

**Middle School Mission Trip
to
Opelika, Alabama**



July 14-22, 2012

Hope's Youth Ministry
700 Cooper Road
Voorhees, NJ 08043
856-751-4673

Some Basic Questions...

Where is Opelika, Alabama?

Opelika is just outside Auburn, Alabama and is located just inside the Alabama-Georgia border. It is approximately 45 minutes from Atlanta.

Who are Christian Enterprises and Jim Green?

Christian Enterprises is the non-profit organization that Jim Green has established to lead mission trips of youth and adults around the western hemisphere. Jim has been involved in ministry for over 50 years, faithfully serving God wherever led and in whatever capacity his calling takes him. Post-Katrina, Jim and his wife Judy committed to 2 years in Biloxi, MS in an effort to rebuild the city. There are few people at his age that have both the energy and excitement to lead teenagers on a venture like this as well as the passion of serving God flow so freely through his veins. Currently, Jim lives in Auburn, Alabama spending his time leading short term mission trips all around the Western Hemisphere. Recently, he has led our trips to Biloxi, Orlando, Auburn, Opelika, Casar, and Wheeling.

How much will this project cost?

The cost for this weeklong missionary journey is \$700 per person. To help offset this cost, we will have several fundraisers throughout the year beginning as early as October. If you stay ahead of the game, you can use money raised from fundraisers as your scheduled payments. It is 100% possible to raise the ENTIRE amount needed for your trip... **IF you work hard** at the fundraisers.

What does the cost include?

Practically everything! Included: all of our lodging, food while in Alabama, ground transportation, and work project materials. Souvenirs are your responsibility, of course, as is food during our traveling to and from Alabama. This would be lunch and dinner on both Saturdays and lunch on both Sundays (6 total meals). These would be anything from fast food type meals (McDonalds, Wendy's, Subway, Cracker Barrel, etc.).

What will we do?

Our primary goal for this trip will be to interact with the people of our host community. Our focus will be on relationships, evangelism, discipleship, fellowship, the work project, service, hard work, and fun. We will be working in a local community that is very poverty stricken. Our projects will vary from helping to repair organizing warehouses, working with food distribution centers, painting, cleaning debris, minor construction on homes, and serving any way we are asked. We will work with organizations like Habitat for Humanity, Salvation Army, East Alabama Food Bank and other organizations.

Where will we stay? Where will we eat?

We will be staying at a local hotel. We will be sleeping in fully air conditioned and clean rooms. All dinners in Alabama will be provided by Jim Green's talented wife, Judy. She will cook and prepare all of our meals during the week. We will NOT go hungry! Breakfasts will be provided by the hotel each morning and we will pack our lunches each day before heading out to the work site.

Who should go on this trip?

...any 6th-8th grade student or Youth Ministry Team Leader. These projects are ideal for someone who has never gone on a missionary journey before as well as for the veteran traveler. Since there is a great interest and a limited number of spots, we will have a waiting list for anyone not in 6th-8th grade or on the youth ministry team. If there are any available spots on the trip, we will fill them with the people on the waiting list. To be put on the waiting list, you must fill out and submit an application.

What are the requirements?

- 1) Parental permission for anyone under 18 years of age.
- 2) Participation in **all** pre-trip preparation meetings.
- 3) A heart for people.
- 4) A positive attitude.

Any additional questions??? – Dave@MyHopeYouth.com

HOPE'S YOUTH MINISTRY – MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION TRIP TO OPELIKA, ALABAMA
JULY 14-22, 2012

COST:

We have done our best to make your trip as affordable as possible. We believe through active fundraising the total cost of this trip can be raised. Information about fundraisers and a sample support letter can be found on Hope's Youth Ministry's website www.myhopeyouth.com/files

COST PER PARTICIPANT:

\$ 700.00

Additional spending money will be needed for meals while traveling, personal items, and souvenirs.

Registration

- March 4, 2012 is the final deadline for registration. You are responsible for the FULL cost of the trip if you back out at any time after that date.
- You are NOT registered until we have received your fully completed paperwork (pages 5-10) and initial deposit of \$200. All deposits are non-refundable after March 4th.
- Spaces will be filled on a first come first serve basis. Late registrations may be considered if spaces remain available. Any applications received after the deadline may be subject to a \$50 late fee.

