

# INNER CITY Plunge!



# 2010

Information and Application

# Inner City Plunge 2010

Why are we  
going to  
Houston?

This year is the continuation of something great. A “local” missions trip with urban flavor. A completely immersive experience in missions. Houston possesses the third highest homeless population in the nation. An estimated 15,000 homeless individuals live in shelters, abandoned buildings, in encampments, and on the streets. Among these, 1,500 are children. More than 760,000 Gulf Coast residents live in poverty. 150,000 are marginally homeless—taken in by friends or family because they have nowhere else to go. An additional 250,000 are only one paycheck away from being out on the streets. In the greater Houston metropolitan area, one child out of every five lives at or below the poverty level. We will be partnering with the Center for Student Missions with the goal of assisting various organizations in their role(s) to help various ethnic and economic groups. Part of our goal is to teach students from St. Mark’s Youth Ministry about the needs of people not that far away from their own home, the challenges of living in the inner-city, the ways in which we can serve these individuals, and how God’s call to missions does not have to require going to another country.

*For here we do not have a lasting city, but we are seeking the city which is to come.*

*Hebrews 13:14*

There are over 700 verses in the Bible that mention the word “city.” Clearly, God has always had a plan for the great cities of the world. In fact, Revelation tells us that we will all one day share a city with Jesus! Our theme verse for this year’s project is “*For here we do not have a lasting city, but we are seeking the city which is to come.*” Hebrews 13:14

Short-term mission trips are powerful teachers. Mission trips give everyone who goes a jolt to the heart. It is through short-term trips that we are able to put what we read in the Bible to practice. Many students will see the Gospel in action for the first time. Not to exaggerate, but this trip will change hearts and lives forever!

I pray that the Lord will give you clear guidance as you pray over the details of this trip. Please read carefully through this material. If you have any questions please give me a call!

*Please read through  
this material  
CAREFULLY!*

In His Grips,

Ryan C. Nielsen  
Youth Director

St. Mark Presbyterian Church  
Phone # 830-431-0705  
uthpastor@pastor2youth.com



# Inner City Plunge 2010

## General Questions

*For here we do not have a lasting city, but we are seeking the city which is to come.*

*Hebrews 13:14*

*Please read through this material carefully!*

### **Who can apply for Inner City Plunge?**

Anyone can apply. However, this trip may not be for everyone. This mission trip is designed in such a way that we are able to only take a limited number of students. All who fill out an application, have demonstrated a relationship with Christ, and are willing to make the time commitment required are eligible to be a part of this mission trip.

### **Will I have to go to the trainings?**

**Yes!** All trainings are mandatory. Trainings are required by the Center for Student Missions and the St. Mark Youth Ministry. If you are unable to make any training meeting you must let Ryan Nielsen know. You will be expected to make up the missed time another day. A training schedule will be coming out soon.

### **Where will we stay?**

We will be staying at Park Place United Methodist Church in Houston on Broadway Street. CSM has used this location for many years as the home-base for the mission groups.

### **What will we eat?**

All food service is provided by the Center for Student Missions. Sometimes we will eat our meals at the ministry where we are providing help (rescue missions, etc.). One of the greatest features of this mission trip is that every evening we get to eat at a different ethnic restaurant. These are family-owned businesses and we eat family-style. The food is excellent, as well!

### **What will we be doing?**

The daily schedule will be varied. We will be partnering with existing ministries and organizations and helping them do what they do best. It will almost be like doing 7 days of "Random Acts of Kindness" throughout the city. The experiences will be varied and powerful!



# Inner City Plunge 2010

## Trip Finances

*For here we do not have a lasting city, but we are seeking the city which is to come.*

*Hebrews 13:14*



Inner City Houston  
ST. MARK YOUTH MISSION TRIP 2010

*No financial situation should prevent a student from attending Inner City Plunge.*

### **How much will this cost?**

The total cost for this trip is \$600. However, don't stop reading. There are numerous ways to lower that cost for everybody attending the trip. However, students must pay a \$100 non-refundable deposit when submitting the application for this trip.

### **How can the cost be made lower?**

Through the generous giving of the congregation, and the vision and support of the Missions Committee, money has been made available for every individual wishing to attend this trip. This will immediately lower the cost for every one attending. In addition, fundraising will continue to lower the cost. A portion of all fundraising done goes to every individual. However, if you help at a fundraiser, you get an additional portion to help lower your cost. Finally, support letters for this trip will be sent out by everyone attending. These do not have to ask for financial support, as prayer support is even more important than finances. However, these can also help alleviate the financial burden as well. It is very feasible for a student to attend this trip having had to pay only the \$100 deposit out of their own pocket.

