

## Welcome

We are so excited that you are thinking and praying about joining the Mission Trek Family! It truly is a family that works together, serves together, plays together and prays together. We stretch and challenge ourselves to grow into the people God is calling us to be.

My name is Vanessa Tompkins and I have been the director of Mission Trek for the past 8 years. If you have any questions or if I can be of assistance to you please contact me at: [vtompkins@stvincentparish.org](mailto:vtompkins@stvincentparish.org) or 253-839-2320



## Community Building and Faith Sharing

Mission Trek is a family. We work very hard throughout the year, but it is equally important to play and pray together. Building and strengthening friendships with each other and with Jesus prepares us to work together as a united team.

Participate in 2 out of 3 Community Building Events

We also expect that you will participate in our ongoing Youth Ministry Events throughout the year including our Lifeteen/Edge or Confirmation Programs held on Wednesday nights, retreats and diocesan events!



## Service Saturdays

An opportunity to put our faith into action and engage with our community. Direct service gives young people the opportunity to put a human face to the needs they have heard about, do something that makes a difference for the good and appreciate how their talents and resources can be used to serve others.

Participate in 2 out of 4 Service Saturdays a year.

Dates: TBD / Time: 8:30am-12pm

## Fundraising

Fundraising helps lower the cost of going on the Mission Trip. The IRS has regulations that if a parish group is fundraising by doing some activity, those from the group who participate in the fundraising cannot be “rewarded” by allocating more of the fundraising proceeds to defray the cost of their participation in group activities. All fundraising activities are done as a group and must be used to defray the cost, not of individuals, but of the entire group. We work together so that everyone will have the opportunity to experience Mission Trek regardless of their financial circumstance.



### Our Big Evnts:

- Auction and Auction Set Up—Nov
- Fish Fry— Every Friday in Lent
- Other Opportunities as they come

## Auction: November 2nd

The Auction is our biggest fundraiser of the year. Each family is required to provide one auction basket valued around \$75, sell tickets, set up on Friday evening and participate in the Auction as either a volunteer or a paying participant. Live Auction Items are our “Big Ticket” Items, so if your family can donate a live item or you know someone who can, please keep this in mind as we prepare for the Auction.

We will also form an Auction Committee. This can't be done without your help! Please let Vanessa know if you are interested in being on the Auction Committee! We will meet in September and October!

Silent Auction Baskets are due : TBD



Dates will be determined by October 2024.  
Dates frange from the end of June through the beginning of August

## Family Involvement

Mission Trek takes commitment not just from the student but by the entire family.

It is expected that families will help in executing at least 2 of the Mission Trek events during the year in addition to the auction.

This could be helping with the Fish Frys, Chaperoning Service Saturday Etc.



## Estimated Costs

Final costs are not known until the end of April after the bulk of our fundraising. Each trip cost is different and varies greatly on airfare, car vehicles etc. Historically families have paid anywhere from \$50 to \$400 depending on a variety of variables and the success of fundraising.

You will be updated every 2 months of our financial standings and will know how much each trip original cost will be once we know our dates in October.

## Adult Companions

Every year we are in need of Adult Companions that accompany our youth on their Missions. The number of adults needed depends on the number of participants per mission.

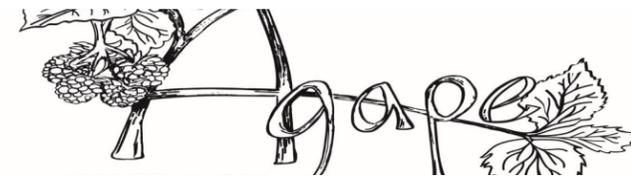
These companions are held to the same participation expectations throughout the year that the youth are. They are also expected to be the cheerleader and a role model for the Mission Trek program!

Please join our AMAZING Team of Adult Companions! I promise you, you won't regret it!

## Mission Trek 2024-2025

Mission Trek is a hands on program for 6th-12th graders who want to actively grow and live out their faith. The Mission Trek program is a year long commitment (Aug 2024-July 2025) of Service, Faith Sharing, Community Building and Fundraising that culminates in a week long Catholic Service Learning Experience in the summer.

### 6th-12th Grade



The Agape Service Project serves migrant farmworkers in Whatcom County. Through service-learning immersion experiences, participants learn about human dignity, issues affecting migrant farmworkers and why we as Catholics are called to serve. Through our food bank, community support and time spent with the migrant families, we have the ultimate goal of building personal relationships with our brothers and sisters in Christ.



### 10th-12th Grade



Esperanza International works to provide international service experiences for our volunteer groups in Tijuana, Mexico. They host groups of volunteers to help build homes and work on other projects in the under-served communities of Tijuana. High School students spend a week in an immersion experience of Mexican cultures, socioeconomic development and leadership building.



Deadline to Register for Mission Trek and our first gathering is  
Sunday, September 8, 2024 @ 3pm