

# **2025 Mission Trip**

## **Hurricane Helene Relief**



Once again, the Calvary/Faith Reformed youth group will take a summer mission trip to broaden our understanding of God's mission to bring salvation to the lost! While much of our growth as Christians comes through the weekly routine of discipleship and obedience to God in all we do, these week-long trips help youth learn different ways they can use their gifts to serve God, all while experiencing the challenges Christ's Church faces in different contexts. This June, we look forward to showing the love of Christ to those hit hardest by Hurricane Helene.

In September 2024, Hurricane Helene tore through the southeast part of the United States causing close to \$80 billion in losses and damaging nearly 75,000 homes. In the aftermath, many Christian churches and groups worked together and mobilized to provide meals, clothing and shelter to those affected by the storm. While much good work has been done in the name of Christ through these churches, restoration efforts are likely to be ongoing for another 5 years or more.

One of the areas hit hardest by Helene is the mountainous region on the border of Tennessee and North Carolina. We've been in contact with several Christian ministries that prioritize showing Christ's love through disaster relief that are in the process of repairing thousands of homes with the help of teams like ours. We've been assured that there will be plenty of work for us to do and we look forward to lending a hand during the week of June 21-28, 2025.

The exact location and scope of our work will not be known for certain until May, though the most-likely destination is near Greeneville, TN along the Nolichucky River which flooded during the hurricane. As our trip approaches, these ministries will have a better idea of where they're at on their long list of rebuilds and we will be assigned accordingly. Depending on where our work is, we will be housed at a church or a Christian camp where we will eat, sleep and fellowship and night. We will also worship together at a church on Sunday morning that will serve as a hub that we can direct people to that we meet during our service projects.

As always, the three objectives of our summer trips are to **serve**, **learn**, and grow in our **relationships** with each other, and this trip will allow us to do all three:

**Serve:** While on-site, we will assist skilled professionals who specialize in drywall, flooring, painting, electrical work and anything dealing with home construction. These professionals volunteer their time to serve those in need and are accustomed to working alongside groups like ours that include people with minimal experience in these trades. These expansive disaster relief efforts will last years and will require both the expertise of skilled professionals as well as the strength and vigor of many young people that can offer a helping hand.

**Learn:** Very few of us have experienced the aftermath of natural disasters at this scale. Witnessing the wreckage and interacting with those who have been directly affected will be learning experiences in themselves. We will also learn new ways that Christians can use their gifts and give their time and resources to serve those who are in great physical need. But the greatest hope is that as we serve alongside a local church as partners in the Gospel that people would see Christ's love and come to know Him and have their spiritual needs met as well.

**Fellowship:** As is the case on all our trips, we'll have plenty of free time at night for relationship building after our work is done. While we do not yet know what facility we will be staying in, we certainly will find things to do! We will likely take a day trip in the mountains on Sunday afternoon and could potentially check out local landmarks in the evenings as well, but we won't be able to commit to exact plans until our location is determined.

Just as in previous years, this trip will be a great combination of **serv**ing God and others, **learn**ing about how Christians and local churches can serve as Christ's hands and feet to those in need, and **grow**ing in fellowship with one another. We hope you'll take advantage of this opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of people who are in great need and to grow in your relationship with Christ!

## **Hurricane Helene Relief**

*\*Note: Given our work site will be determined in April/May, exact details will be filled in at our team meetings.*

**Where:** In the mountains along the NC/TN border  
\*Likely near Greeneville, TN along the Nolichucky River

**When:** **Depart:** Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup> 2025 @ 6:00AM  
**Return:** Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup> 2025 (around 7:00PM)

**Cost:** **\$150** (Contact Jon if a scholarship is needed.)  
\*Additional meal money will be needed (see page 4).  
\*All other trip costs will be covered by fundraisers.

**Age:** Open to incoming freshman through graduating seniors.

**Intent Form & Deposit Due:** **Wednesday, March 12**

- \*A collection box will be at Core & Connect starting 2/23.
- \*Or put it in the outdoor drop box at Faith or Jon's door box

**Payment schedule:** **March 12** - \$50 per child due  
**Mid-May** (@ team Meeting) – Balance due  
\***Checks** made out to: **Faith Reformed Church**

**Lodging:** at a host church or a Christian camp

- Youth will be accompanied by chaperones
- Boys & girls will be separate
- All locations will have showers available
- Locations will likely have bunks for sleeping
- Some air mattresses may be needed

**Transportation:**

- We will travel in rental vans (and a truck pulling a U-Haul)
- We will travel straight through both to-and-from our destination
- Travel will be about 11-13 hours plus stops (similar to Baltimore)

### **Meals:**

- Most meals will be provided as part of the trip
- Students will need to cover about 4 fast food meals in transit
- Students may need to cover 1-2 restaurants in NC/TN

### **Recreation / Day Trip:**

- TBD. Extra money will not be needed for this.

### **Fundraisers:**

1) **Soup Supper** – Wed Mar 19 @ Calvary OPC.

2) **Mulch for Missions** – Sat Apr 19.

3) **Brat Fry** – Sat May 3 @ Calvary OPC.

\*Students must serve at 2 out of 3 fundraisers.

\*Please plan on serving at the Brat Fry if you are available.

\*If you are not available for 2 of the fundraisers, contact Jon to make alternative arrangements.

\*These fundraisers are very important in keeping our trips affordable!!

### **Team Meetings:**

1) **Team Prep & Team Building** (Youth & Chaperones)

-Wednesday night in May after Connect wraps up for the year.

2) **Informational Meeting** (Youth, Parents & Chaperones)

-Weekday night in June.

Questions: Do not hesitate to contact Jon at (920) 447-2335

## INTENT TO ATTEND FORM

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have every intention of attending the Calvary/Faith Reformed Sr. High mission trip to the NC/TN mountains for Hurricane Helene disaster relief from June 21-28, 2025.

- I understand that a \$50 down-payment is due on March 12, 2025, and the balance (\$150 total) is due at the May team meeting.
- I understand that by turning in this form I am committing to attend, and committing to pay the full amount.
- I understand that if I cancel, the \$50 down-payment is non-refundable.
- I understand that by signing up to participate in this mission trip I need to **1) be a regular participant at Core or Connect, 2) participate in at least two of the fundraisers which support the trip (or have a substitute serve for me), and 3) be at the team meetings.**

Please check all fundraisers you are available for:

Pasta Dinner on Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>

Mulch for Missions on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>

Brat Fry on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>

- **Code of conduct:** As a team member and disciple of Christ, I will conduct myself according to the highest standards of integrity and morality. It is out of respect for God, ourselves, and others—and for the group’s safety—that I abide by the law and our core values, or I may face discipline.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date:

**\*\*There will be a handful of waivers/forms that will need to be signed that will be handed out in May once the exact details of the trip are known\*\***

**\*\*A copy of your insurance card will be needed at the time of your final payment\*\***

**\*\*Jon will check in with team members before the trip to get a list of prescription medications\*\***