



“EVANGELIZING & EQUIPPING NATIVE AMERICANS FOR CHRIST”

924 Mission Lane Show Low AZ 85901

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On the World Wide Web - www.aicm.org

MINISTRY TEAM PACKET

Current Ministry Team Coordinator:
Sherry Brenneman MissionTeams@aicm.org

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GUIDELINES FOR MINISTRY TEAMS

TRANSPORTATION

You will need to provide your own transportation to the American Indian Christian Mission. We are located on Hwy 260, approximately 8 miles west of Show Low. The mission is about 3-1/2 hours from Phoenix airport. We can give you directions from Phoenix if needed.

We ask that you make your travel arrangements in order to arrive at AICM in the afternoon or early evening. A staff member will be able to meet you and direct you to your dorm(s) at that time. All ministry teams will be given an orientation prior to beginning any work projects, VBS, or camps.

We also ask that if you are a member of a camp team that you arrive on Friday afternoon or Saturday morning in order to have ample time for your orientation and to set up for the campers who will be coming on Sunday afternoon. Your orientation time will be Saturday morning.

Please make your arrangements such that all of your team members will be traveling at the same time. If someone from your group needs to leave at a different time, it will be your responsibility to provide transportation for them to the airport.

GROUP SIZE AND COMPOSITION

For week long trips, 4 days or more, we ask \$250.00 per person.
For trips up to 3 days, we ask \$10.00 per day, per person.

Please do not try and “recruit” everyone for your trip! We require a minimum 4:1 ratio of teens and adult sponsors in each group. If you are planning to bring children under the age of 14, you will need to obtain prior approval from the Ministry Team Coordinator. Children under 12 years of age are free. Please remember if you bring children to AICM, it is your responsibility to oversee and care for them at all times. Do not allow your children to be unsupervised either on mission property or the reservation.

Our camp teams need to consist of 20-25 people in each group. VBS teams or groups who will be working with the Apache Christian Connection should have no more than 15 people. If there are more than 15 in your group, please understand that some may need to stay back at the mission and you will need to rotate those going out to the reservation during the week. Ministry teams who will be doing work/maintenance projects at the facilities here should consist of 4-12 members.

OPERATION OF MISSION VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT

No one under the age of 21 can operate mission vans, buses, backhoe, tractor, or any other equipment belonging to the mission. Special permission to drive our vehicles must be obtained from AICM administration and proof of a valid operator's license must be provided and kept on file in our office. **Operation of any of our buses requires a CDL license.** Our vehicles will not carry any more people than there are seat belts for. We will not allow people to ride on the backs of the tractor, backhoe, or in the bed of pickup trucks.

PHONE USE

Members of ministry teams can come to the office for use of a phone. We ask that you limit these times to the posted hours and to no more than 5-10 minutes per person.

OTHER GUIDE LINES AND RULES

Do not wander off into the woods. We are located next to a National Forest and there is local wildlife such as timber rattlers, bears, and other animals. A person can become disoriented and lost in a very short time. Make sure you are always with a companion and keep a building or a fence in view as you walk around our property. Also keep in mind that we are 6500 in elevation. This could be a potential problem for anyone with heart or respiratory problems.

In the summer there is usually a high danger of forest fires in the area. An evacuation plan will be reviewed in your orientation to cover what might need to be done in the event of a fire.

During "tarantula season" (May-October), please remember to keep all doors closed at night.

The teens in your group should never be unsupervised in the dorms, gym, or anywhere else on property. An adult from your team needs to be responsible for them at all times.

If you are working with children on campus or on the reservation, never put yourself in an alone, one-on-one situation with a child at any time. Always have another adult or teen with you when dealing with a camper or a child on the reservation.

Under no circumstances will corporal punishment or physical guidance be used with a child at any time. Major discipline problems with a child at camp will be referred to the designated AICM staff member.

All team members must participate in your planned daily devotion times, your tasks of ministry, and the daily activities assigned at the Mission.

Be respectful of the buildings, vehicles, tools, and equipment you use while here. Clean all tools and return them to their proper place, along with any supplies you used while working on a project. Please join us in be good stewards of what God has blessed us with.

No pets will be permitted on property.

All ministry team members will fill out the enclosed Volunteer Application. These applications need to be returned to AICM at least 2 weeks prior to your visit. Completed volunteer applications must be received in advance or upon your arrival for criminal background checks.

Sexual harassment of any type will be cause for immediate removal from mission property.

AICM does have a swimming pool and we ask that all posted rules and safety guides be followed. Use of the pool will depend upon summer camp schedules and other programs that are going on at the time of your visit.

