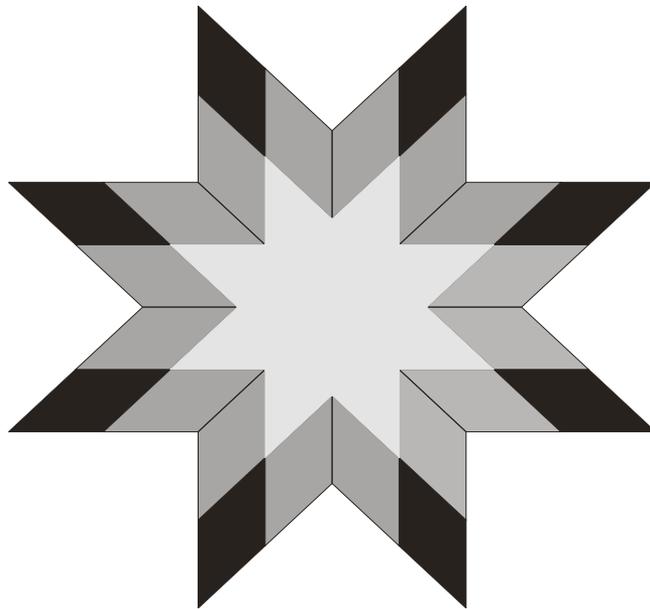


**Senior High
Mission Trip 2019:
Pine Ridge Reservation, SD
July 6-12, 2019**



**Information &
Registration Packet**

*The Senior-High Mission Trip is a ministry of
Second Congregational Church of Boxford, UCC*

General Information

Why Pine Ridge, South Dakota ?

Pine Ridge, South Dakota is home to the Pine Ridge Lakota Sioux Indian Reservation. It is also the home of an organization called **Re-Member**. Re-Member is a non-profit, faith-based organization *“that exists to recall our country's treatment of the Indian people and to repair the broken pieces of that relationship.”* This 6-day program combines home repair projects with community outreach, cultural presenters and lectures, along with visits to the Badlands, the Wounded Knee Massacre site and pow-wows as available. Re-Member will be the host of our group for the week and will be responsible for providing food, accommodations, work projects and education. (For further information about Re-Member see below or check them out on-line at www.re-member.org.)

How Much Will This Trip Cost?

The actual cost of the trip is approximately \$1500 per person. We are asking that each student to plan on paying \$1100. The big variable cost to this trip is airfare. We will not know the total cost of airfare until probably January. Final payments will be adjusted at that time. The last payment could go down - it will not go up! We will be bringing two chaperones. We are asking each chaperone to pay \$600. ***(Your costs can be reduced through participation in our “Mission Shares” fundraiser - every dollar raised reduces the cost of the trip by \$1.)*** For more details, please see the “Finances” section of the “Student/Parent Requirements” sheet.

What are the Trip Locations and Dates?

The dates for the trip will be Saturday, July 6, 2019 through Friday, July 12, 2019. We will be staying at one of two residential buildings in Pine Ridge (Shelem Volunteer House or Kiksuya Volunteer House) complete with bunk beds for sleeping and showers. **Please note that we will not be the only group there and we will be living in community other groups.** Our work will be primarily on the reservation but there will be side trips off the reservation as well (see below).

What Will We See, What Work Will We Do and What is the Trip Itinerary?

It is difficult to give specific itinerary or work project information until the late Spring. Much can happen between now and then and we don't want to dash any expectations unnecessarily. As soon as specific itinerary information is available, it will be communicated to the families. In general terms, however, our group will travel to and from Rapid City, SD by airplane. We will take a bus to Pine Ridge, SD (about a 2 hour drive). We will stay at the Re-Member facilities and work in and around the reservation. Some of the work we do could include making bunk beds and/or outhouses and installing them or doing housing repair projects. We will also make cultural trips to sites such as Wounded Knee, the Singing Horse Trading Post, Red Cloud Museum and the Badlands. The following is a sample of an average day on the trip (this is only a rough sketch – BE FLEX-ABLE!!).

