



It's Your Mission Trip

Adult Chaperone Information

It's a Mission, Not Camp

We are thankful that you have chosen to give your time to serve at Big Creek Missions! Big Creek is a unique place with a unique focus. Year after year, hundreds of students and adults arrive at Big Creek with a skeptical eye. At Big Creek, things are a little different. From the moment you arrive, you'll find that things around here are different than many other mission trips. . . .

AT BIG CREEK . . .

WORSHIP takes priority over work
PEOPLE take priority over a project
SURRENDER rids of selfishness

We understand you want to see results from your mission trip, and want to make sure you finish a project while you are here. But, we also want you to realize that by going on a mission trip, you're not going to "fix other people's problems." You and I have enough problems of our own! How can we go fix someone else if we can't even fix ourselves? You see, our purpose on mission is to first allow Christ to change us. As we allow Him to change us, then He can (and will) use us to change others! This concept is why we place the highest importance on worship and the teaching of God's word at Big Creek. You will quickly realize - Big Creek is NOT a summer camp for students. **It's a place where you, as an adult, can also experience life change.** As we serve on mission for Christ, all of us are changed because we encounter His power at work in our lives!

What is my role at Big Creek?

"A leader is one who knows the way,
shows the way,
and goes the way!"

As an adult leader AND as a Christ-follower, you have an opportunity to show students (and others in the community) what it means to be a true obedient follower. Make the most of every opportunity! Set an example in all you do – especially with your heart, mouth, and attitude.

While in the community, you will have an opportunity to teach and lead! We ask you to help set an example. Don't be lazy, don't make excuses. Be energetic and passionate! Use the skills the Lord has given you to lead on your site. Your staff are here to work WITH you, not do everything! Be willing to do anything the Lord asks you to do. This is YOUR mission trip!

Serving in Construction ministry

At Big Creek, we spend a lot of time renovating homes. Renovating is difficult, as we can't perfectly estimate supplies, needs, and tools. Regardless, we want to provide excellent work to the homeowner. As you serve on construction, please keep in mind that we cannot build a mansion, rather, we simply want to create a safe, clean, environment for the family. Be patient, as you never know what to expect up here!

**We have many tools at Big Creek, feel free to bring your own tools. Our projects are typically one of three types: Metal roofing, framing, or subfloor repairs. Typically, framing / demolition tools are great.

**TRUCKS are always needed... Trailers are very helpful
**We won't know until about 1 week before your trip what project we'll be doing during your week.

Serving with Children

The Children's ministries are two very exciting ministry! Please remember – these kids have experienced plenty of VBS programs, BYB clubs, and other Christian events. They've had plenty of mission groups coming in with the goal of getting them to "raise their hands to accept Christ." We truly want to teach these students what it means to be a Christ-follower. We are not about numbers – but rather, making disciples. **Although a basic curriculum will be provided for you upon arrival (and maybe beforehand), we encourage you to bring basic craft materials, game, or carnival supplies to help enhance your group's ministries!** If your students have a talent, make sure they bring their equipment (guitars, game supplies, animal balloons, etc). Thank you for serving our children! Get ready for a great experience as we provide a high-energy, passionate week of daycamps for children!

Serving in Community Ministry

We love our community! This ministry offers very practical opportunities to show Christ's love to our community. Some days you may be working directly with people, and some days you'll be serving behind the scenes with different ministries and programs. You will fall in love with your community as you serve in the following ways:

- Lawn care for Widows & Elderly
- Nursing home or adult daycare ministries
- Food & Clothing distributions
- Clothing center organization and distribution
- School & Community cleanup
- Service projects
- Cleaning & Maintenance at different facilities

Don't forget to register at
www.bigcreekmission.com/go

Worship Services & Schedule

Our worship services are designed with students in mind. Each summer, we choose a book in God's word to do a verse-by-verse study of that book. We utilize upbeat and current scripturally supported worship music and technology to help our students recognize the life changing truths found in God's Word. The teaching will be relevant to ALL ages and will challenge every volunteer.