Safety is an important issue at AICM. Take care of yourself and of the children. Safety equipment will be used on all work projects. Be aware of sunburn, dehydration, and shortness of breath. These could lead to serious health problems.

Remember that you are a representative of your church, the Mission, and most importantly Jesus. Please conduct yourself in a Christ-like manner in your speech and actions. Have an open mind and mature attitude with everyone that you will come in contact with while here. Your actions will be speaking everywhere you go.

When on reservation, remember that the Apache and Navajo nations are autonomous countries within the borders of the United States. We are allowed to minister there because we have worked hard to develop relationships of trust and respect with tribal governments.

HISTORY

The American Indian Christian Mission was founded in 1969 out of concern for the spiritual needs of Native American people. At that time, Vacation Bible Schools were

held on the Navajo and Hopi reservations in the state of Arizona. The Lord continued to open the doors for the ministry. Land was purchased near Show Low and a boarding school for Indian children was started in 1985.

Hundreds of Navajo, Apache and Hopi children have attended the American Indian Christian School since its start in 1985. Children will spend the school year at the mission, going home every weekend. Students in Kindergarten through 12th grade spend their time studying, praying and playing in our school and dorms, which are located west of Show Low.

Throughout the year, the Apache Christian Connection team goes out 4 afternoons a week, taking the gospel to almost 30 communities on the Fort Apache Indian reservation. The Vacation Bible School programs that were started at the beginning of AICM's ministry continue today through the ACC program. Many volunteers come each year to assist our staff in conducting these programs. Through the Apache Christian Connection, hundreds of children are receiving God's word on a consistent basis.

Summer Enrichment programs have been held at the facilities of the American Indian Christian Mission since the early 1980's. God continues to bless this facet of the ministry and has sent hundreds of children to participate in quality summer programs. We are thankful for the many people who volunteer their time and resources to staff these weeks of activities.

MEALS AND THE KITCHEN

The meals will be scheduled around the activities of the week. Meal times will be given to the group leader and covered during your orientation. The times will also be posted in the dining hall.

Each group will be responsible for providing kitchen help for at least one meal per day. We will need 1-2 people from your group to help with possible food preparation and serving. They will need to stay and help our kitchen staff with cleanup after the meal. Due to safety issues and regulations from the Arizona Department of Health, all kitchen workers must be at least 16 years old. The group leader will have the schedule.

Except for the assigned times your team will assist in the kitchen, we ask that you do not go there. The kitchen is OFF LIMITS to all unauthorized visitors.

Foods located in the pantries, the cooler, and the freezers have intended uses. Please do not allow your team members to remove food from the kitchen without permission from the kitchen staff.

BEFORE YOU LEAVE AICM

Please clean up in any of the buildings you were using before you leave. This includes the chapel, dorms, the bathrooms in the gym, the pool area, vehicles, and the work sites. We will

provide all of the cleaning supplies, brooms, mops, and vacuums that you will need. The AICM staff has many responsibilities and your assistance in cleaning up after yourself is appreciated.

Please bag up and carry all trash to the dumpsters located by the gym.

If you are a camp team, we ask that you make your travel arrangements such that you will not be leaving the day the campers leave. You will need the remainder of the day and possibly part of the next day to finish cleaning. You will also be responsible to do any camp laundry after the children leave.

If you are doing maintenance or construction work, please have all tools cleaned up and put away at the end of each day. This will make your final day's cleanup much easier.

Please leave your name and address with our office staff if you would like to be added to the mailing list of the American Indian Christian Mission.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

AICM makes every effort to match projects that are compatible with the skills, experiences and giftedness of the individuals on the ministry teams. It is important for the ministry team leader to make certain the "information page" is completed and given to AICM's ministry team coordinator so projects can be identified well in advance of your arrival.

Depending upon the time of year, weather and other ministries some opportunities may be as follows:

- General maintenance and repairs on buildings and vehicles
- Construction
- Painting
- Cleaning of grounds and facilities
- Work on AICM's prayer trail
- Downing and cutting timber
- Office work – bulk mailings, cutting and sorting soup labels and boxtops
- Library work
- Helping in the classrooms
- Helping with homework
- Lead chapel services
- Lead devotional times in the dorms
- Lead music for praise and worship
- Lead craft and recreational times with AICS students
- Sewing projects
- Computer data entry; work in computer lab
- Participate in the bus ministry with Apache Christian Connection

- Summer enrichment programs
- Vacation Bible School programs on reservation
- Etc
- Etc

Be prepared to work – be prepared to be flexible

Please return a copy of this page with as much information as possible at least 2 weeks prior to your arrival. If you have any questions, please call our office at 928-537-5912 and ask for Sherry or e-mail her at MissionTeams@aicm.org Pages may also be faxed to 928-537-5620.

