

We know there's a long way to go with COVID, but we also have great hope in our future! We've begun planning (because it takes this long) for our summer 2021 High School Mission Trip to Juneau, Alaska. Space is limited on this trip due to lodging/transportation factors. We will be staying in The Lodge at the National Shrine of St. Therese in Juneau. We will be taking four chaperones for our seventeen students: Mike, Jake, and two of our female adult volunteers for High School Youth Ministry.

Please keep in mind - this is not your stereotypical mission trip. We won't be building houses in a small country or digging wells for people without access to running water. Juneau is a mission diocese in 'the Last Frontier.' Much of our work will be what you might consider simple tasks - spreading mulch, cleaning storage, upkeep at the National Shrine of St. Therese, and so on. The reason/difference is twofold: first, there is only so much time during the summer months for work to get done outside so priority is given to projects that are deemed more necessary (so we can help with the less prioritized projects that often get left from one year to the next until they have time to take care of them); second, the simplicity of these tasks should be a shocking call to service at home, here in Bluffton. We don't have to travel all over the world to serve, we just need to open our eyes.

Here are the details:

1. In order to secure your spot for our 2021 Mission Trip you must turn in your \$200 nonrefundable (unless COVID) deposit.
2. The Dates of the 2021 trip are: July 27 - August 3rd
3. We will be going to Juneau, AK.
4. Flights are reserved on Alaska Airlines out of Charleston
 - a. We will travel through Seattle both ways.
 - b. The return trip has an overnight (1 night) in Seattle due to flight schedules. We will land in Seattle on August. 2, 2021 at 5pm and fly out the next morning at 7:30am.
5. While in Juneau we will stay in The Lodge at the National Shrine of St. Therese.
6. While in Juneau we will be working on projects that the Diocese of Juneau sets aside and asks for our help with.
7. Total cost is looking to be \$1600. This is more expensive than last year due to flight costs and lodging changes. This is also a high estimate and could come down (slightly) but I'd rather give the higher side then need to increase it later.
 - a. Cost includes: Transportation (flight and rental cars for the week), lodging (Juneau and Seattle), meals (while in Juneau), an excursion, and materials while there.
 - b. Does not include meals while traveling (airports).

Please keep in mind that this year is different. Right now, we are not allowed to coordinate our main fundraisers because of COVID. **You will have to fundraise on your own for most (if not all) of it.** A payment schedule will be set up beginning in December: Approximately \$250/month through April, with the balance due May 1.

Registration will open to the main group on Sunday, October 18th.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email msylvester@sgg.cc or call 843-815-3100.