

Appalachia 2022 – Things To Know

(Packing Checklist is on last page)

1) **DIRECTIONS:** Teams will be staying in the former Blackwater School in Blackwater, Virginia. The school is located on VA 604 / A J Osborne Highway, across the road from the Blackwater Primitive Baptist Church (also known as Big Door). The GPS coordinates are 36.630613, -83.033868. Cell phone use is sketchy at the school (Verizon seems to work best) but can easily be had a short distance from the school as well as internet reception.

2) **ARRIVAL:** Plan to arrive around mid-afternoon or later the Sunday you are scheduled to arrive. We usually plan to eat Supper around 6:00 PM. If you are going to arrive later, no problem. Just let us know if you will eat your supper on the road.

3) **LODGING:** Sleeping quarters are in two separate classrooms: Girls in one and Boys in another. There are 3 private bathroom/showers and 2 half-baths. Everyone will need to bring their own:

- XL Twin sized sheets work best, blankets, and pillows (or sleeping bags).
- Basic toiletry items
- Towels
- Earplugs 😊
- Toilet paper supplied by MHM

There is a 3rd classroom area with beds that can be used for leaders and/or couples and families. **

4) **ITEMS WE SUGGEST YOU BRING:**

- Fans
- Extension Cords/Bars
- Lawn Chairs
- Water Bottles
- **Snack Items** (e.g. Gatorade, Granola Bars) *NOTE: Walmart is a long way away...*
- Spray Bottle (to cool off in the heat)
- Flashlights/Headlamps
- Work Gloves
- Sunscreen
- Bug Spray
- Poison Ivy (prevention, wash, lotions, etc)
- Games/crafts/reading for evenings
- Musical instruments if you can help with worship

5) **MEALS:** Our meals will consist of the following:

- Breakfast – Our team will come up with a breakfast list (cereals, eggs, bacon and/or sausage, biscuits, fresh fruit, milk, juice, coffee, etc.)
- Lunches - sandwiches, chips, cookies, etc.
- Dinners - full course meal includes meat, vegetables, desserts, and Southern Sweet Tea.

MHM cooks will be preparing the Dinner meal, unless otherwise arranged by larger groups. Our team will be responsible for fixing and packing our own lunches. MHM will have all basic items needed in our kitchen to prepare breakfast and lunches. Team should prepare shopping list.

NOTE: There are several refrigerators and freezers for food storage and any medications that would require refrigeration.

6) **WALMART:** There is a Walmart nearby in Jonesville, VA. It is a scenic 20-25-minute drive across the mountain.

7) **CLOTHING:** Mode of Dress: Dress modestly! *NOTE: A laundry mat is located a short distance if needed.*

- Long shorts or pants (jeans or capris are fine),
- T-shirts, sweatshirts,
- Sneakers and sandals are okay for everyday wear. Closed toe shoes for yardwork, hiking.
- Swimsuits - There will be an opportunity to swim and hike on Thursday at our weekly cookout at the Natural Tunnel State Park. For Hiking - shoes/boots or closed toed sandals.

8) **MATERIALS:** Materials to Bring (Voluntary): Teams usually ask us what they can bring. We suggest items that can be used and donated at the ministry outreach sites, such as:

- cleaning materials,
- paint supplies,
- food items, and
- toiletry items.

9) **TOOLS:** Tools good to bring for basic home repair.

- Small basic hand tools and
- battery or electric powered tools

10) **BIBLES/INSTRUMENTS:** Bring your Bibles and any musical instrument for worship. We will have devotions and debriefs every day.

11) **DAILY SCHEDULE: (Sample):**

Sunday	Afternoon arrival, Unload and Settle in, Supper, Orientation and Get Acquainted
Monday-Wednesday	Wakeup, Personal Devotion Time, Breakfast, Group Devotion, Pack Up and Head Out to Ministry Sites
Thursday	R & R Day at Natural Tunnel State Park: Cookout, Hiking, Swimming, Guided Hike and Tour thru the woods by a mountain stream and into the Natural Tunnel (optional for those able to do the hike, not strenuous), Chair Lift, Museum, and Gift Shop. These activities are free to MHM participants and provided by Mountain Heritage Missions. We also encourage our participants to take some time and get alone with the Lord to reflect on what HE has done and what HE may be showing you and/or saying to you while you are here.
Saturday	Wakeup, Personal Devotion Time, Breakfast, Final Group Devotion, Pack Up, Building Clean Up, Depart for Home
EVERY EVENING	* Each Evening there will be Debrief Sessions, Testimonials, Prayer, and Worship Time *

***If you need additional info, please let us know. We are here to serve you! ***

Mountain Heritage Missions Activities and Opportunities

At Mountain Heritage Missions, we take care to provide our participants high quality services personalized for their unique needs. We are available to discuss various ministry outreach opportunities with you at any time. Our staff members are professional, courteous and efficient.