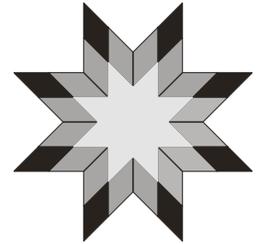
6:00 a.m.	Wake-Up
6:45	Breakfast
8:00	Wisdom of the Elders/Orders of the Day
8:30	Half of group on tour, half of group work on Reservation
12:00 noon	Lunch on the job or on tour
1:00 p.m.	Work or tour continues
5:00	Supper
6:30	Cultural Program
8:00	Roses and Thorns (reflection of the day)
9:00	Free Time, Bathroom/Showers
9:30	Quiet Time
10:00	In Bed
10:30	Lights Out

Who is Invited to Participate?

The Youth Mission Trip 2019 is open to **ALL** students who are in grades 9-12 during the 2018-2019 school year. We will be bringing 2 adult chaperones.

Do I have to be a Member of Second Congregational Church of Boxford in Order to Participate?

No. If you are in grades 9-12 and you are willing to be an active member of a Christian Learning and Serving group, then you are welcome to reserve your space. Since space for this trip is limited, church youth and former Mission Trip participants in grades 9-12 will be given first opportunity to sign-up. After October 15, if space allows, we will accept youth from outside the church membership.



What is a Christian Mission Trip?

A Christian Mission Trip always includes the following three components: Service, Spiritual Formation and Education. Some Mission trips emphasize one of these over the others. Sometimes a Mission trip is set up in response to a disaster or emergency (service). Sometimes a Mission trip focuses on increasing its participants' spiritual depth (spiritual formation). Sometimes, a Mission trip focuses on cultural awareness (education). In any case, a Christian Mission trip always contains all three of these elements in one way or another. Participants are asked to consider their willingness to be involved in all three of these aspects before deciding whether or not to go.

Our trip to South Dakota will be a balance of all three of these aspects and may focus less on work projects than our past trips. Through Re-member we will be spend a significant portion of our time learning about and trying to understand Lakota culture.

What Kind of Trip is the “Youth Mission Trip 2019”?

One point that is important to understand right from the beginning is that this Mission trip is **NOT a vacation**. While we will have fun along the way, this Mission trip is not to be viewed as an easy week with your friends. The purpose of youth Mission trips at Second Congregational Church of Boxford is to place students into unfamiliar circumstances for the purposes of service, spiritual formation and education. By working hard, by being exposed to unfamiliar places, and by meeting new people, we seek to provide the time, the space and the structure for senior-high students to be able to deepen their relationship with God. We do this through daily work projects, through daily devotional times, through fellowship and through sightseeing. In every case, we seek to make the connection between what we are doing and the examples that Jesus Christ set for us.

Is a Mission Trip Right For Me?

Ultimately, the decision is up to you and your family. However, here are a few questions that may help you think through your decision.

- *Are you willing to grow in your faith?* – One of the main reasons we go on a Mission trip is to deepen our relationship with God. We do this through serving others, through conversations with our peers, through daily devotionals and through prayer. If you are not familiar or not comfortable with one or more of these, this does not mean that you shouldn't go. However, you should be prepared and open to working on these while on the trip.
- *Are you willing to be uncomfortable?* – Every Mission trip includes times when you will be uncomfortable both physically and emotionally. In the summer you will be hot. As part of a large group you will not be able to eat when you want, go where you want, or do what you want. As a suburban New Englander in a poverty stricken rural environment you will be disoriented and part of a minority. Are you willing to endure these hardships for the sake of a life-changing experience?
- *Are you willing to be open to new points of view and to meet new people?* – The first thing you will have to do if you decide to participate in this trip is to give up the notion that you know it all. Are you willing to be humble so that you can learn from others? Are you willing to see other points of view and to discuss them in a respectful manner?
- *Are you prepared to be away from your home for a week?* - Homesickness is very real. You should be prepared to be away from home, and all that means (i.e. missing parents, friends, your own bed, video games, television, etc.).

