

Our Mission

The High School Student Mission Trip is a ministry of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. We hope to bring aid and comfort to those in need through out our country. It is easy to turn a blind eye to those reaching out a hand for help in our local communities. By our actions, we hope to show the face of Christ to these people in need and all we come in contact with and by doing so reaffirm the Holy Orthodox Faith in an Orthodox Service Community. We pray that by offering daily prayer services, as well as our love and works, we will bring not only ourselves but all involved closer to Christ our God.



2006 Team Members erect the outdoor prayer shrine, which they designed and constructed.

Trips UOC High School Mission



UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA

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UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA

High School Missionary Trips in the USA

"Whatever you do unto the least of these my brethren, you do it unto me..." Matthew 25:45



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Our History

In 2000, the Consistory Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry (OYM) presented a three-year plan to the Consistory of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. This plan contained a vision for a missionary trip for our high school students. The three-year plan was unanimously approved.

The OYM began work with the Office of Mission and Christian Charity to make the trip possible. The first planned trip to Atlanta, GA in the summer of 2004 was unfortunately cancelled. The next trip was planned for the summer of 2005. The Team of eight teenagers and team leaders arrived at Raphael House in San Francisco, CA.

Raphael House was the first shelter to serve at risk homeless families in the San Francisco Area. They shelter families for up to six months and then help them move into stable housing.

Subsequent trips include: St. Nicholas Mission Charlottesville, VA, St. Sophia Seminary in South Bound Brook, NJ, Goodwill Rescue Mission of Newark, NJ, St. John the Compassionate Mission in Toronto, Canada.

Our hope is to continue providing these types of outreach for the teenagers of our church to experience.



"This trip was absolutely amazing! I will never forget it and will carry it with me everywhere I go. I feel honored for having this wonderful opportunity to help others...I am so thankful for this opportunity and for the support I received from my family and friends. Also, the prayers (said) for us, I felt were at work and the Holy Spirit was with us. I look forward to another trip."

Lara Haluszczak -
2005 Team Member

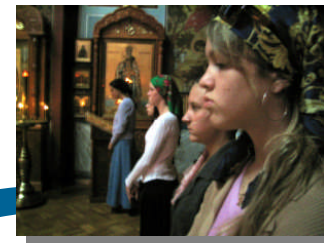


Our Program

Five high school students age 15 - 18 are chosen from a pool of applicants to compose the Mission Team. The Team Members are led by a Spiritual Team Leader and Lay Community Leader.

The type of work depends upon the location of the trip. We hope to make the trip a blending of community service, deepening of personal faith, interaction with fellow teen Orthodox Christians and witnessing need for missionary and charitable work within our country.

Each year we will attempt to provide a unique experience for the Team Members.



In 2008, the team traveled to Toronto, Canada to aid St. John the Compassionate Mission in their work with the inner city homeless and those in need of a second chance. The team helped to serve/prepare the daily meals, make physical improvements to the facility and work at the Thrift Store.