The schedule is designed so that we can reach out to residents in our area while understanding the needs of your students. Your day at Big Creek will consist of a healthy balance of WORSHIP, WORK, & FELLOWSHIP!

Transportation

Your group leader will be planning transportation for your group. Keep the following in mind:

*If you drive any church or personal vehicle to Big Creek, it will be utilized throughout the week to transport volunteers to and from the worksite. Church groups / volunteers are responsible for fuel.

*It's helpful to have an extra seat in each vehicle. This gives room for a staff member OR it gives room for ministry supplies.

*Trucks are very helpful for construction. Trailer hitches are also helpful for all ministries!

*Even if you do not drive a vehicle, you may be asked to drive a Big Creek vehicle (if it's available) or, your group leader may ask you to switch and drive one of your church vehicles.

*Large bus drivers (16+ passengers) do not typically work in construction ministry, as those vehicles cannot travel to our construction sites. Rather, these vehicles and drivers are utilized in community and children's ministries. We do not recommend any vehicles over 22 passengers. We strongly recommend cars, trucks, mini-vans, and 11 / 15 passenger vans.

About Big Creek

Big Creek is an independent mission center that started in 2003 as a one week mission trip. Since it's beginnings the Lord has blessed the center with great growth. Now, we are a full time mission center housed in a former elementary school. We have renovated this school to convert it into a very nice place to house volunteers who serve in our community.

As a mission center, we go out into the community and meet the needs of residents, partner with local pastors and churches, and serve our community in the name of Christ. We evangelize the lost and minister to believers.

We are funded by your donations. We are not funded by major government grants nor are we denominationally supported. The money you pay to come to Big Creek makes up the large majority of our support.

About our Leadership and Staff

Big Creek is led by a 5 member board of directors. We'd like to introduce you to our year-round staff:

Kevin Rogers, Director.

Kevin@bigcreekmissions.com

Started volunteering as the director of Big Creek in 2003, full time since 2008. He loves Big Creek, the community, and volunteers.

David Hillard, Assistant Director / Construction Ministry

David@bigcreekmissions.com

David and his wife, Andi, started volunteering with Big Creek in 2008, and began as staff in 2014.

Andi Hillard, Assistant Director / Children's Ministry

Andi@bigcreekmissions.com

Andi and David assist at the center in multiple ways, providing great enthusiasm and hospitality! Their personalities and joy are a great asset to our center.

Tracy Mitchell Missionary to Children

Tracy@bigcreekmissions.com

Tracy joined our staff in March 2015. He serves as an Elgin foundation supported missionary to Children in Leslie County. His goal is to help us partner with various churches / organizations to minister to children.

Anna Carey Bookkeeper

Accounting@bigcreekmissions.com

Anna is a resident of Leslie County and has served the people of Leslie County for several years as a teacher, non-profit leader and board member, and servant. We are glad to have her on our team!

Summer Staff

You will be impressed with the hard-working staff at Big Creek. Each summer, we recruit around 15 college-age students to help guide and direct the groups who serve at Big Creek. They will most likely be rather young. However, the staff are well versed in the methods and purposes of Big Creek missions. They will be working alongside you to assist in ministry. They are not here to dictate, command, or play power games. They are servant leaders here to assist in ministry. Many are also "in-training" as vocational ministers & missionaries.

Please join with the staff in creating a positive environment that encourages unity, growth, and ministry. Let us look together, as one body, at the needs in this community, and in our own ministry groups, to see how we may be used to make an eternal impact.

Frequently Asked Questions

****Can I bring my kids under age 12?** Yes! Please note that you'll be serving with them, and responsible for them.

****What about food allergies?** We try to accommodate food allergies, but we strongly recommend that volunteers bring replacement food to accommodate their special diet.

****What about cell phones and Wi-Fi?** Verizon has pretty good coverage. AT&T is ok, and depending on your plan, other companies may have some service. WIFI is available to ADULT chaperones at Big Creek.