- *Can you afford the trip?* – I put this last because it should be the least of your worries. I like to think that every student who wants to go on this Mission trip will be able to go. If money is an issue for you and your family, do not hesitate to let Betsey Guest-Natale (youth@secondchurchboxford.org or 978-352-2127) know. We will work with you to help make the trip affordable.

How do I sign Up?

STUDENTS - Fill out the **Initial Deposit and Registration Form** and mail this and your *Non-refundable* Deposit check of \$350 to the address listed on the form. **ADULTS** – Fill out the **Initial Deposit and Registration Form for Chaperones** and mail these and your *Non-refundable* Deposit check of \$200 to the address listed on the form. All Initial deposits are due by 12/01/2018. Deposits will be taken until all spaces have been filled or until February 1, 2019 whichever comes first.

Student/Parent Requirements

Finances

The per person cost of the trip will be \$1,100.00 (Price may be adjusted down if airfares come in lower than projected). Students can reduce this amount by raising money through our “Mission Shares” fundraiser. Each dollar raised by a student will reduce the cost of the trip for that student. The actual cost of the trip is significantly higher than \$1100 and will be offset by fundraisers throughout the year. On the trip itself, students are advised to bring between \$75 and \$100. We will also be donating our sheets, blankets, towels and pillows at the end of the week. The first *Non-Refundable* Deposit of \$350 will be due when you sign-up. No spot is reserved until the first deposit has been received. The second payment of \$350 will be due on February 1, 2019. The final payment will be due on April 1, 2019. We will e-mail parents to let them know what that final payment will be. Chaperones are asked to pay a Non-refundable Deposit of \$200, a second payment of \$200 will be due on February 1, 2019. The final payment of \$200 will be due on April 1, 2019. Also, any additional fund raisers that youth/parents/chaperones organize will go towards user fees.

Team Building, Monthly Meetings and Service Outings

To prepare our group for its time in the field, it is essential that each student commit to attending 75% of the events/meetings. Generally, on the 4th Sunday of each month (see calendar for specific dates) from November through June, we will have a monthly meeting from 11:45-1:00 PM. At these meetings we will discuss trip details, plan for fundraisers and work at increasing the overall strength, education and spiritual understanding of our group. **In addition, each student is obligated to participate in at least 1 service outing prior to departing for our trip.** Betsey Guest-Natale will organize service outings during the year for the group. Students may serve a meal at Cor Unum (we serve dinner once a month) to help meet their service requirement. Confirmand students participating in City Reach may count this as their community service requirement.

Fundraisers

In order to the keep costs of this Mission trip to a minimum, our group will be engaging in a number of fundraisers throughout the year. **We only have a few fundraisers planned during the year so participation is necessary. Parents are asked to chaperone at least 2 of the fundraisers.** Below is a list of the fundraisers we have already scheduled:

- “Mission Shares,” Ongoing fundraiser from October through June. (Each dollar raised reduces the cost of the trip for student. *If you raise \$200, you only pay \$550; If you raise \$300 you only pay \$450, etc.*). We will facilitate a Mission Sunday worship service in September 2014 where “stock holders” can hear about our trip and we can personally thank them for their support.
- Mum Sale, Sunday 9/9
- Annual Chili sale to be sold on Super Bowl Sunday, February 3, 2019
- March 29, 2019, Youth Mission Auction and Dinner
- May, Flatbread Pizza Fundraiser

Paperwork/Deadlines

This is a rather mundane requirement but it is essential to the success of this trip. Throughout the year there will be forms, permission slips and deadlines that will need to be filled out, returned or observed. Both students and chaperones will be asked to sign and uphold behavioral covenant. By returning paperwork on time and by observing deadlines, it will be easier to maintain a high level of efficiency and safety throughout every step of the Mission trip process.

