



**Summer Youth Mission Trip
With Praying Pelican Missions**

Parkersburg, WV

Saturday, July 10th-Friday, July 16th 2021

Cost: \$300 per teen

- *If a family has multiple teens going on the mission trip than each of their teens will pay \$250 instead of \$300.*
- *If a teen wants to go on the mission but needs financial assistance please contact Pastor Dave at dave@epworth.com about scholarships.*
- **A non-refundable deposit of \$75 is due by Sunday, May 9th to secure your spot on the trip.**
- **Your final payment of \$225 (or \$175 if multiple siblings are going) will be due by Sunday, June 27th.**

Forms:

To join a Praying Pelican Mission Trip, all participants need to complete the following forms:

- My Info (Personal and Medical Information)
- Legal Agreement/Media Agreement/Liability Agreement and Release
- Covid Risk Agreement

These can be found in the myppm.org group account. Every participant will need to log in under their own account to complete their forms. ***Before you are able to do this, you will need to give me your name and the email you will use for the trip. Pastor Dave will then be able to add you as a participant, then I will email you the trip invitation where you can complete the forms.***

***** We will also have an additional Epworth Medical Release Form as well *****

What is it like where we are serving?

Ethnicity: Caucasian, African American

Average Income: \$26,000 per year- The higher paying jobs are with a couple of local factories, and most other jobs are retail, service, or restaurant related.

Basics: Appalachia is a very “Blue Collar” area. There are plenty of opportunities to get the feel of the local culture. The local people tend to be very hospitable and friendly. They are very proud of their heritage and are quick to share it with you if you ask. The ministry opportunities are endless!

Climate/language: The climate can be very hot and humid in the summer and very wet and cold in the winter. English is the predominant language, but you will notice that their “accent” is different than ours. Appalachia is very safe and any crime is very limited.

Food and Fun: There is a ton of history to be learned all up and down the Ohio River Valley. Many local opportunities to see and hear about the proud history of the people. Some West Virginia favorite foods are pepperoni rolls, chili and slaw dogs, cornbread and pinto beans, ramps and fried potatoes, venison (deer hunting is a big thing in WV).

History and Religion: Appalachia was the first frontier when America began. Some of the richest history is nestled deep in the hollers and around the river bends of the Appalachian Mountains. It is a favorite spot to visit in the fall because of its natural beauty. It also boasts some the best whitewater rafting in the world. Appalachia is primarily a protestant population.

Pastor Dave lived about 8 years of his life in the Parkersburg/Ohio River Valley area. Parkersburg is the county seat of Wood County, WV. It is 4th largest city in WV (behind Charleston the capital, and Huntington and Morgantown which host the two largest universities in the state). The population was right around 30,000 in 2018. Which would be close to the size of Bowling Green but bigger than Perrysburg or Sylvania. Parkersburg is located on the Ohio River on the border of Ohio/West Virginia. It is about 14 miles south of Marietta, Ohio.

Miscellaneous Information:

Food: Praying Pelican seeks to provide a wide variety of options that will nourish and sustain all participants. All your food and water is provided for your trip (Except for meal money on the way to WV and on the way home). Participants should list any allergies or special dietary needs on their forms, and they will try their best to accommodate that need. Students can bring their own snacks, and are encouraged to bring some snack money for during the week.

Lodging: We will be staying at Liberty Street Church of God (1301 Liberty Street, Parkersburg, WV 26101 | 304.428.4121) We will also be showering at the church as well. Pastor Dave is

very familiar with this area as it is only about 6 minutes away from where he went to church. As of right now it will only be our group staying at this location (but could change if we are only able to bring a small group). As far as I know we will be sleeping on the floor so each person will need an air mattress (or small cot), sheets (or sleeping bag), and a pillow. Men and women will have separate lodging areas at the church.