Church/Group Name _____

Address _____

Contact Person _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ email _____

Total in Group _____ Male _____ Female _____

Teens _____ Adults _____

Date of Arrival _____ Flying into Phoenix _____ Driving _____

Airline & Flight # _____ Time of Arrival _____

Date of Departure _____ Time of Departure _____

First meal at AICM will be _____

Last meal at AICM will be _____

Are you planning any sightseeing trips? _____ If so, what day? _____

When will you be leaving the mission for your trip back?

Date _____ Time _____

***THE AMERICAN
INDIAN CHRISTIAN
MISSION IS A DRUG
FREE AREA. NO
ALCOHOL, TOBACCO
OR ILLEGAL DRUGS
ARE ALLOWED ON
OUR PROPERTY.***

THINGS TO DO PRIOR TO YOUR ARRIVAL

Have only one person as your ministry team coordinator/contact person to make arrangements with AICM. We understand that you may know more than one person on staff at the mission, but we ask that you communicate **ONLY** with the ministry team coordinator. Sherry Brenneman is currently filling this role. You can contact Sherry at 928-537-5912 or e-mail her at MissionTeams@aicm.org If we have more than these two people making contact and arrangements for your trip, some details are likely to be miscommunicated or overlooked.

Please complete and return the enclosed "Ministry Team Information Sheet" to us at least 2 weeks prior to your arrival, along with the funds for food and supplies.

You must have completed parental release forms for all minors in your group covering pool use, needed medical attention, and any activities while at the American Indian Christian Mission. Please bring copies of these forms with you to keep on file in our office.

Appoint a team member to be responsible for kitchen duties while here at AICM. We will need 1- 2 people from your group to help with at least one meal a day (possibly more) depending upon group size and the activities of the week. The ministry team coordinator will give you the schedule for kitchen duty. Help MAY be needed in food preparation. We ask that the kitchen helper be available to serve and to stay for clean up after the meals. The kitchen helpers must be at least 16 years of age. Please let your group know who is responsible to help in the kitchen.

Another team member also needs to be appointed to oversee daily cleaning of the dorms and other facilities you may be using. This includes regular vacuuming, taking out trash, and cleaning the bathrooms.

Check with the Mission one-week prior to your arrival for any changes or updates in your schedule. Flexibility is imperative. Situations may arise that will require your area of service to change.

Have several meetings with your group prior to coming so that all team members will be aware of the schedules and programs that will be taking place. Spend time in prayer together as you make preparations. Have each person ask someone from home to be his or her prayer partner during all phases of the trip. Plan daily devotions to be held with your group here at the Mission and delegate those who will lead them.

FACILITIES AT AICM

You will be staying in dorm buildings with bunk beds and bathroom/shower facilities in each building. Our ministry team dorm houses 28 people (14/side). There is a microwave, refrigerator, coffeemaker, washer and dryer in this building. During the summer months our student dorms will also be used to house ministry teams. Please keep in mind that all our facilities serve as a "home" to our students and staff. We ask that you respect mission property as you would your own homes.

Each first-time ministry teams will participate in an orientation led by an AICM staff member. We also schedule debriefings before teams leave as time allows.

WHAT TO BRING

Sleeping bag or sheets (AICM has blankets and pillows you can use)

Towel, washcloth, shampoo, soap, other personal items

Bible

Sun block, lip-gloss, hat

Work gloves and sturdy work shoes

Sweatshirt or jacket

Swimsuit (modest)
Flashlight
Water Bottle

AICM has a laundry facility that you may use during your visit. Please assign one or two people from your group to do laundry for everyone. We ask that not every team member try and do their laundry at a different time.

Modest clothing – no tank tops or “short” shorts are allowed. No shirts with alcohol, drug, or tobacco messages. Common sense and mission staff will determine what appropriate dress is.

Tape and CD players with headphones are allowed. We ask that you listen to only Christian music while you are here. If you are on a camp team, please remember that the campers are not allowed to bring these items, so please be sensitive to their rules.

Please bring an attitude of service and compassion. All of our staff, regardless of their ministry position, have dug ditches, washed windows, cleaned up after a sick child, as well as many other labor intensive and unpleasant tasks. If you are unwilling to work outside your comfort zone, then you may wish to reconsider your visit.

Please remember...

***Ministry at AICM is a
privilege!***

An Arizona Travel Guide

BOX CANYON

Located approx. 1 hour and 15 minutes from the AICM. It provides a great day trip for those wanting to see the incredible beauty of the Mogollon Rim. A 30-minute hike leads to a secluded canyon with 3-40' rock cliffs. The adventurous among you may jump from these cliffs into the cool rock pools. The rest will enjoy soaking feet and watching. Take Highway 260 past Christopher Creek and mile marker 272. A dirt parking lot is on the left, as well as the trailhead.