Summary

Students and Chaperone Requirements

- Must commit to becoming an active, open and supportive member of the group.
- Must agree to follow all trip rules and guidelines.
- Must pay trip fees in full and on-time.
- Must attend 75% of monthly meetings.
- Must participate in fundraisers.
- Must complete at least 1 service outing (“Cor Unum”. qualifies)
- Must sign and uphold a Behavioral Covenant
- Must fill-out and return paperwork promptly and must observe deadlines.

Parent Requirements

- Must fill-out and return paperwork promptly and must observe deadlines.
- Must attend at least 2 of the fundraisers.
- Must attend parent/student information meeting (before we leave for trip in June).

CALENDAR



All dates and times subject to change.

Watch your youth e-news and special e-mail notices.

September

09 Mum Sale (**Fundraiser**) (We raised \$574!)

October

07 **Cor Unum** Leave at 3:30 from the church parking lot to serve meals restaurant style to our neighbors in need, return by 7:00 PM. This is optional but will satisfy the service requirement. (**Service**)

14 **Mission Trip Meeting** - Meet in School House 11:45-1:00.

November

04 **Cor Unum** Leave at 3:30 from the church parking lot to serve meals restaurant style to our neighbors in need, return by 7:00 PM. This is optional but will satisfy the service requirement. (**Service**)

18 **Mission Trip Meeting** - Meet in School House 11:45-1:00.

December

02 **Cor Unum** Leave at 3:30 from the church parking lot to serve meals restaurant style to our neighbors in need, return by 7:00 PM. This is optional but will satisfy the service requirement. (**Service**)

15 **Christmas In The City** We will be helping to prepare for a party for 3,000 kids who live in homeless shelters in and around Boston. More information will be available early November. (**Service**)

January

06 **Cor Unum** Leave at 3:30 from the church parking lot to serve meals restaurant style to our

12 **Mission Meeting** 11:30-1:00 for both youth and parents. This meeting will be vital for the success of the auction.

13 **Chili Pre-Sale** 11:00 a.m. following worship

27 **Chili Pre-Sale** 11:00 a.m. following worship

30 **Chili Cooking Part I** 7:00-9:00 p.m.

31 **Chili Cooking Part II** 7:00-9:00 p.m.

February

01 **2nd Deposit for trip due.**

03 **Chili distribution 11:00 a.m. following worship**

03 **Cor Unum** Leave at 3:30 from the church parking lot to serve meals restaurant style to our neighbors in need, return by 7:00 PM. This is optional but will satisfy the service requirement. (**Service**)

10 **Mission Trip Meeting** - Meet in School House 11:45-1:00.

March

03 **Cor Unum** Leave at 3:30 from the church parking lot to serve meals restaurant style to our neighbors in need, return by 7:00 PM. This is optional but will satisfy the service requirement. (**Service**)

10 **Mission Trip Meeting** - Meet in School House 11:45-1:00.

15 **Auction** - times for auction and set-up will be determined once we decide on full details of auction. Auction to be held at DiBurro's Function Facility

April

01 **Final Payment for trip due.**

07 **Cor Unum** Leave at 3:30 from the church parking lot to serve meals restaurant style to our neighbors in need, return by 7:00 PM. This is optional but will satisfy the service requirement. (**Service**)

May

05 **Cor Unum** Leave at 3:30 from the church parking lot to serve meals restaurant style to our neighbors in need, return by 7:00 PM. This is optional but will satisfy the service requirement. **(Service)**

June

09 **Trip Commissioning** during worship

09 Final Mission Trip Meeting with Parents – We will meet in the Park House Living Room from 11:30-noon to go over trip details. MANDATORY

July

06-12 **Pine Ridge South Dakota (Dates Tentative!)**

September

07 **Mission Meeting 9:30-11:30, mum set-up**

08 **Welcome Sunday Mum Sale**

TBD **Mission Sunday**



Registration for Youth

Program: Youth Mission Trip to Pine Ridge, SD. We will participate with the Re-Member program on a working cultural immersion and spiritual development program.

Service Projects: Possible work projects include housing rehabilitation, remodeling and new home construction.