Transportation: We will be traveling by 15-passenger van to Parkersburg, WV. We will be doing a fair amount of walking throughout the community, so please bring appropriate shoes. The Praying Pelican staff will have a vehicle during the week for the transfer of ministry materials and to use in the case of emergencies.

Safety: On all PPM mission trips, safety is our first priority. An orientation meeting happens upon arrival to help navigate our teams through health guidelines specific to the location we are serving in. Camden Clark Medical Center is only 4 minutes away from where we are staying. If anyone has medicines that need refrigerated please let the staff know.

Emergency Contact Information: Before the trip, you will be given the emergency contact information, as well as the cell phone numbers of each adult leader going. I have also provided the church phone number above. *Teens will not be permitted to bring cell phones on the trip.*

Calling Home and Internet Access: PPM staff requests that participants do not expect to call or email home during the trip (except in the case of an emergency). This will help us to be fully engaged on the mission trip.

Medical Card: Along with your medical release forms, we will need a copy of your medical insurance cards.

Mission Trip Checklist:

- Practice sharing your response if someone from the Parkersburg area asked you, “Why are you here?” “Why are you spending part of your summer doing this?” “Why is Jesus important to you?”
- Be in prayer for our team and our mission site.
- Complete the necessary online forms on the Praying Pelican website
- You need to be active in the youth ministry to be able to attend this trip. We do lots of events and programs that are great opportunities to invite a friend, but this is not one of them.
- Make sure that you are up to date on your vaccinations, especially your tetanus shot.
- Purchase any supplies you need
- Pack appropriately using the list you receive

- Monitor your health leading up to the mission site, and if you have any concerns please go to the doctor.

Pack Suggestions:

- Pack lightly and efficiently. Plan on having one suitcase and one carry-on for your clothing and personal items.
- Don't bring unnecessary items in your wallet or purse.
- Bring your needed toiletries.
- There is a Piggly Wiggly Grocery Store only a two minute walk from the church if you forget something essential.

Travel Suggestions:

- Come into the trip well-rested and in good health. Please get good rest in the days leading up to the trip. Don't pull an all-nighter before the trip; you will not have the chance to catch up on sleep during the week.
- Don't wear new shoes on the trip. Break them in before you leave to avoid blisters.
- Don't bring ipads, cell phones, laptops, or other expensive devices.
- Family and friends may visit this website at <https://www.prayingpelicanmissions.org/journals> to receive updates with our online trip journals.

Health Guidelines:

- Currently they are having groups wear masks when they are inside or within tight surroundings, but outside masks are not being required. (Plan on bringing masks with you)
- Drink water that you know is safe. We will be provided safe drinking water, and you are encouraged to bring a water bottle to refill and keep with you to stay hydrated.
- Do not drink water out of anyone else's water bottle than your own.
- Wash your hands or use antibacterial gel, especially before every meal.
- Bring all customary medications with you in their original bottles and take them as directed.
- Be aware of the intensity of the sun and temperature. Apply sunblock frequently if we are outside.
- Do not take unnecessary physical risks and be conservative with your physical limitations. Do not push yourself too hard. Take water breaks, get enough sleep, wear shoes at all times, and gloves when necessary.

- Always be in groups of 3 with an adult leader. Communicate where you will be with the team leader.
- Notify the team leader immediately if you are experiencing physical problems. These could include diarrhea lasting more than 24 hours, persistent cramps or vomiting, severe chills, or any other symptoms that are of medical concern.
- Please be careful of any stray animals walking around. They may appear friendly and may be vaccinated but please avoid running up to them or petting them.

Clothing Guidelines:

PPM desire is to dress in a manner that does not distract from the message of Jesus. Therefore, wearing more conservative clothing is required. There WILL NOT be clothes washing facilities available, so please pack accordingly. We will have 1 mission trip t-shirt, so make sure to bring plenty of your own shirts, longer shorts as you will most likely need a change of clothes on many days because of the heat. So, you will need clothes you can work in and non-work clothes. Remember you get one suitcase and one carry on bag so pack wisely.