CANYON DECHELLELY NATIONAL MONUMENT *(pronounced de-shay)*

Take jeep tours, horseback ride, hike or drive the rugged back country to see the ancient Indian cliff dwellings. An easy hike leads to access to first set of dwellings and great views. AICM visitors have noted this view compares with that of the Grand Canyon! (Approx. 175 miles from AICM)

FOOLS HOLLOW LAKE

Located approximately 5 miles from AICM with excellent facilities for Recreational Vehicle hook-ups, and tent areas. Call ahead for reservations.

FORT APACHE

An authentic Calvary Fort just over 1 hour from the AICM on the Apache reservation. Take Highway 260 to HonDah, make a right onto highway 73 to Whiteriver. Travel past the airstrip on the left sign and watch for the "Historical Monument" sign. A cultural center is also located at the fort. A small fee is charged. The fort closes at 5:00 p.m. weekdays.

GRAND CANYON

Located 245 miles from the AICM (4-5 hours). The earth's greatest canyon is one of the seven natural wonders of the world. Camping, mule rides available with reservations. Visitor's Center and several scenic overlooks are enjoyable to see. AICM's experience is that teens and younger find this a "big hole in the ground."

HOPI INDIAN VILLAGES AND CULTURAL CENTER

This is the location of Old Oraibi, the longest continually occupied village on the North American Continent. The Cultural Center is a collection of Hopi owned shops and Tribal Museum. Approx. 165 miles from AICM.

HUBBELL TRADING POST

Approx. 140 miles from the AICM. This national Historic Site will give the visitor a very interesting taste of the past, as it is still in operation. AICM note: several "southwest gift shops" are located in the nearby town of Pinetop/Lakeside. Items of interest may also

be purchased from the office of the AICM as parents and friends of the AICM consign there as well. Proceeds from these purchases benefit the AICM.

KINISHBA

Located approx. 50 miles from the AICM. You need a reservation permit to access this area. Old Anasazi ruins partially restored into a pueblo.

METEOR CRATER

“Truly this planet’s most penetrating natural attraction, the Meteor Crater has a circumference of 3 miles and a depth of 570 feet. The Visitor’s Center has a Space Museum.” Located approx. 130 miles from the AICM off interstate 40. A fee is charged.

PETRIFIED FOREST AND PAINTED DESERT NATIONAL PARK

“Two great parks in one! With the Petrified Forest at the south end, and the Painted Desert to the north, there’s a lot to see and do. The Visitor’s Center, Museum and excellent hiking trails are very enjoyable.” Approx. 85 miles from the AICM off interstate 40 near Holbrook.

PETROGLYPH CANYON

A long hike into a deep canyon heavy with petroglyphs. *Must be in good physical condition and have an experienced guide. .

SALT RIVER CANYON

Begins approx. 1 hour from the AICM as a second route to the Phoenix area. This canyon offers hairpin turns and breath-taking views. If heading to the eastern side of the Valley of the Sun (Mesa, Apache Junction...) then this drive will actually take you there faster than our usual route.

SEDONA

(Also known as Oak Creek Canyon) Approx. 180 miles from the AICM. A scenic ride through some of Arizona’s most spectacular red canyon country. Especially beautiful in the fall.

Also located there are artists’ shops and an outlet mall. New Age influence thrives here.

SLIDE ROCK

Located north of Sedona on highway 89. “Slides” made of stone with a creek running over the rocks makes a natural water park. This location is very busy in the summer. *Make sure to wear denim cut-offs because the rocks will wear holes in the bottom of your swimming suits!

SUNRISE RESORT

is located approx. 1- ½ hours from the AICM on the Apache reservation.

Meadows, stands of Birch and Alpine, Blue Spruce and Oak make this drive well worth it. Elk and deer roam free, as well as lots of smaller animals. Great snow skiing occurs on

these slopes in the winter. The lifts are also open during the summer for a scenic ride. There are also several lakes that are perfect for fishing, swimming, and boating.

TOMBSTONE

Located near the town of Tucson, AZ approx. 4 hours from the AICM. An “Old-western” town with tourist shops and entertainment.

TONTO NATURAL BRIDGE

Located approx. 2 hours from the AICM North of Payson on Highway 87. Described as an outdoor cave. The hike required for this view is well worth it. Picnic facilities are available.

WALNUT CANYON

Located approx. 145 miles from the AICM. This is a beautiful hike through a canyon with ancient Indian ruins and is filled with thick foliage. There are some man-made paths and some natural trails. This is a moderately difficult hike.