



Group Information Guide

Summer Missions

sharing hope in appalachia

We look forward to serving with you this summer! Before we begin looking at all the technical details of our mission trips, we wanted to make one thing clear: Christ is first! He comes before everything else. He is the reason we do what we do. With Christ as our focus, He changes our perspective on missions!

The Message

“Christ in you, the hope of Glory.”

Paul, in Colossians Chapter 1, gives a detailed description of the supremacy of Christ, and the life-change that comes through faith in Jesus Christ. “We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ” (Colossians 1:28).

Our message at Big Creek missions will always be centered around the life changing power of Christ. With Christ as our focus and our message, lives will be changed as a result of HIS power working in and through us. We, apart from Christ, are fully incompetent to do anything of any value or power. In Christ, however, His power comes alive and accomplishes His purpose in His time.

Therefore, we live out the following at Big Creek missions:

- **It's about worship - not work.** We must be very careful to communicate with volunteers the true nature of missions. Although mission trips are always a time where we work VERY hard and get dirty - Christians are never called to work in order to gain God's favor. We are called to worship Him as a response to receiving God's mercy and grace through faith. One of the ways we worship Him is by surrendering to a life of missions. Missions is not an outlet so we can feel better about ourselves by accomplishing some task or goal, nor is it an opportunity for us to brag on what we “did” with our own hands. As we serve become “worshipping missionaries,” people will see Christ in us and will be drawn to His life changing power.
- **It's about surrender - not self-righteousness.** As we lay our lives down in total surrender, we should never look upon ourselves as accomplishing anything of value. We give Glory to CHRIST for using us and accomplishing His work through our surrendered lives. Often, Christians have a “holier-than-thou” attitude when serving on missions. They have this subtle mindset that invites others to “look at me” and “see what I’m doing” and “give me a pat on the back.” We do not exist to lift up any man or ministry, but the name of Christ.
- **It's about people - not projects and programs.** We must remember that our purpose on earth is not to build physical buildings. The projects we do, the homes we renovate, and the programs we offer are not our priority. The PEOPLE we serve are our priority. We must never lose sight of why we are here – to share with those people the life-changing message of Christ. The projects and programs are only TOOLS to share the message of Christ.



Group Leader's Checklist

sharing hope in appalachia

Timeline:

NOW: Register your group online at www.bigcreekmissions.com/register

*Your spaces will be confirmed upon payment (\$45 per participant)

*Deposit must be paid within 30 days of online registration.

Deposits are non-refundable & non-transferrable

*until February 1st, deposits ARE applicable to final payments. After February 1, deposits are non-transferrable.

* IF a waiting list exists for your week of missions, deposits MAY be refunded

*Mail Deposits to: Big Creek Missions, PO BOX 886, Knoxville TN 37901

*Schedule a time for us to come share with your group! (optional!)

120 days prior to your trip:

- Reserve your rental vans & secure drivers! (see our transportation policy below & online!)
- Start recruiting adult chaperones and construction crew* leaders! (*see transportation policy below!)
- We always need a few kitchen helpers! Email us if you have kitchen helpers!

90 days prior to your trip:

- Distribute two copies of Release forms to **ALL student and adult participants.**
- Begin collecting final funds from all participants

60 days prior to your trip: Host an informational parent / adult meeting!

- Collect final funds from all participants
- Collect TWO NOTARIZED permission forms from each participant
(Bring **BOTH** copies with you to Big Creek – please do not mail to us)
- Make TWO COPIES of insurance card (front and back) and staple a copy to each release form.
- Tell parents about daily blog, pictures, and encouragements available on our website!
- Distribute the following documents:
 - Information for all participants (for everyone attending)
 - Information for adults (for adult volunteers only)
 - What to Bring & Expectations
- “Poll” your group and fill out the “Group information form” for Big Creek Missions. Once this form is completed, go to www.bigcreekmissions.com/info and submit the information online!

May 1: FIRM Deadline for T-shirt orders at discounted price.

