



## CONTACT INFORMATION

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“Each of you has been blessed with one of God’s many wonderful gifts to be used in the service of others.”

I Peter 4:10



## Using Your Gifts in Service to Others

First Presbyterian Church of Fort Worth’s Urban GAPS program allows youth to meet those who live in the gaps of our urban setting so they will be able to explore their own gifts and passions (GAPs).

We are located in downtown Fort Worth, Texas, providing us with ample opportunities to work with and learn from those who experience gaps in their everyday lives.

We have a long tradition of mission work and have developed many strong relationships with the mission agencies around us.

Each week of Urban GAPS is centered around the theme of exploring our own gifts, sharing them with each other and being good stewards of God’s varied grace. This theme helps focus our morning devotions and evening debriefings and often provides a springboard to chapel worship on Friday evenings.

Youth groups have a unique opportunity to encounter and explore issues systemic to the city such as poverty, homelessness and HIV/AIDS.

Through this hands-on experience, the group will learn to think critically about social issues while meeting essential short-term needs within the community.

At the start and conclusion of each day, staff and volunteers from the church are prepared to lead the groups in devotionals, prayers, Bible study and reflection, small group discussion, worship and recreation. Processing of each day’s activities and debriefing take place throughout the experience.

1000 Penn Street • Fort Worth, TX 76102  
(817) 335-1231 • [www.fpcf.org](http://www.fpcf.org)



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **Who Can Participate?**

Youth participants must be in or entering senior high school (grades 9-12). Groups must have a minimum of six youth and one adult per every six high school students. Adult sponsors must be 21 years of age and be representative of both genders. All participants must be covered by medical insurance.

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

We can accommodate groups of up to 30 people each week. Housing is provided in the church's air-conditioned gym. We provide air mattresses for each person. Please bring your own cots if necessary. There are two bathrooms and four shower stations in the facility. This building with security has a place to lock belongings during the day.

### **Where will we eat?**

All meals during the work week will be provided (not including meals during your group's full or half day of offsite recreation). Breakfasts are simple. Most lunches are put together each morning and taken with you in a cooler. Dinners are prepared for you by members of our congregation. One meal at a local restaurant is also provided. Please advise us of any special dietary needs in advance.

### **What will I do all week?**

You will experience a great variety of mission opportunities. You could be painting, helping build a house or working with the homeless – some possible tasks are listed in the right column on the next page. There will be time for devotionals, reflection and team-building. There's also free time to explore some of the many entertainment options our city has to offer (See "Things to Do in Fort Worth" on the next page).

### **Who will help me?**

You will rely on your peers. The various site coordinators will orient you to what needs to be done and teach you what they do and why they do it. Sometimes things don't go as planned, and your reactions to those situations are also learning experiences.

### **When can we come?**

Weeks are available in June and July. Most groups arrive Sunday evening and depart Saturday morning. However, we love having groups arrive on Saturday and join us for worship on Sunday before the camp begins. Contact Aaron York for available weeks this year.

### **How do we reserve our spot?**

Reservations may be made by phone or e-mail. A \$50 per person, non-refundable deposit will be required within one month of the reservation (no later than May 1) to confirm your housing request. The balance may be sent by mail or paid upon your arrival in Fort Worth. **Your deposit holds your reservation.**

Total cost per person is \$125. The cost covers most aspects of the program, including housing, food, programming, and leadership.

### **What if I forget something?**

The church is within five minutes of a Super Target, CVS, Walgreens and other stores.

### **What if there is a medical emergency?**

We are located about five minutes from the "hospital district", with several large hospitals nearby. Emergencies at jobsites will be handled through the city's EMS system.

## THINGS TO DO IN FORT WORTH

Here are a few ideas for your free day in the Fort Worth area. For more ideas and to see what events are happening in Fort Worth during the week you are here, check out [www.fortworth.com](http://www.fortworth.com) or [www.guidelive.com](http://www.guidelive.com). The local paper is the Fort Worth *Star-Telegram* ([www.star-telegram.com](http://www.star-telegram.com)). Check out the visitor's guides, attractions and entertainment options on these websites. You can also get a weather report the week before you arrive. There are many more options for things to do than are listed here, so don't be afraid to ask about something that sounds interesting!

### **Sundance Square ([www.sundancesquare.com](http://www.sundancesquare.com))**

This "vibrant downtown marketplace" is a short drive or bus ride from the church. Sundance Square is 20 fabulous blocks of downtown Fort Worth where people work, live, shop and dine. You'll find bookstores, restaurants, movie theaters, art galleries, concerts, ice cream and Starbucks. Also, check out the magnificent Bass Performance Hall.

### **Fort Worth Zoo ([www.fortworthzoo.com](http://www.fortworthzoo.com))**

Consistently rated one of the top zoos in the nation, see more than 4,000 animals and Texas Wild!, an area devoted to the flora and fauna of the Lone Star State. Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily, the zoo is a five-minute drive from the church. Tickets: \$10.50/person. Group rates are available for groups of 15+ with 1-week prior reservation.

P: 817-759-7555 1989 Colonial Pkwy. Fort Worth, TX 76110

### **Museum District**

Across the Trinity River from the church is Fort Worth's Cultural District. A great variety of museums such as the famous Kimbell Art Museum ([www.kimbellart.org](http://www.kimbellart.org)) and the even newer Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth ([www.themodern.org](http://www.themodern.org)). Most museums are free but charge for "Special Exhibits." The Fort Worth Museum of Science and History ([www.fwmuseum.org](http://www.fwmuseum.org)) has an Omni Theatre and charges admission.