Transportation: Airplane ride from Boston to Rapid City, South Dakota. Buses will transport us to and from the airports. Re-Member provides all transportation while we are with them.

Housing: We will be sharing dormitory-style housing with bunk beds, bathrooms and showers with other youth and adults. Full kitchen and dining facilities.

Cost: Each participant should expect to pay \$1,100 per person this price may go down depending on cost of air fare but will not go up. This covers only a portion of the actual cost; there will be a number of fundraising activities through the year to cover the balance. A *non-refundable* deposit of \$350 is necessary to confirm a place on this trip on or before December 1, 2018. No spot is confirmed until deposit has been received.

I have read all the time and financial requirements for this trip and I give my son/daughter permission to: *Participate in the Senior High Mission Trip to Pine Ridge, SD from July 6 through July 12, 2019 as described above. I understand that the above descriptions and itinerary may change without notice due to unforeseen circumstances which may include but are not limited to weather, power outages, or mechanical problems.*

Youth's Name: _____ Youth's Cell Phone: _____

Youth's e-mail address: _____

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

I acknowledge that participation in church-sponsored events involves certain dangers and risks, may expose my child to hazards of bodily injury or property damage, and may result in my child being unable to contact me or unable to receive immediate medical care and assistance if injury occurs. I also acknowledge that by participating in church-sponsored events, my child may become involved in recreational and/or sporting activities. In recognition of these risks and realities, and in consideration of my child being offered the opportunity to participate in and benefit from these church-sponsored events, I agree on behalf of myself and my child to release, waive and disclaim any and all liabilities of, or claims against Second Congregational Church of Boxford, its officers, board members, supervisors, agents, servants, employees, and all private persons or organizations volunteering services without charge to transport, supervise, or chaperone my child while participating in such church sponsored activities including, but not limited to, any or all liabilities or claims for personal injury, property damage, court costs, attorneys' fees and interest, however caused or accrued, as a result of my child participating in the church-sponsored events.

I agree that Second Congregational Church of Boxford, its officers, board members, supervisors, agents, events, and/or employees have the right to terminate the participation of my child in any or all church-sponsored activities for failure to behave and act in accordance with the Church's regulations on conduct, for failure to follow instructions and directions of the activity supervisor(s) and/or chaperone(s), or for any conduct deemed by the church, its officers, board members, supervisors, agents, servants and/or employees, in their sole discretion, to be detrimental to or incompatible with the interest, harmony, comfort, or welfare of other or the activity as a whole. I further agree to indemnify Second Congregational Church of Boxford, its officers, board members, supervisors, agents, servants and/or employees for any and all damage or injury my child may cause to others as a result of his/her participation in the church-sponsored events.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____

Return form and payment to Second Congregational Church of Boxford, PO Box 508 West Boxford, MA 01885 ATTN: Betsey Guest-Natale

Information for Adult Chaperones

This year our space is limited. For that reason, I will be bringing just two chaperones. One of those chaperones must be an adult. The following information will help you in deciding whether or not being a chaperone on this trip is right for you.

- **Chaperones pay a slightly reduced fee compared to youth, however we will be doing special fundraising to help reduce your costs.** We also have scholarship money for those who find paying for students as well as themselves too much of a financial burden.
- **Being a Mission trip chaperone is challenging and rewarding** – I could say that being a chaperone is easy, but I would be lying. As a chaperone you will be responsible for your group's safety and work projects. You will make sure they pack their lunches, wear appropriate clothing, that they follow orders and that they are safe at all times. You may be worried that you may be unable or uncomfortable in taking responsibility for the spiritual formation of your group while on the trip. Let me say that there will be experienced leaders on the trip whose responsibility it is to lead the groups in devotions, prayers and to make sure that the students have the opportunity to make the connection between what they are doing and the Christian basis behind their actions. You don't have to be an expert to be a chaperone – you need only have a willingness live in community and to work through challenges. If you are willing to do these, the rewards are endless.
- **Parents of students going on trip are welcome** – If your child does not mind you going on the trip, then it is fine with us. This has worked successfully in past years and I expect it will again. It works best if a parent and his/her son/daughter are in separate work groups. This way you can share the overall Mission trip experience with your son/daughter, while still allowing for each of you to extend your own comfort zones.
- **Chaperones are a major part of the group from October through September** – Chaperones are asked to help with Mission trip fundraisers and meetings throughout the year. As a regular participant in events and fundraisers, you will begin to form relationships with the members of the group. These relationships are essential to a successful Mission trip. Your commitment as a chaperone lasts for one year, not for one week. You will be asked to attend two chaperone meetings as we get closer to the trip. These gatherings are a time for us to get to know each other, talk about the trip and learn some skills for working with youth.