May 1: Deadline for final payments for JUNE groups

June 1: Deadline for final payments for JULY groups

- Mail final payments to Big Creek Missions.
Mail all checks / payments to: Big Creek Missions – PO Box 886 – Knoxville, TN 37901
- Input data from “Group information form” into website at www.bigcreekmissions.com/info
- Recruit prayer partners for group members, adult leaders, and Big Creek staff!

2 Weeks prior to your trip:

- Confirm transportation, participants, and notify Big Creek Missions of any changes!
- Check www.bigcreekmissions.com for last minute notifications, and check your email daily for updates!
- Remind parents of www.bigcreekmissions.com website for encouragements and daily updates.
- Remind prayer partners of their commitment to pray for participants!

Associational Groups

We would love to work with your associational group! In order to prevent a breakdown in communication, it is important that associational groups notify us of ALL the different group leaders and different churches taking part in your trip. That way, we are able to communicate with EACH church about the expectations for their group.

Often, it is easier to just allow each individual church to register on their own, and pay on their own. That way, they will receive all the communications automatically.

Contact us for details regarding working with associational groups!

Worship Services

Each night during your week of missions, we will provide full worship services for you and your students. These services are planned with students as the primary focus, but are very applicable to adults.

- **The music:** will be NEW worship music. Most likely, it will not be songs that are “the most popular” – as those have been out for a while! If it’s been out for more than a year, we probably won’t do it. We count it a privilege to introduce NEW songs from various artists that students can take home and share with their home church. If possible, we will give you access to our songlist prior to your mission trip.
- **The teaching** will be Christ centered and Biblically based. Most likely, the director (Kevin Rogers) will be teaching each night. The Scriptures will be our focal point, not a theme, outline, or illustration. One can expect there to be some encouraging moments, some challenging moments, and even some uncomfortable moments as we explore what God’s Word is saying to us. His expository teaching style is simple and straightforward.
- **Invitations:** We typically do not host “altar-calls” or “invitations.” We will depart each night with a challenge, and allow the CHURCH groups to host their own decision time each night. Because all churches are different, we do not feel it is appropriate to host an invitation in this setting.

Summer Staff

Each summer, we choose about 20-25 young adults to serve as summer staff at Big Creek. These staff will help coordinate the entire ministry, in addition to doing everything else around campus! Each ministry group will have one of our staffers on site at all times (except in cases of illness or circumstances beyond our control). Our staff are typically college students who have attended Big Creek before. They are from churches just like yours – and they were recommended by their own group leader !

Here are a few tips when relating to staff:

- Big Creek is also a training ground for missions. These staffers are simply “missionaries in training.” We are working with them and teaching them skills necessary for life as an everyday missionary!
- The Staff are hard workers! They will work as long as 18 hours a day – and they only get one day off per week for 10 weeks!
- The staff are young! They may not have the experience you do – so be patient with them as they are growing in Christ. Use this as an opportunity to mentor them!
- The staff are there to work alongside you in ministry! The staff are not dictators, and they do not know everything! However, we do spend a LOT of time in training to prepare them for the missions, and to communicate the desires and heart of Big Creek Missions. They are the “official” spokesperson of Big Creek on each ministry team. They will communicate the desires of the director and the mission center at all times.

Staff Applications / Recommendations

If you know of a young person who would be an excellent addition to our staff, feel free to forward them to our staff information page located at:

www.bigcreekmissions.com/staff

Applications are available now, and are due by March 1. They can fill out the application, upload it, and we will interview them in mid-March.

The types of staff who excel at Big Creek are those who are:

- Christ-centered, not self-centered
- Respectful and Considerate of others
- Self-Motivated
- Extremely hard working
- Observant
- Willing to finish tasks
- Works well with all ages
- Flexible in ALL types of situations
- Creative

Things to remember about this mission trip . . .

1. This is a mission trip, NOT a summer camp!

Prior to your arrival at Big Creek, it's important to recognize some major differences between "camp" and "mission trip." We've worked with thousands of volunteers, and to be honest, the most difficult task we have is those who live in the "camp" mentality. Both the summer camp and mission trip are important parts of a student ministry. However, there are distinct differences between the two. Before signing your students up for a mission trip, make sure they understand the major purposes of WHY they're going on a mission trip.