Deposits & Paperwork

- Please place all deposits and paperwork in the office mailbox (located in the copier room of the main office) marked "YOUTH MINISTRY". All deposits should be in a clearly marked envelope with YOUR NAME and MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION TEAM.
- Please do **NOT** give money or paperwork to anyone directly.
- Final balance is due June 15, 2012. Deposits received after this date will be subject to a late fee.
- Due to the large number of participants for each trip, we are asking that deposits and paperwork be separate for each member of the team. Please be sure to include the participant's name on each check or piece of paperwork being submitted.

Checks from sponsors

- Any checks from sponsors or donors should have your name in the memo line. Again, please be certain to ask for separate checks for each family member participating in the trips if possible. The Middle School and High School trips will be tracked by separate individuals.
- Checks from sponsors must be received by June 1, 2012 to be credited to your individual account. Checks received after this date will be deposited into the general trip fund.

Individual Accounts

- We have a volunteer for each trip who will give of their time as the person responsible for tracking deposits, fundraising and checks from sponsors. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Middle School Trip Tracker directly – **MSMissionTrip@MyHopeYouth.com.**
- Account updates for all trip participants will be provided at all team meetings and will reflect deposits, fundraising and checks from sponsors.
- Please be mindful that there is a turn-around time period for information such as fundraising totals and deposit checks to post in individual accounts.

REFRIGERATOR COPY

Mandatory Team Meetings

Sunday, March 18, 2012	...	12-1pm
Sunday, April 22, 2012	...	12-1pm
Sunday, May 20, 2012	...	12-1pm
Sunday, June 24, 2012	...	12-1pm

Team Commissioning

Sunday, July 1, 2012	...	both 9 and 10:30 services
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Luggage Drop-Off

Thursday, July 12, 2012	...	between 9am-7pm
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Deposits Due

Comp. Paperwork (pp 5-10) & \$200 deposit	<u>BEFORE</u> March 4, 2012
2 nd deposit - \$150.00	April 22, 2012
3 rd deposit - \$150.00	May 20, 2012
Balance due	June 15, 2012

You can choose to make more deposits in smaller increments if you desire. Confidential Financial Scholarships may be available. If you need help working out a payment plan or would like more information on Confidential Financial Scholarships, please speak with Dave Falcone – Dave@MyHopeYouth.com.

Fundraising

Information about **fundraisers** and a **sample support letter** can be found on Hope's Youth Ministry's website **www.MyHopeYouth.com**

Name: _____

Opelika, Alabama July 14-22, 2012

Participant Application

Please carefully consider your participation in Alabama '12. The decision to join any mission trip team should be done with much thought, consideration, and prayer. Think carefully about why you want to join this mission experience. Consider why you want to be a part of this team. Pray earnestly about your attitude and your involvement.

A mission trip is not a social event, it is not a retreat, and it is not a vacation. It will stretch and pressure you in ways you have not been challenged ever in your life. It will require you to sacrifice and serve in ways you have not done before. It will require you to put others ahead of your own interests and work together as a team. A mission trip will challenge you physically, emotionally, relationally, and spiritually; and it will require you to look at the deepest parts of your life. A mission trip is a life changing experience; another avenue that God uses to impact your life in ways that you never thought He could.

"But don't begin until you count the cost. For who would begin construction of a building without first getting estimates and then checking to see if there is enough money to pay the bills?"

Please keep the cost sheet with payment schedule for your records.

**Completed application and \$200 non-refundable deposit are due
March 4, 2012.**



HOPE'S YOUTH MINISTRY – MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION TRIP TO OPELIKA, ALABAMA
JULY 14-22, 2012

Name: _____ Age: _____ Birth Date: _____

Current Grade: _____ T-Shirt Size: _____

Phone # — Home: _____ Cell: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

**All pertinent team information and updates information is sent via email.
Please include any and all emails that you would like to receive emails.
PRINT CLEARLY!**

Email (Participant): _____

Email (parent): _____

Email (parent): _____

Email (other): _____

Email (other): _____

HOPE'S YOUTH MINISTRY – MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION TRIP TO OPELIKA, ALABAMA
JULY 14-22, 2012

Name: _____

The following questions are to help us all understand why we want to go on this year's mission trip. There are no right or wrong answers. Just answer as best as you can.

