

MATE 30 – Mission at the Eastward

June 25th to July 1st 2011

Every year, for the past 29 years, Wilton Presbyterian Church has sent a team of volunteers to work in Farmington, Maine. In recent years, we have had the pleasure of partnering with the Second Congregational Church of Greenwich for the trip.

This is a special trip, as we mark the 30th anniversary of this fantastic mission project.

During the week, we work with the mission group of MATE to repair or renovate the homes of very needy people in the Farmington area. “Mission at the Eastward” is a cooperative parish of eight churches, led by Rev. George Hardy, Interim Coordinator. You can read more about MATE at www.missionattheeastward.org.

We arrive on Saturday. Sunday we join in services at one of the local churches and then tour our work sites in the afternoon. Crews and crew leaders are assigned for the upcoming work week.

Monday through Thursday we work on our assigned projects. We eat together every day at breakfast and dinner, and take our lunches to the job sites. Various fun events also occur during the week (pizza party, movies, games, bowling night, etc.). During dinner, a member of each work crew summarizes what was accomplished at their site.

After breakfast on Friday, we depart for home.

This is a very unique opportunity for both adults and youth to learn new skills, make new friendships, and do truly meaningful mission work. The families we help are very grateful for our efforts, and join us for a final dinner on Thursday evening.

Both experienced and novice volunteers are welcome. However, this is not a youth ministry project, and we strive for a 1 to 2 ratio of adults/youth. If you come with your child, you will be assigned to different work sites so that all have the chance to meet new people and form lasting friendships.

To apply, please visit www.wiltonpresbyterian.org and see the link on the home page for MATE. You will find detailed information about the trip, maps and the application. Complete the application and return to the church office, or scan and email to Paul Lourd (plourd@optonline.net). If you are applying from the Second Congregational Church, please send your application to Chris Tate, 139 East Putnam Avenue Greenwich, CT 06830

If you have any questions, please contact one of the mission leaders.

We look forward to working with you at MATE!

Paul Lourd - Chris Tate

M.A.T.E. Itinerary 2011:

Saturday, June 25st

Arrive in Farmington anytime before 4pm.

During the day check into our dorm.

6:00 PM pizza dinner at the dorm

Sunday, June 26nd

7:00 AM Breakfast

9:00 service at Fairbanks Church

10:30 Orientation by M.A.T.E. coordinator

11:30 Picnic Lunch

1:00 PM Work site tours

5:00 Picnic & Communion ????

That evening: Crew assignments, safety training and orientation.

Monday, June 27th – Thursday, June 30st

7:00 AM Breakfast and lunch assembly

8:00 Depart for work sites

4:00 Finish Work

6:00 Dinner

7:30 Group reflection and closure on the day's events

After dinner activities (bowling, movies, softball, Gifford's famous ice cream parlor, Sandy Bottom River, wire bridge)

Friday, July 1nd

Breakfast, dorm cleanup, and departure