Although summer camp may be about games, entertainment, great music, and activities, a mission trip is about serving others. **BIG CREEK IS NOT A CAMP: IT'S A MISSION CENTER.** We are here to focus on our community, and YOU are here to assist us in reaching out to this community. We don't exist to entertain you – rather, to equip you to serve in THIS community.

There are distinct differences between CAMP and a mission trip. Spend some time preparing your students for the major differences between summer camp and their mission trip. (Oh, by the way, we WILL have fun. But, the fun is a result of being obedient, humble, and giving to others on mission!)

2. This is a mission center, NOT a luxury hotel!

Big Creek has been blessed with an awesome facility. It's not a luxury hotel - but it's a GREAT place to call home for missions! It's a 50 year old school building that's been renovated to house volunteers. Here are some things to expect about living at Big Creek. . .

- It will be loud! With 200 volunteers living in the same hallway, it can get rather loud!
- I will have to clean up after myself! We don't have a custodial staff. Expect to clean!
- I won't have a lot of "personal-time." There's not a lot of places to get away from people.
- No one will be there to remember things for me – if I forget my lunch, it's forgotten!
- Expect close quarters & Expect busy bathrooms (and messy ones if no one cleans after themselves!)

3. This is a place where flexibility is REQUIRED!

A wise person once said, "if you don't learn how to become flexible, you'll break!" Here at Big Creek, and anytime you're serving on mission, it's important to realize that flexibility is of utmost importance. Here's why: Things are SLOWER HERE!

- Construction: You must remember that we're over 30 miles from the closest MAJOR building supply store. If you forget ONE little item on your construction site, it can cause a 3-4 hour delay! Volunteers MUST be willing to be flexible and patient. Those delays can be a HUGE blessing in ministry – as it gives us an opportunity to share with our homeowners and even their neighbors!
- Community Ministries: People here aren't interested in a quick, surface-level introduction. If they ask how you're doing, they WANT to know! So, plan to take extra time to share with your homeowner, or anyone else you contact. Conversations and relationships take time. Sometimes, you have to put aside time and schedules and build relationships.
- Inconveniences: At any given time, crazy things happen. Here are REAL examples from 2009:
 - Storms could knock over trees and block ALL the main roads leading to the mission center.
 - The power may go out, leaving us with no air conditioning, hot water, or cooking equipment
 - Toilets stop up, sinks overflow, and bathrooms smell really, really weird.
 - Schedules are changed, switched, and sometimes, destroyed.
 - We may run out of sweet tea (and YES, that is the absolute worst thing that could happen!)

Regardless of the situation, we must be prepared to react with patience and kindness in every situation.

Basic Summer Schedule

This gives you a general idea of our summer schedule. It will vary slightly each week, and may be modified at ANY time to make our ministries more effective or efficient.

Sunday

3:00-5:00 pm: Arrive in Kentucky, check-in & orientation
6:00 pm-7:10 pm: Dinner
7:30 pm: All adult leaders meeting
8:00 pm: Opening worship
9:00 pm-10:15 pm: Meet ministry groups & begin ministry prep
10:15: Snack Shop open
11:00 pm: Get ready for bed
11:45 pm: Lights out

Monday

6:30 am: Wake up Call
6:45 am: Breakfast served (don't be late!)
7:40 am Adult Devotional (Cafeteria) & Student Group Devotionals
8:00 am Morning worship
9:00 am: Ministry preparation at Big Creek
12:00 pm: Lunch at Big Creek
1:00 pm – Community and Construction depart for sites
1:00 pm - Daycamps continue prep & publicize daycamps
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm: Dinner
7:00 pm: Meet with mass ministry groups
7:30 pm: Evening worship
9:00 pm: Meet with church groups / quiet hallways
Snack Shop open after church group times
10:45 pm: Get ready for bed
11:15 pm: Lights out

Tuesday – Thursday

6:30 am: Wake-up call
6:45 am: Breakfast served (don't be late!)
7:40 am: Adult Devotional (Cafeteria) & Student Group Devotionals
8:00 am: Morning worship challenge/ sendoff
8:30 am: All teams depart to sites
12:00 pm: Lunch at ministry sites (return to school at various times)
4:30 pm: Return to Big Creek . . . free-time is built in between 4:30 and 7:00
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm: Dinner served (doors closed at 6:30)
7:00 pm: Meet with ministry groups
7:30 pm: Evening worship
9:00 pm: Meet with church groups
Evening snack / break
10:45 pm: Get ready for bed
11:15 pm: Lights out

Friday: Daytime Schedule is same.

