

We've got a unique opportunity for your teens – join us next Summer!

In 2003 we began small with 8 Participants
**Alaskan Frontier WorkCamp
Anchorage AK**



In 2004 we grew to 14 Participants
**Lake Ontario WorkCamp
Rochester NY**

In 2005 we grew to 22 Participants
From 2 Anglican Parishes
**Navajo Nation WorkCamp
Montezuma Creek UT**



In 2006 we grew to 44 Participants
From 4 Anglican Parishes
**Hurricane Rita Recovery WorkCamp
Vermillion Parish LA**



In 2007 we grew to 52 Participants from 4 Anglican Parishes
Rolling Hills WorkCamp – Greenbrier County WV

Our goal for 2008 is 75 Participants in the **Southern Hospitality WorkCamp – Valdosta GA**

Southern Hospitality WorkCamp – A Plan for Cooperative Participation with Other Anglican Parishes

Valdosta, Georgia ~ Friday, June 20 – Saturday, June 28, 2008

What: Summer WorkCamps are a unique and easy way to capture the hearts and imaginations of our older students. It is a priceless opportunity for them to experience real poverty and do something to help.

Vision: *Imagine* teenagers from different Anglican Parishes working side by side on an annual domestic mission trip. *Imagine* a way to help them realize that they *can* make a difference in by serving the poor and needy in our country. *Imagine* a program that will assist Anglican Parishes in retaining their young people.
Imagine an event that would to allow tomorrow's Anglican leaders build relationships –TODAY.

History: For the past 5 years St. Matthew's Church, Newport Beach California has been participating in a summer program sponsored by Group WorkCamps Foundation. It has grown from a hand full of students to a group of 52 participants from 4 different Anglican parishes. Our students really look forward to these summer WorkCamps. Their friends are impressed by the stories they share. Summer WorkCamps have been the SINGLE biggest reason we've retained our students after they enter high school, and the single biggest influence for growth in our youth group.

Who: This camp is a senior high camp and is restricted to students 14 – 20. Students 13 who are entering high school in the fall of 2008 are also included. Students 21 may join us, but they will be required to participate as an "adult leader" and will be subject the rules of adult participation. At least one adult must accompany any group from a specific church.

Plan: Fr. Bob Jones, Rector of St. Stephen's, Athens, GA, has extended his Parish as the launching pad for our adventure. We will all meet up in Athens and spend some time getting to know one another. We'll do some team building, have a little bit of teaching and worship together at the ACC Pro-Cathedral. Sunday, June 22nd we will caravan south 240 miles to our destination: Valdosta, GA. Once we arrive we will be incorporated into a group of 440 Christian teens and adults from different denominations from churches all over the United States. A half day of work on Wednesday allows us to enjoy a local theme park.

Benefits:

1. Service in the name of Christ – turning faith into action.
2. Getting to know other Anglican youth and the awareness that we are bigger than our local parish.
3. Being forced outside their comfort zones, away from their self-centered world; our students develop more confidence and reflect on the blessings of their lives.
4. Summer WorkCamps helps you building momentum for other activities throughout the year.
5. Summer WorkCamps gives younger students something to look forward to.
6. This annual event gives other members of the parish the opportunity to support a mission project and rejoice in the spiritual growth of our young people. The ripple effect is far reaching.

Liabilities: WorkCamp assumes liability once we arrive in Valdosta. They also screen all worksites and purchase the home repair supplies that will be utilized. All adult participants are required to submit to a background check. Strict safety rules are enforced. A "common sense" Christian Code of Conduct is required by all participants. Group WorkCamps Foundation does all the work, we just show up.

Work: The citizens of Valdosta are determined to fix the homes of their less fortunate neighbors. The entire community has made a commitment to eliminate all substandard housing by the year 2020. Our students will have an amazing opportunity to help join this effort as they tackle projects like replacing rotten siding for an elderly widow, giving a disabled man the gift of mobility with a wheelchair ramp, fixing rickety front steps for a single parent with low income. Or, simply boosting a struggling family's self-esteem by making their house look like a million bucks with a bright new coat of paint.

Cost: Total cost for each parish will vary and will depend on travel. The WorkCamp fee is **\$459** per participant. This does not include any costs associated with getting to Athens. (i.e. airfare, rental vans, gas, meals)

Contact: Lisa Marion, Youth Director & Pastoral Care Assistant ~ lisamarion@gmail.com ~ 949-219-0911
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Resources: Website for Group WorkCamp Foundation.
www.groupworkcamps.com/youth/ >click on "HOME REPAIR"

In anticipation of your participation we have reserved 75 spots. At the writing of this letter we have 29 spots available. Please pray about this opportunity and reserve your spots today.