Why do you want to go on this mission trip?

What do you expect to experience by being a part of this summer mission team?

What are some skills or values that you will bring to benefit the team?

*New to the MS Mission Team: What do you think might be hard for you during this week? **OR**
Returning with MS Mission Team: What is your goal for the trip this week?*

HOPE'S YOUTH MINISTRY – MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION TRIP TO OPELIKA, ALABAMA
JULY 14-22, 2012

MY COVENANT:

As part of the Hope's Youth Ministry summer mission trip team to Alabama, I agree to participate in all training/team building meetings. Attendance will be taken at each of these meetings and I understand that completion of all work, participation in meetings, and attendance of these meetings is **required** for me to go with the team to Alabama on July 14-22, 2012.

If I am unable to complete the work and/or attend all the meetings, I understand that **I may be asked to forfeit my place on the team**, and I will forfeit all money collected for my trip. I also understand that any UN-excused absence to a meeting may result in dismissal from the team. An excused absence is defined as **excused by Dave ahead of the scheduled meeting time only**.

I will mark these dates on my calendar and **make them a priority**.

Sunday, March 18, 2012	...	12-1pm
Sunday, April 22, 2012	...	12-1pm
Sunday, May 20, 2012	...	12-1pm
Sunday, June 24, 2012	...	12-1pm

I AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE FOLLOWING RULES AND GUIDELINES:

- ✓ **I will work with the rest of my team members and complete the tasks assigned to me without grumbling or complaining.** I will work and serve the same way I believe Jesus would work and serve.
- ✓ **I will obey all rules** established by Hope's Youth Ministry, Christian Enterprises, the hotels and all other organizations and ministries used while a part of the mission trip. I will respect and obey the leaders while on this trip.
- ✓ **I will leave my cell phone, laptop, iPod Touch, iPad, game system, etc. at home (iPods with no internet accessibility and MP3 players are permitted).** If I choose to disobey this rule and am found to have any of the above devices, I understand that the device will be confiscated and that I may be asked to leave and my parents will be required to secure transportation from the summer trip location to my home.
- ✓ I will **remain within the confines of my room/dormitory** when the leaders have established it is "lights out". If I am outside my room/dormitory or someone other than my roommates is in my room/dormitory I will be asked to leave and my parents will be required to secure transportation from the summer trip location to my home.
- ✓ I understand that failure to abide by the above rules and guidelines may make me ineligible to participate in future Hope's Youth Ministry trips.

I agree to abide by these rules and those enforced by any ministries and organizations whom we will be traveling and working. I understand that if I am unable to obey these rules I will be asked to leave the summer trip and my parents will be responsible to provide transportation home.

Participant's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Father's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Mother's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

ALL SIGNATURES ARE REQUIRED

HOPE'S YOUTH MINISTRY – MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION TRIP TO OPELIKA, ALABAMA
JULY 14-22, 2012

CONSENT FORM

Name: _____ **Birth Date:** _____

Health Insurance Company: _____ **Policy #:** _____

Emergency Contact Information:

Father's Name: _____ Home: _____

Cell: _____ Work: _____

Mother's Name: _____ Home: _____

Cell: _____ Work: _____

Other Emergency Contact Name & Relation: _____

Home: _____ Cell: _____

Any allergic reactions?

Prescription Medicines: _____

Over the counter medicines, other supplements or herbal remedies: _____

Foods, food additives (i.e. dyes) or drinks: _____

Latex, bandages, band-aids or tape: _____

Environmental (dust, pollen, etc): _____

Contact (soap, fabric, etc): _____

Dietary Restrictions: _____

Activity Restrictions: _____

Date of last tetanus shot: _____

To Hope's Youth Ministry:

The undersigned does give permission for our (my) child, _____, to attend and participate in activities sponsored by Hope United Methodist Church on (date) July 14-22, 2012.

