



2017 AIM

WILDWOOD HILLS RANCH
WWW.MINNESOTA AIM.COM

Trip dates: June 18 – June 23, 2017 Cost: \$800

Team Leader:

TBD

Location:

St. Charles, Iowa

Missionaries / Ministry:

Wildwood Hills ranch (www.wildwoodhillsranch.org)

Ministry:

“Building Strong Children” mission trips are for participants ages 14-18. You’ll serve as mentors for Ranchers (ages 8-12) and you will learn to follow Christ’s example of servant-leadership. Each “Building Strong Children” mission trip lasts for one week during summer programming (June-August). Wildwood Hills Ranch is located in Central Iowa just south of Des Moines and serves over 1000 of Iowa’s neediest children per year. Set in scenic Madison County, Wildwood is a haven with over 400 acres and 14 miles of trails. We utilize a faith-based character curriculum along with horses, team building courses, an aquatics program, art therapy and an agriculture program to help children grow in their faith as they come to understand the healing power of Christ’s love.

Important dates (Final price set: February 3, 2017)

Aug. 26 – **Early bird registration** – application and forms (consent, Pastoral reference, background check) & \$200 non-refundable deposit is due = \$100 price reduction of the trip

Oct. 28 – **Early registration** (\$50 off the trip price)

Dec. 2 – **Registration is due**

Jan. 27 – First payment of **\$200** is due

All forms must be in, after this date = \$25 late fee

Feb. 19–20 – Mandatory AIM Training/Called conference

Mar. 17 – Second payment of **\$200** is due

May 5 – Final payment of **\$200** is due

May 19 – All money must be in - \$50 late fee applied to account

June 2 – If payment is still due – trip will be cancelled

Passports:

A passport is not required for this trip.

Vaccinations:

We recommend consulting your health care provider at least 6 weeks before departure to inquire about recommended vaccinations for your AIM trip. The Centers for Disease Control has a list of recommended vaccines online at: <http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/destinationList.aspx>

Trip Cost:

The group will travel to the ranch in rented vans. **Trip cost includes:** housing, transportation, meals, travel insurance, AIM stuff (aim luggage, water bottle, t-shirt), day off activities.

Training:

Each AIM participant is expected to be involved in training for their trip. The statewide AIM training day coincides with the Called conference on February 19 - 20, 2017. Registration for this event is included in the cost of the trip. You will meet all the other AIM participants including the ones on your team. You will be given instruction from experienced travelers and missionaries on how to prepare for an AIM trip and what to expect on your trip. Each Aimer will be required to complete the "watermark" discipleship program that will be explained at the Aim training day.

Fundraising:

Each AIM participant should consult with his / her pastor about fundraising opportunities. Sending support letters to friends and family is a great way to ask for prayer and financial support. Two sample fundraising letters are included in this packet. Money donated by friends and family members should be sent directly to the participant's home church. Their donations are tax-deductible. There are some additional fundraising tips on our website: www.minnesotaaim.com. Donations must not be written out to Aim participants, they must be written out to the local church or AIM to be considered tax-deductible.

Payments/Due Dates:

All payments must be collected by each participant's home church and **postmarked by the due date** and sent to the district office at:

A.I.M. 1315 Portland Ave. S. Minneapolis, Mn. 55404

Contact Information:

Aim director: Bobby Loukinen 320-360-9990 or minnesota.aim@gmail.com

These are sample fundraising letters... Use them as a guide, don't copy them verbatim. Be sure to personalize your letter and to include instructions for sending their checks to your home church. Your pastor will then send payment on to the District Office by the due dates.

Dear _____,

I am so excited about this coming summer! A few months ago, I received a brochure about Ambassadors in Mission (AIM), the short-term youth missionary outreach of the Assemblies of God. Every year they send teams of young people into various parts of the world to work together with missionaries and national churches in evangelism.

This year I have been accepted to go to (country) from (beginning date) to (ending date). As part of the team, I will be involved in drama, music and crusade services. I am really looking forward to this opportunity. But I do need help in raising the necessary money.

The total cost will be \$(cost). While I'm writing because we are friends, I don't want to impose upon our friendship. If you can help in any way, it would be appreciated. Thanks for understanding.

I have three payment deadlines I must meet. The first is _____, the second is _____ and final payment must be in by _____. If you are able to financially support me, please send your *tax deductible* donation prior to these dates. Checks should be made payable to: (Your Church Name) and mailed to: (your church address).

I realize this is a lot of money to raise in a short time, but I have faith it will come.

Thanks so much for considering my request and for whatever you can contribute. I really do appreciate you very much. Please keep our trip in your prayers.

Love,

(your name)

Dear

This summer I have the amazing opportunity of serving on an AIM short-term mission trip to _____. As a part of the team, I will be involved in _____ and _____. I am excited that the Lord has enabled me to be a part of this experience and I am really looking forward to sharing God's love in _____.

I know that this kind of work is in vain without prayer, so I am asking that you consider praying for me, for our team, and especially for the people I will serve in _____. I also ask that you prayerfully consider contributing financially.

The total amount I need to raise in order to go on the trip is \$_____. My deadline to have the necessary funds together is _____. I have faith that God will make it possible.

Please pray with me that this need will be met. I'm excited, hopeful, and expecting to learn so much through this experience. I greatly appreciate you letting me share with you what I believe will be one of the most meaningful experiences of my life.

Sincerely,

*Add any special donation instructions from your church in this space.
cut and enclose with donation*

I wish to support _____ in their ministry to _____.
Full Name **Location**

One time gift of \$_____.

____ I cannot support financially, but will pray for the team faithfully.

____ I am not able to be involved.

Please make checks payable and mail to: