



ASP 2023 July 16-22: Love Strong

ASP stands for Appalachia Service Project. It is a relationship ministry, open to all people, that addresses the housing needs of Central Appalachia by focusing on making existing homes warmer, safer, and drier.

HOLDING PLANS LOOSELY – Before diving into any further details, please hear us say that we know that these strange times make it difficult to make plans with any certainty. We will pay attention to current information, guidelines, and recommendations about Covid-19 as the time for our trip draws near, and will do all we can to think creatively about making it a safe trip for everyone involved.

FAIR WARNING! ASP participants are usually housed in school gyms or classrooms (many times without A/C) and quarters can be very tight. Showers may be indoors or in make-shift outdoor shelters with little hot water. Sometimes the cooks are experienced, sometimes not-so-much, and food is usually very basic. Workdays are hard – up by 7 am, then breakfast, lunch making, supply loading, and off to your worksite. We wrap up around 4 pm and then head back to the school for supply unloading, showers, dinner, and a mandatory evening gathering. Oh, and there are those chores...

BUT – did I mention what **fun** we have? We work hard but laugh harder! We learn so much – about ourselves, each other, and the new friends and families we meet. Many people go back to ASP year after year because they have a meaningful experience. We hope you'll consider joining us!

HERE IS WHAT YOU NEED TO DO TO JOIN OUR TEAM OF 30:

- Be at least **14** years old.
- Print, read, and complete the last page of this reservation form.
- Register online (<https://form.jotform.com/230103910138139>) no later than **Sunday, February 5th**. You can pay as part of the online registration process or bring a check to the church. **Your name won't go on the list until you pay online or submit a check.**
- Checks should be made payable to: Cary Presbyterian Church with ASP Registration on the Memo line. If you need scholarship assistance, please speak with Alan Bancroft.

ALL ASP PARTICIPANTS ARE EXPECTED TO:

- **Attend Training Meetings** – important to learn about and prepare ourselves (emotionally and practically) for our ASP experience. **We are planning 3 sessions this year – all held after worship on a Sunday 11:45 AM-1:45 PM – on the following dates:**
 - **Sunday, March 26** – Basic Trip Expectations for All Participants and First Time Parents (we'll cover current ASP Covid-19 protocols at this meeting)
 - **Sunday, April 30** – Safety, Stewardship, and Sensitivity
 - **Sunday, May 21** – Explanation of how ASP chooses families to receive assistance
- **Attend Work Day**
 - **Saturday, June 3rd 8:00 AM-1:00 PM (Rain date: Sunday, June 4th)**
 - We are only having one work day this year, so it's a bit longer than in previous years. We want to make sure to complete whatever project we take on. This is an important experience, so make sure this is on your family calendar.
- **Attend Ice Cream Social**
 - **Sunday, July 9th 7:00 PM-8:30 PM**
 - Attend the Bon Voyage Ice Cream Party to get team assignments, packing instructions, and lots of last-minute info to get our trip off to a great start!
- Contribute your time & effort in fundraising. This will probably involve recording videos to be shared during worship and on the CPC Facebook page, or staffing the ASP stock sales table.
- Write thank you notes to “Stockholders” while we are on the trip.
- Abide by center guidelines while at ASP.
- Tell the congregation about our experience by participating in ASP Sunday. We will poll participants to find a good date for this in August.

All ASP Participants (new AND returning) are requested to attend all training meetings, as well as the work day. If, for some reason, you are not able to attend (for instance, you are away at college) you MUST contact Alan Bancroft ahead of time.

If you have questions, please contact Alan Bancroft at alan.bancroft@carypresbyterian.org or by phone 615-540-9124.