



August 18, 2022

Hello!

If you are a current 8<sup>th</sup> grader, high schooler, or college-aged student, you are eligible for next summer's ASP trip! The FUMC LG high school youth group volunteers each year with a home-repair ministry called the Appalachia Service Project (ASP).

## **Next year's trip will be July 22-29, 2023.**

The trip typically follows this format – we'll load up rental vans on Saturday morning, drive to a church in Kentucky or West Virginia and stay there Saturday night. There, everyone will find out their assigned work crew for the week (2 adults & 5 high school students). Sunday morning we'll get up and do some adventure in the area before heading to our ASP Center Sunday afternoon. Monday through Friday, our work crews will be out doing home repair work during the day, and participating in programming to learn more about Central Appalachia and how our work intersects with our faith and the needs in the world. Friday night we'll clean out our vans and the ASP center, de-brief our week, and prepare to drive home Saturday.

It is a tiring week, full of joys and challenges, windy roads and lots of sweat, building relationships among our team and with the Central Appalachian community we're blessed to become a part of for the week, ice cream and so many smiles. It pushes all of us outside our comfort zones in some way, and we often come home having learned so much about ourselves along the way. Having participated in ASP trips for over 20 years now, I can honestly say it is still one of the very best things I get to do each year.

### **REGISTRATION:**

I will email out a registration link on Thursday, Sept. 1. I have 60 youth spots available and do anticipate filling them, at which point I will start a waiting list. A \$50 non-refundable registration deposit is required at the time of registration (payment information will be in the Sept. 1 email).

### **TRIP COST AND FUNDRAISING:**

The trip cost is \$650 per person. A \$50 deposit is required at registration, and an additional \$100 is required at or before our first trip prep meeting, Sunday Jan 22. We do our absolute best to fundraise the majority of the remaining \$500. When an ASP youth participates in a fundraiser, a portion of the money raised will be credited toward your trip account. If you don't work at a fundraiser, you won't get any of that money toward your trip.

Trip prep starts with meetings in January, but we will be offering fundraising opportunities through the fall as well.

## **IMPORTANT ASP 2023 DATES:**

*(this list isn't complete; there will be other fundraisers. In fact, if you have any ideas for new fundraisers, please let me know, especially if you are willing to help make it happen! Like a Fall Euchre Tournament, Pizza sales, etc...)*

Sept. 1 - Registration for 2023 trip opens  
Sept. 18 – Methodist Attic Rummage Sale Fall Drop offs, 11:30-2 (fundraising opp)  
Jan. 22 – Trip Prep Meeting #1 (Trip Participants and Parents), 11:30am OR 7pm  
Jan. 29 – Chili Cook off, 11:30am  
Feb. 26 – Trip Prep Meeting #2 (Trip Participants only), 11:30 am OR 7pm  
March 12 – ASP Worship Service, Lunch & Silent Auction  
April 7-15 - Methodist Attic Rummage Sale week  
April 23 – Trip Prep Meeting #3 (Trip Participants only), 11:30 am OR 7:00pm  
May – Paperwork checklist email will be sent this week  
June 4 – Remaining ASP Payments Due (& any outstanding paperwork)  
July 16 – Safety Training (3:30pm)  
July 22-29 – Trip!  
Aug. 13 – Trip Reflections & Slideshow in 10:15 Worship

Please contact me with questions/concerns/etc. by email ([youth@fumclg.org](mailto:youth@fumclg.org)), or phone (847-682-7896).

Grace and Peace,

Hattie Koher  
Youth Minister