Home Repair & Construction

We visit many families who live in homes where some type of repair/construction is needed. Painting the inside and/or outside of homes, bathroom remodeling, replacing flooring, roof repair, and just a good cleaning are some of the opportunities available to serve. We also rake yards, trim bushes, mow grass, do weed-eating, and plant flowers. Whatever the need is and whatever you feel the Lord would have you to do, we encourage you to do it. Take time to build relationships with the people. IT'S ALL ABOUT "BEING" AND NOT JUST ABOUT "DOING."

Visiting Nursing Homes

We visit local nursing homes to spend time with the elderly. They enjoy us coming and loving on them. We take the time to talk with them, listen to their stories, do arts and crafts, and sing and play music. It provides a great opportunity of just "BEING" the Hands and Feet of Jesus.

THERE ARE MANY OTHER OPPORTUNITIES THAT CAN OPEN UP TO US AS WE ARE WILLING TO GO AND MAKE OURSELVES AVAILABLE FOR WHAT THE LORD WOULD HAVE US TO DO AT THE TIME. HEARING HIS VOICE AND FOLLOWING HIS LEAD IS THE KEY. AS WE DO THAT, WE GET TO EXPERIENCE THE MIRACLES AND HE GETS THE GLORY

Meet Our Staff at Mountain Heritage Missions:

Put our expertise to work for you. At Mountain Heritage Missions, we are proud to be contributing to Hawkins and Hancock Counties Tennessee and Lee County Virginia. WE are also reaching out to Southeast Asian countries such as Cambodia and the Philippines. Our staff has a combined total of over 30 years in missions.

Donnie and Bonnie Meetze

Donald (Donnie) Meetze is the Founder and Director of Mountain Heritage Missions. He was born and raised in Lexington, South Carolina. He was a member of Fellowship Baptist Church where he attended from birth through his early college years. He met his wife Bonnie in 1983 and they were married in 1984. He is an ordained Minister and holds a Masters degree in Christian Leadership Ministry. Donnie has been in ministry since 1983 and actively involved in world missions since 1987. He and Bonnie served 3 years (1987-89) as full-time missionaries in the Philippines and 3 years (2014-16) in Cambodia. He has served in the pastorate in South Carolina and North Carolina. Through the years he has led many short-term missions' trips worldwide in countries such as Haiti, Brazil, Thailand, the Philippines, Costa Rica, Mexico, and Romania. He and Bonnie currently spend part of the year teaching the Word and helping to establish Bible Schools in the Philippines and Cambodia. They spend their summers at home in Tennessee leading teams in outreaches to the poor and needy in the Appalachian Mountains. His heart is that of a missionary. He feels that all believers are called to action and are to become the Heart, Hands, and Feet of Jesus.

Donnie and Bonnie have been married over 35 years and have two married daughters (Marybeth [Chris] Corner & Veronica [Justin] Moses), a son David (deceased), two granddaughters (Jordyn & Jamie), and four grandsons (Alex, Nathan, Cason, & Carter).

Donnie and Bonnie have a residence home and headquarters in Surgoinsville, Tennessee.

Chris & Marybeth Corner

Chris & Marybeth are assisting in coordinating the teams for MHM. They currently live in Church Hill, TN. Marybeth is the oldest daughter of Donnie & Bonnie Meetze. They have two daughters, Jordyn and Jamie, and a son, Carter.

Ettia Ruth

Ettia Ruth is a wonderful and gifted cooks. She is from the Blackwater. We have been blessed to have her with us for the 6th year now. Our teams are fed well by her and her family and many leave at the end of the week having gained a pound or two.

Appalachia Packing Checklist

CLOTHING: Dress Modestly!

- _____ Long shorts or pants (jeans or capris are fine)
- _____ T-shirts, sweatshirts
- _____ Sneakers, and sandals are okay for everyday
- _____ Swimsuits – for Natural Tunnel State Park
- _____ Hiking shoes/boots or closed toed sandals

LODGING

- _____ XL Twin sized sheets, blankets, pillows or sleeping bag
- _____ Basic toiletry items
- _____ Towels
- _____ Earplugs 🎧

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

- _____ Fans
- _____ Lawn Chairs
- _____ Extension cords/cord bars
- _____ Water bottles
- _____ Snack items (e.g. Gatorade, Granola Bars)
- _____ Spray bottle (to cool off in the heat)
- _____ Flashlights
- _____ Work gloves
- _____ Insect repellants
- _____ Tick Spray
- _____ Sunscreen
- _____ Poison Ivy (prevention, wash, lotions, etc)
- _____ Board Games
- _____ Bible
- _____ Musical Instrument

TOOLS

- _____ Small basic hand tools
- _____ battery or electric powered tools

MATERIALS - (Voluntary): Teams usually ask us what they could bring.
These are donated items used at the ministry outreach sites:
_____ cleaning supplies, paint, food, toiletry items,