Friday Night:

5:00 pm: Travel to participate in local ministries (VBS carnivals, community gathering)
10:00 pm Closing Worship Celebration
12:00 am Lights Out

Saturday Morning:

Depart as needed. Continental Breakfast. Please instruct your students to be quiet and towards other groups who may sleep in later. Groups are expected to clean rooms prior to departure.

Local Attractions

No joke: there's not much to see around here. Although this is a beautiful area, there is not an abundance of activities. Please keep in mind: mission trips don't need a "side event" to make them entertaining. Because of the tremendous blessings one receives, any volunteer can return home blessed because of how God works in and through their lives.

Often, student groups plan big events at the end of their week (amusement parks, water parks, etc). I hear the students from those groups say, "we lost our focus at the amusement park." "We were all tired, got irritated, and it wasn't a good experience." "It was fun, but it didn't have a point." While on mission, students hear and see God at work, and those activities that are planned to fill up time seem to lose their luster.

Don't worry about trying to entertain your group or pass the time. The rural setting provides an experience most volunteers aren't accustomed to: peace and quiet. It allows groups to spend time together just growing closer and getting to know each other. The slow pace is refreshing and relaxing. You won't want to leave!

With that said. . . .

Hyden – 15 minutes away – small town with a nice downtown park for picnic or "hanging out"

Manchester – 20 minutes away – small town with several small parks, a few restaurants

London Kentucky (35 miles away) – several restaurants & parks

Hazard Kentucky (30 miles away) – several restaurants, indoor laser tag, putt putt

Williamsburg: (60 miles away, exit 11 off I-75): small water park

Wal-Mart: "basic" Walmart – in Manchester (closes at 10 pm). Supercenters in London and Hazard.

Cameras and Videos

Bring your digital cameras and video cameras, and we can upload your pics / films to our website daily. This is a HUGE benefit to the parents at home. In 2010, our goal is to have pictures from EVERY workgroup and EVERY volunteer featured in at least one picture every day!! We know the parents appreciate seeing their own child in action!

Simply make sure you bring your camera and batteries. Drop off your camera card in the office after PM worship, and it SHOULD be ready for pickup by bedtime, OR the next morning.

The Facility

In February 2008, Big Creek Missions finally obtained a “home” for missions! The former Big Creek Elementary School is gradually being converted into a full-time ministry center. These comfortable facilities provide the basic accommodations needed to serve as a great mission center.

Outdoors

We have several acres of open fields, volleyball net, two playgrounds, ball field, and a very small picnic pavilion. There is plenty of space for flag football, ultimate Frisbee, softball, or other games.

Sleeping Areas

We currently have nine classrooms and library set aside as sleeping areas. Each classroom will sleep a maximum of twenty students or adults. The classrooms are 21'x 30', each having a new heat and air conditioning unit and tile floors. Each room has beds and mattresses. MOST mattresses are new, and are Twin sized. Some are Twin XL. **All volunteers should follow these room rules:**

Males / Females: In all situations where students or children are involved, no females are to enter males rooms and males are not to enter females rooms. (exception is during group meeting times.)

Cleanliness and Food: Food is not allowed in sleeping areas. Water is allowed, but no other drinks, please. The cafeteria is available for groups to snack and eat. (youth leaders may store food in their sleeping areas.

Cleanliness and Clothing: Clothing is to be left packed in bag, and dirty clothes should be placed in a container (bag, etc) and stored near bag / suitcase.

Heat/Air units: Please leave the temperature setting where you found it. If the temperature needs adjusting, contact a staff member. We attempt to balance temperatures at 68 degrees.