If, after reading these points, you still have questions about being a chaperone, please call Betsey Guest-Natale at 978-352-2127 or e-mail youth@secondchurchboxford.org for more information. If you want to sign-up, just return the filled out chaperone registration form to Betsey. *(Please note that all chaperones will be subject to a CORI check.)*

Registration for Chaperones

Program: Youth Mission Trip to Pine Ridge, SD. We will participate with the Re-Member program on a working cultural immersion and spiritual development program.

Service Projects: Possible work projects include housing rehabilitation, remodeling and new home construction.

Transportation: Airplane ride from Boston to Rapid City, South Dakota. Busses will transport us to and from the airports. Re-Member provides all transportation while we are with them.

Housing: We will be sharing dormitory-style housing with bunk beds, bathrooms and showers with another youth. Full kitchen and dining facilities.

Cost: The cost to chaperones is \$600 per person. This covers only a portion of the actual cost; there will be a number of fundraising activities through the year to cover the balance. A non-refundable deposit of \$200 is necessary to confirm a place on this trip on or before December 1, 2019. Places are confirmed only after a deposit has been received.

I have read all the time and financial requirements for this trip and would like to participate as a chaperone on the Senior High Mission Trip to Pine Ridge, SD from July 6 through July 12, 2019 as described above. I understand that the above descriptions and itinerary may change without notice due to unforeseen circumstances which may include but are not limited to weather, power outages, or mechanical problems.

Chaperone's Name: _____ Chaperones' Cell Phone: _____

Chaperone's e-mail address: _____

address: _____

I acknowledge that participation in church-sponsored events involves certain dangers and risks, may expose me to hazards of bodily injury or property damage, and may result in my being unable to receive immediate medical care and assistance if injury occurs. I also acknowledge that by participating in church-sponsored events, I may become involved in recreational and/or sporting activities. In recognition of these risks and realities, and in consideration of my being offered the opportunity to participate in and benefit from these church-sponsored events, I agree to release, waive and disclaim any and all liabilities of, or claims against Second Congregational Church of Boxford, its officers, board members, supervisors, agents, servants, employees, and all private persons or organizations volunteering services without charge to transport or supervise, while participating in such church sponsored activities including, but not limited to, any or all liabilities or claims for personal injury, property damage, court costs, attorneys' fees and interest, however caused or accrued, as a result of my participating in the church-sponsored events.

I agree that Second Congregational Church of Boxford, its officers, board members, supervisors, agents, events, and/or employees have the right to terminate the my participation of in any or all church-sponsored activities for failure to behave and act in accordance with the Church's regulations on conduct, for failure to follow instructions and directions of the activity supervisor(s), or for any conduct deemed by the church, its officers, board members, supervisors, agents, servants and/or employees, in their sole discretion, to be detrimental to or incompatible with the interest, harmony, comfort, or welfare of other or the activity as a whole. I further agree to indemnify Second Congregational Church of Boxford, its officers, board members, supervisors, agents, servants and/or employees for any and all damage or injury I may cause to others as a result of my participation in the church-sponsored events.

Signature _____ Date: _____

Return form and payment to Second Congregational Church of Boxford, PO Box 508 West Boxford, MA 01885 ATTN: Betsey Guest-Natale