entry Camp location back home must be paid for by the participant, due to the fact that everyone will be coming from various locations.

DON'T FORGET: **PASSPORTS** ARE DUE TO THE YOUTH IN MISSION OFFICE BY **MARCH 5TH**!

For more information, contact: YIM@Nazarene.org today!

***Print this Ministry Information Letter and include it in your
YOUTH IN MISSION Notebook!***