Gymnasium

The gym is air-conditioned and serves as our worship area. It is not available for activities during the summer months. However, we have several acres of fields that are excellent for outdoor sports!

Restrooms / Showers

We have three sets of restrooms. All showers and toilets are private with doors or curtains.

- Set 1: Females: 3 toilets, 5 sinks, 4 showers
Males: 3 toilets, 2 urinals, 3 sinks, 4 showers
- Set 2: Females: 3 toilets, 2 sinks.
Males: 1 toilet, 2 urinals, 2 sinks
- Set 3: Females: 3 showers, 3 sinks
Males: 3 showers, 2 sinks

Washer / Dryer:

Washer and Dryer are reserved for staff and kitchen use. We do not have the facilities to wash volunteer's clothes.

Kitchen / Cafeteria

Each day, we serve two hot meals and one “sack lunch.” Students will go through a typical school style cafeteria line and choose their entrees. We offer a salad bar daily. Our staff and director like GOOD food – therefore, you can expect the food to be pretty good since we have to eat it for almost ten weeks this summer! We should have plenty of food left over for seconds!

Students will make their own lunch in the morning at the lunch bar. Lunches typically consist of sandwiches and other basic items.

While at the Facility

Other Groups in rooms: While staying at Big Creek, your group may not be the only one staying at in your room. Because we house approximately 20 per room, if you bring less than 20 boys or girls, you can expect to share a room. We are all part of the Body of Christ, and He is glorified when His body is unified. Therefore, if you are hesitant to work or reside alongside another group Big Creek may not be the place for you.

Rooming examples:

If you bring 25 males: You could have 20 in one room and 5 in another (with 15 from another group). OR, we may need to split the group 15 and 10, along with additional students and adults from other groups.

Kitchen Preparation and Cleanup: For the most part, Big Creek relies on volunteers to run the kitchen. If you have adults who would like to assist in the kitchen, please contact us as soon as possible

Groups can expect to help with basic food prep and cleanup before or after some meals.

Because we are a licensed food-service facility, we must follow all basic rules of commercial kitchen sanitation and operations. Our staff will work alongside groups to assist with compliance.

Although we understand your church and volunteers may run a very successful kitchen ministry, we at Big Creek have developed procedures and have reasons for those procedures. We ask kitchen volunteers to treat this opportunity as if you are the GUEST at another person's home.

Maintenance / Cleaning: Big Creek Missions has no maintenance or custodial staff. During your week of missions, your group may assist with cleaning and maintenance of the facilities. We will all work together to provide a safe, sanitary facility.

During your stay, we may ask volunteers to assist with repairs at the facility. Because we are a mission center, we cannot afford to hire contractors to do all our work! If things are broken, we rely on volunteers to step up and assist with the repairs.

Accessibility issues: contact us if a member of your group needs special care. Our facility is one level with no steps. We do have one accessible shower and two accessible toilets. We will strive to accommodate all requests.

Telephone / Email / Internet: Group leader will have use of telephone and wireless internet as needed. We have broadband internet and free long-distance calling. Internet use is for email / blog communications only and not to be used for entertainment purposes (videos, etc).

In order to help promote a "safe distance" from the home culture, we ask group leaders to refrain from allowing any student to use any computer EXCEPT to email the parents.

Lounging Around: We recommend adults (and a few students) bring some sort of "sling chair" or "camping chair" so they can lounge around. We don't have a lot of padded, comfortable chairs or couches!

Sample Menu (subject to change)

Breakfasts:

Daily include cereals, toast, condiments, puddings, and fruits. Repeat this menu as desired.