We (I) authorize an adult, in whose care the minor has been entrusted, to consent to any x-ray examination, anesthetic, medical, surgical, or dental diagnosis or treatment, and hospital care, to be rendered to the minor under the general or special supervision and on the advice of any physician or dentist licensed under the provisions of the medical practice act on the medical staff of a licensed hospital, whether such diagnosis or treatment is rendered at the office of said physician or at said hospital.

The undersigned will be liable and agree(s) to pay all costs and expenses incurred in connection with such medical and dental services rendered to the aforementioned child pursuant to this authorization.

Should it be necessary for our (my) child to return home due to medical reasons, behavior reasons, or otherwise, the undersigned shall assume all transportation costs.

We acknowledge that this trip may be recognized as a "High Adventure" mission trip that will/may include work on a construction site, transportation in planes and vehicles being driven by Hope's and other staff, and other events too numerous to mention, and that despite the best precautions, accidents may happen. We agree that in the event of such an accident, regardless of its location, we will hold harmless and free of liability: Hope Church, Hope's Youth Leaders, both individually and as a group, Christian Enterprises and their assigned staff, Habitat for Humanity, East Alabama Food Bank, the Salvation Army, as well as any other organization(s) we will work with/through during this trip.

Participant's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Father's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Mother's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

ALL SIGNATURES ARE REQUIRED

HOPE'S YOUTH MINISTRY – MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION TRIP TO OPELIKA, ALABAMA
JULY 14-22, 2012

Participant/Volunteer/Employee Disclaimer, Assumption of Risk and Waiver

(NOTE: this form should be signed and attached to all volunteer registration forms, event and activity registration forms and employment applications)

I declare that all the information given by me in this application/registration is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I hereby give permission to representatives of Hope United Methodist Church ("Hope") to investigate and verify all information given in this application/registration form. I give my permission to have employers past and present, law enforcement, and personal references disclose information related to my fitness for service with Hope. I give consent to Hope to conduct a criminal background check and to review my driving records. I hereby release and agree to hold harmless Hope, its trustees, leadership team members, officers, employees and volunteers, and any person or organization that provides information for or to Hope concerning me, or any attempt to verify, the information provided in this application.

I agree that my application/registration may be denied for any reason, or no reason, and Hope reserves exclusive right to determine the fitness of its volunteers and employees. I agree that the Hope may deny my application, or terminate my service at any time with or without cause, and is under no obligation to disclose its reasons for doing so.

In consideration of being allowed to participate in any way in Hope's programs, activities and events, the undersigned acknowledges, appreciates, and agrees that:

1. Certain programs, activities and events (including, but not limited to work groups and construction projects, sports activities, games, travel, hiking, biking, swimming, kayaking, climbing, sailing, boating, science classes/demonstrations, theatrical productions, etc.) of Hope involve risk, including the potential for permanent injury, paralysis and death; and
2. I knowingly and freely assume all such risks, both known and unknown, even if arising from the negligence of others, and assume full responsibility for my participation; and,
3. I willingly agree to comply with the conditions of participation in any particular program, activity or event. If, however, I observe any unusual significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and bring such to the attention of the nearest official immediately; and,
4. I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, hereby release and hold harmless the Hope United Methodist Church, its trustees, leadership team members, officers, officials, agents, employees, volunteers and affiliates with respect to any and all injury, disability, death, or loss or damage to person or property, to the fullest extent permitted by law, whether arising from negligence or otherwise.

I HAVE READ THE ABOVE DISCLAIMER, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND WAIVER AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THE TERMS SET FORTH THEREIN. I UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY MY SIGNING THIS FORM AND AGREEING TO THESE TERMS, AND I SIGN THIS FORM AND AGREE TO THESE TERMS FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY AND WITHOUT INDUCEMENT FOR MYSELF.

Participant's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Father's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Mother's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

ALL SIGNATURES ARE REQUIRED