What about swimming?

I am not sure yet what the schedule is and am waiting to hear more from our worksite. When I find out more information I will let you know.

When it comes to clothes what should I not bring?

Sleeveless shirts, low-cut shirts, tank tops, or other revealing clothing. These are the rules of Praying Pelican Missions and I want us to be respectful of them. Remember we are going to be working in various environments so we want to be respectful of our hosts.

Packing Checklist

Clothing:

- 2 church outfits
- Work project clothes for each day
- Lightweight sleepwear
- Underwear
- Swimwear (If needed)
- Socks
- Closed-toe/tennis shoes
- Non-working shoes that are comfortable

Personal Items:

- Copy of medical card
- Medications
- Bug Spray
- Small container of Hand Sanitizer
- Sunscreen
- Bath Towel/Beach towel
- Wash cloth/Loofah
- Plastic bag to put your dirty clothes in
- Snacks
- Spending money/travel meal money
- Comb/brush
- Glasses/Contacts (if needed)
- Toiletries (shampoo, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, feminine products)

Must-Haves:

- Bible
- Pen
- Pelican Guide (You will be given this later)
- Water Bottle with large opening for refills
- Backpack or small duffel bag
- Hat (Due to the sun)
- Flashlight
- Earplugs
- Ziplock bags (some gallon/some sandwich size)

Sleeping:

- Air mattress (preferably twin or full size) pump, sheets or sleeping bag and pillow. You can also bring a small cot instead of air mattress if you wish.

Ministry Opportunities:

Where will we be staying?

Liberty Street Church of God (Anderson)

1301 Liberty St.

Parkersburg, WV 26101

304-428-4121

Where will we be serving?

We will be serving some at Liberty Street Church of God but also...

Latrobe Street Mission

1725 Latrobe Street

Parkersburg, WV 26101

(304) 893-9460

We will be working with Latrobe's emergency shelter for people who are experiencing homelessness. This could be a mom and baby who fell on hard times and found themselves on the streets. It could be a family who just months ago appeared to have "a good life" but due to a loss of jobs they are now homeless. It could be a military veteran who got lost in the system and had nowhere else to go. I give you those examples so that we understand a wide variety of people can find themselves homeless such as men, women, children, families, singles, old, young, retired, unemployed, employed, veterans, all people with a story.

We will also be working with Latrobe's Thrift Store that provides clothing for residents in need of clothing, especially in job-related circumstances. Latrobe now only seeks to provide food and shelter, but also services to help people get back on their feet again.

No matter the ministries we will be serving in, you will be involved in building relationships with those in the community. One of the best ways for us to prepare as a team is by us being prepared to share our testimony with those we meet.

Testimonies paint a picture of how God is at work in our lives, you can share...

- How you came to follow Jesus
- God's hand at work during specific moments of your life
- Ways God reveals God's self in the world around you.

Most of the time you will only have 30 seconds to 1 minutes to share, and other times you may have 5 minutes to share, so practice what you might say during those different time periods.

Fundraising:

One of the best ways for you to raise funds for a mission trip is by sending out fundraising letters to family and friends. When you return, you can send your donors a thank you letter with details about your trip.

You can even have people donate directly to your mission trip!

If people use the URL: **ppm.org/16226**

This will allow people to donate to your mission trip via PayPal. The URL below can be shared by email, posted on social media, blogs, etc. Just copy and paste it wherever you'd like to share it.

- People who donate to your mission trip will have the option to enter a note with a participant name during the donation process (This allows it to be directly applied to the participant). Any participant name will be reflected on the payment and visible to your Group Leader.
- The donor's PayPal receipt will say "Trip Donation."
- Payments will be applied immediately to your mission team's account and a receipt will be emailed to your Group Leader.
- This feature is only available up to **45 days** before the mission trip start date (So before June 8th).
- There is a 3% processing fee added to each donation