- Option 1 Eggs, Bacon, French Toast Sticks, Biscuits, Gravy
- Option 2 Sausage Patties, Pancakes, Waffles,
- Option 3 Eggs, Bacon, Biscuits, Gravy, Cinnamon Rolls
- Last Day Continental: muffins, cereals, toast

Lunches:

Students will typically pack their own sack lunches to take out on site

Options include:

- Choice of Breads (hoagie, white, wheat)
- Choice of Meats (ham, turkey, roast beef)
- Choice of Cheese
- Choice of Chips
- Snacks (fruit cups, pudding cups, snack bars)
- Dessert (assorted snack cakes)

Dinners:

- Option 1 Grilled Chicken or Pork Chops, Seasoned Potato Wedges, Green Beans, rolls
- Option 2 Grilled Burgers and/or Dogs, Tater Tots, Macaroni and Cheese
- Option 3 Pulled BBQ pork, Grilled Cheese, Baked Beans, Fries, Texas toast
- Option 4 "Mexican" night: Tacos / Nachos with shredded beef or chicken, Quesadillas, toppings
- Option 5 Chicken Fingers, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, rolls
- Option 6 Italian Night: Noodles with Meat Sauce or Alfredo, Breadsticks, Pizzas

Desserts include:

Assorted cakes with icing (white and yellow), Banana Pudding, Brownies, Apple Pie, Ice Cream

Salad Bar typically includes:

Lettuce mix, seasonal vegetables, tomatoes, shredded cheeses, croutons, bacon bits, (other toppings as available), Honey mustard dressing, Ranch dressing, Italian dressing, and Thousand Island dressing

Special Dietary Needs: Please inform us of special dietary needs well in advance of your arrival. We may or may not be able to accommodate all requests.

Transportation Policy

Because Big Creek Missions does not own any vehicles available for transportation, it is the responsibility of each group to provide drivers, vehicles, and insurance for their vehicles. Here are some things to remember that will help make things run smoothly while at Big Creek.

- **Vehicle Safety:** Churches are expected to inspect and verify that all vehicles are SAFE to operate, have been maintained properly, all lights and seat belts are working properly (if equipped), and tires are in good condition, and inflated to a proper level. All churches should verify insurance coverage prior to departure.
- **Vehicle Drivers:** Please consider having several approved and trained drivers for each vehicle! This enables us to place all adults in their desired ministry tracks!
- **Vehicles suggested size:** Between five and fifteen passengers. Because we divide students into ministry groups of 8-15, we require you to bring enough vehicles that you can divide and transport your students into groups of 10-15. Example: If you bring a thirty passenger bus, plan to bring additional vehicles so you can transport fifteen in the bus, plus fifteen in additional vehicles. (Summer: If we don't have enough vehicles, the groups will be larger than normal, and this will inconvenience EVERYONE at Big Creek during your week of summer missions!)
- **Drivers Safety:** Drivers should be responsible and comfortable with the vehicle they are driving, and should be willing to enforce ALL seat belt rules and drive safely while transporting students. Drivers are not to do anything that could compromise the safety of the volunteers they transport, including, but not limited to: Chinese fire-drills, donuts, unnecessarily fast acceleration or deceleration, and other actions that are dangerous and even illegal.
- **Drivers and Ministry Tracks:** If a person wants to "guarantee" their placement in a construction crew, it is important that the person DOES NOT drive a vehicle that is used primarily to transport students (i.e. van/bus). It is advisable that they drive separate if they want to guarantee their placement in construction. This is the only way we can GUARANTEE a person will be able to work construction. Even if they drive separate, we will use their vehicle to transport students / adults to their worksite. Should a person drive a van or a bus, that person should realize that vans and buses typically are assigned first to COMMUNITY and CHILDREN's MINISTRIES because those groups are typically larger. Regardless, we ask that adults act with Christian humility and maturity if we ask them to serve in an area that wasn't their "first choice." Our first priority must be transporting the participants to their sites!
- **Driving Distances:** Because we serve in three counties, drivers should be prepared to travel distances of close to 30 miles to their sites per day depending on your location.
- **Location of Hospitals:** Prior to departure, all drivers should familiarize themselves with the area, and know the location of hospitals within driving distance. A large wall map is available at the mission center.

Adult Volunteers

We are always thankful to have such wonderful adults who assist with the ministries at Big Creek Missions. In an effort to promote unity in the body and insure consistency with expectations, attitudes, and actions, we ask the following from all churches:

Background Checks: We strongly suggest that your church runs thorough background checks (local, state, and federal criminal and driving history) on all adults working with students prior to attending Big Creek (or any other trip) Background checks are not required, but are strongly suggested.