Museums are generally open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and closed on Mondays.

### **Botanic Gardens ([www.fwb.org](http://www.fwb.org))**

The Fort Worth Botanic Gardens are across the river from the church and provide a "Sanctuary for the Senses." They are open from 8 a.m. to dusk daily. Free, except for the Japanese Garden and the Conservatory (modest fees).

### **Stockyards District ([www.fortworthstockyards.org](http://www.fortworthstockyards.org))**

Take a step back in time to what was the second largest cattle market in the world at Fort Worth's historic Stockyards, just a few minutes drive north of downtown. One of Fort Worth's main tourist attractions offers

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## POSSIBLE MISSION LOCATIONS

### **The Presbyterian Night Shelter (PNS):**

The PNS provides resources for the homeless in Fort Worth, serving 300-500 men, women and children nightly. Groups could help serve meals, lead recreational activities with the children/youth, or do light painting or construction projects.

### **Northside Inter-Church Agency (NICA):**

This agency serves a predominantly Hispanic neighborhood. NICA offers assistance with food, clothing and personal care items for families. Volunteers may help in the food pantry, work in the thrift store or assist residents with home maintenance.

### **Samaritan House:**

Work could include the serving of meals and interaction with residents at Samaritan House, a facility for homeless individuals with HIV/AIDS.

### **Habitat for Humanity:**

This large chapter serves families throughout the Fort Worth area. Opportunities to do some light construction work will be offered.

### **Tarrant Area Food Bank:**

Work includes sorting, packaging and organizing food delivered from businesses, restaurants and grocery stores.

shops, dining and western culture at its best: it's a great place to buy boots and eat barbecue! at one of Fort Worth's main tourist attractions.

P: 800-433-5747 or 817-624-4741

### **The Fort Worth Cats ([www.fwcats.com](http://www.fwcats.com))**

An independent minor league baseball club, the Cats play at LaGrave Field, the recently renovated, historic ballpark just north of downtown Fort Worth. This is a fun and laid-back local option for inexpensive baseball with a fantastic view of the downtown skyline.

P: 817-226-CATS (2287) 301 NE 6th St. Fort Worth, TX 76164



The following three options are off Interstate 30 in Arlington, Texas, about 20-25 minutes from the church:

### **The Texas Rangers**

([http://texas.rangers.mlb.com/index.jsp?c\\_id=tex](http://texas.rangers.mlb.com/index.jsp?c_id=tex))

Major League Baseball's Texas Rangers play in Rangers Ballpark in Arlington, a beautiful ballpark 22 minutes from the church and near the new Dallas Cowboys Stadium, scheduled for completion in 2009.

P: 817-273-5100 or 800-654-5100 1000 Ballpark Way Arlington, TX



### **Six Flags Over Texas Amusement Park**

([www.sixflags.com/parks/overtexas/index.asp](http://www.sixflags.com/parks/overtexas/index.asp))

Featuring thrill rides, live entertainment shows and games of skill, Six Flags is located in the same area as Rangers Ballpark in Arlington. See their website for special group packages. Online ticket price is \$31 or at \$49.99 at the gate, so look for coupons and promos (soda cans). Parking fees also apply.

P: 817-530-6000 2201 Road to Six Flags Arlington, TX 76010



### **Six Flags Hurricane Harbor Water Park**

([www.sixflags.com/parks/hurricaneharbordallas/index.asp](http://www.sixflags.com/parks/hurricaneharbordallas/index.asp))

Across the highway from Six Flags over Texas Amusement Park is Six Flags Hurricane Harbor, a water park featuring all kinds of rides to cool off in the summer heat. Group rates are available for groups of 10+ (Phone for groups: 817-640-8900 x4100). General Admission tickets at the gate: \$24.99

P: 817-265-3356 1800 E Lamar Boulevard Arlington, TX 76006



# First Presbyterian Church, Fort Worth, Texas

## Urban GAPS Sample Schedule\*

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		devotional	devotional	devotional	devotional	devotional	
AM	8:15 9:00 10:55 Worship  church brunch	Samaritan House (AIDS Services Facility) Manual Labor & Panel Discussion	First H.A.N.D. Food Pantry & Clothing Room  Tarrant Area Food Bank (Pack Food, Distribution)	Potential Free Day or free afternoon  AIDS Inter-faith Outreach (Stock, Shop for patients, Serve Lunch)	Northside Inter- Church Agency (NICA) (Work in Resident Homes and at the Center)  Women's Haven Panel Discussion	Habitat for Humanity  (Manual Labor on a house)	Free Day  OR  Departure
		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
PM	Arrival  Tour & Settle in  Orientation	Mission Arlington (Community Services)	Presbyterian Night Shelter (Homeless Services, Serve Dinner, Children's Playgroups)	Tarrant Area Food Bank  Free Time	Northside Inter- Church Agency (Work in Resident Homes)	Habitat for Humanity	
	Dinner	Cookout?	Dinner	Dinner on your own?	Dinner	Dinner	
Evening	Orientation	Debriefing	Swim Party? Debriefing	free time or Debriefing	Debriefing	Worship Service in chapel	