### **What if I still cannot afford the cost for me?**

We do not want finances to be the reason that any student does not attend an event, especially one where we are serving others. If the student fee is too much, please contact Ryan Nielsen, as there are multiple ideas for how to raise support, as well as a few scholarships available if needed.

### **Wow, I think this is a great event.**

#### **How can I contribute?**

There are many ways you can contribute. The first and most important is with your prayers! This is an exciting opportunity and I believe that God is wanting to do an amazing work in our lives with this event. Another way you can contribute is to give a financial gift for this trip. We would like to be able to scholarship more students as well as have funds available to continue a trip like this. All help is needed and appreciated.

# Inner City Plunge 2010

## Safety & Volunteer Help

*For here we do not have a lasting city, but we are seeking the city which is to come.*

*Hebrews 13:14*

*We will be doing everything possible to ensure complete safety.*

### **What will be the adult supervision?**

We will have 1 adult for every 5 students. (And if you are interested in joining us for this amazing and wonderful mission trip experience, please let Ryan Nielsen know – we would love to have you!)

### **Who is the sponsoring organization?**

This trip is organized by the Center for Student Missions. I encourage you to check their ministry out at [www.csm.org](http://www.csm.org). They are an incredible missions organization working with local organizations in and around numerous inner-cities in the U.S. and Canada. These local organizations are well-known in the community and CSM has an excellent reputation and presence in each of the cities they serve in. The Center for Student Missions has done this for 38 years and is well established and respected.

### **What will you be using for transportation?**

We will be taking the church van and additional adult leader vehicles with us for transportation to and from the mission trip, as well as around to the organizations within the inner city. There will be times when we will walk to certain events, or take public transportation as organized by the center for student missions.

### **Do you need anything else? Actually, YES!**

We always covet your prayers. Please pray for us before, during and after this trip that God would change our lives and help us be a light to those in the inner-city. As always, any help to the scholarship fund is needed and appreciated. If you can help with this, please contact Ryan Nielsen. Thanks!



# ***Inner City Plunge***

## **Participant Application**

*Please complete this form honestly and sign in the designated place on the back. Attach a photograph or photocopied photo of yourself to this application and return it to Ryan Nielsen as soon as possible. (Use another sheet of paper if you need additional space.) Remember spots are available on a first-come/first serve basis.*

### **General Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Small Group Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Location: Inner City Houston Date of Project: July 11 – July 17, 2010

### **Specific Information**

Have you ever been on a mission project before? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, where? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please describe your experience: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Why do you want to go on this mission trip? \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Your Photo Here!!**



**Answer all of the questions thoroughly and honestly.**

**Attach a picture of yourself.**

**Please sign the back of the form agreeing to abide by the guidelines that have been laid out.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Ryan Nielsen, Youth Director, St. Mark Presbyterian FUEL Youth Ministry  
208 W. Bandera Road. Boerne, TX 78006  
Phone: 830-431-0705 ; E-mail: uthpastor@pastor2youth.com*

Give a brief statement concerning your relationship to Jesus Christ, i.e. include a statement of (1) when and (2) how you accepted Christ, and (3) what Jesus means to you in your daily life.

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In what area(s) is God working in your life now?

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In what area(s) of your relationship with Jesus do you see a need for growth?

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How do you think participating in this missions project could help you grow in this area?

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What kind of example are you to peers at church? (Great      Good      Average      Below Average      Bad)

What kind of example are you to people outside of church? (Great      Good      Average      Below Average      Bad)

I am working on being a better example in my:    Speech      Life (Behavior)      Love      Faith      Purity

Do you understand the importance and necessity of being present at every training meeting, and of being prepared with your assignments completed?    Yes      No

**Agreement**

- ◆ I promise to participate in my group's preparation process and keep the terms of our team covenant.
- ◆ I will not complain during the project and will do my best to have a servant's attitude.
- ◆ I will obey the leadership on the project.
- ◆ I will not use bad language, alcohol, drugs or tobacco on the project.
- ◆ I will adhere to the dress code established by IPC and the Center for Student Missions.
- ◆ I will follow safety precautions during the project.
- ◆ I understand that if I break the terms of this agreement, my leaders may choose to send me home at my own expense.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_