Staff Relations: During the summer months, we hire approximately 20 staff per week to assist groups serving in the community. The staff at Big Creek Missions is carefully selected by the center director so we may be consistent in all our ministries. We promote one message as one body in Christ. Because we come from such diverse ministerial backgrounds, our staff will be working hard to present a consistent front to the community we serve. Their task will be to extend the philosophies and ministries of the Big Creek Mission and it's director into the community. They are not dictators, nor are they responsible for doing all the work. However, the staff act as the official representatives of the ministry at all times. We thank your adults in advance for showing a willingness to work alongside the staff and listen to their guidance, as they have been trained and informed of the policies and procedures here at Big Creek. In the event of a misunderstanding, we ask adults to promote unity by discussing issues in a mature, Christian manner in private, rather than in public. Additional concerns may be addressed to the director first in private.

Expectations: It is important that adults set a high standard for behavior. We must guard ourselves against any accusation. Therefore, all adults are expected to follow all written and verbal rules while on site. Written expectations and policies are posted on the group documents page at www.bigcreekmissions.com. Adults are expected to participate in all worship opportunities, without question, so as to set an example for the students. Please understand that this is not camp. This is a mission center where we place strong emphasis on worship (including the teaching of God's Word) and mentoring of students and young adults. Therefore, we set a high standard for adults to lead by positive example. Immaturity, divisiveness, disregard for mission center policies, and disrespect of designated leadership will not be tolerated. In all situations, we will follow the example Christ set forth for Biblical reconciliation in Matthew 18:15-17. Adults who choose to be belligerent or not abide by center policies will be asked to leave immediately.

Tobacco products: Tobacco products are not allowed in or around the mission center at any time. Those who choose to smoke may do so at a minimum of 50 feet from the nearest door or ventilation unit. Tobacco products are not allowed on ministry sites at any time, for any reason.

Valuables: We recommend adults and students leave all valuables at home.

Lounging Around: We recommend adults (and a few students) bring some sort of "sling chair" or "camping chair" so they can lounge around. We don't have a lot of padded, comfortable chairs or couches!

Living Arrangements: Because of our limited size, adults can expect to use the same bath facilities as the students. We are unable to provide an adult lounge, adult bathrooms, or other luxuries for adults. It can be difficult to find quiet places during the summer. The BEST time for quiet is to wake before the morning wakeup call!

Handouts and Documents

The following documents are located at www.bigcreekmissions.com and should be printed and given to the proper participants. Click the link beside the document to be taken to the proper document.

Documents to be completed online by May 1:

Group Information Sheet (click [here](#) to be taken to document)

For: Youth Leader or Group organizer

Purpose for Handout: Communicating group information to Big Creek Missions

Completion Date: May 1st for June groups and June 1 for July groups. (input this information online)

Documents to provide to participants and volunteers:

Permission and Release (click [here](#) to be taken to document)

For: All adults and students attending the mission trip

Purpose for Handout: Release and Medical information for Big Creek Missions

Suggested Handout Date: April 1st (at group meeting). **Bring with you to Big Creek Missions.**

Adult Volunteer Information (click [here](#) to be taken to document)

For: Adult counselors / volunteers attending the mission trip

Suggested Handout Date: By April 15th (at group meeting)

Expectations (click [here](#) to be taken to document)

For: All adults and students attending the mission trip

Purpose for Handout: To explain basic expectations of mission trip

Suggested Handout Date: By April 15th (at group meeting)

Information for all Participants (click [here](#) to be taken to document)

For: All adults and students attending the mission trip & their parents

Purpose for Handout: To explain basic elements of mission trip for parents, students, and volunteers.

Suggested Handout Date: By April 15th (at group meeting)

Driving Directions (click [here](#) to be taken to document)

For: Drivers

Purpose for Handout: Proper directions to Big Creek Mission Center

Suggested Handout Date: Day of departure

Optional

The Wish List (click [here](#) to be taken to document)

For: Handout and Bulletin insert for your church.

Purpose for Handout: To communicate needs of the Big Creek Mission Center

Suggested Handout Date: By April 15th or 45 days prior to trip (at group meeting)