

MISSIONARY ACRES

VOLUNTEERS



Missionary Acres
RETIREMENT VILLAGE

Thank you for contacting Missionary Acres about the possibility of serving as volunteers for Missionary Acres. It is a privilege to assist you as volunteers are an integral part of our ministry. Our Advancement Manager is Ron Hemsworth and he works with individuals and groups who have volunteer questions.

Feel free to communicate with him by email (ronh@missionaryacres.com) or by phone/text (573-282-2558). You will also find a lot of information about Missionary Acres on our website at www.missionaryacres.com.

Please Note: there are no upfront fees to volunteer at Missionary Acres.



A Brief History of Missionary Acres

Missionary Acres is a special ministry of Baptist Mid-Missions (BMM). It is a place provided by God to answer the needs of *those who served in career ministry and now are retired.*

The vision for a caring independent living retirement community began with Pastor Charles Emerson. He and his family purchased over sixty acres of land in Wayne County, Missouri. There, they built a chapel and began the ministry.

Advancing age and health concerns would keep Pastor Emerson from seeing his vision through to completion. Not wanting to give up on it, he graciously donated the land to Baptist Mid-Missions in 1962.

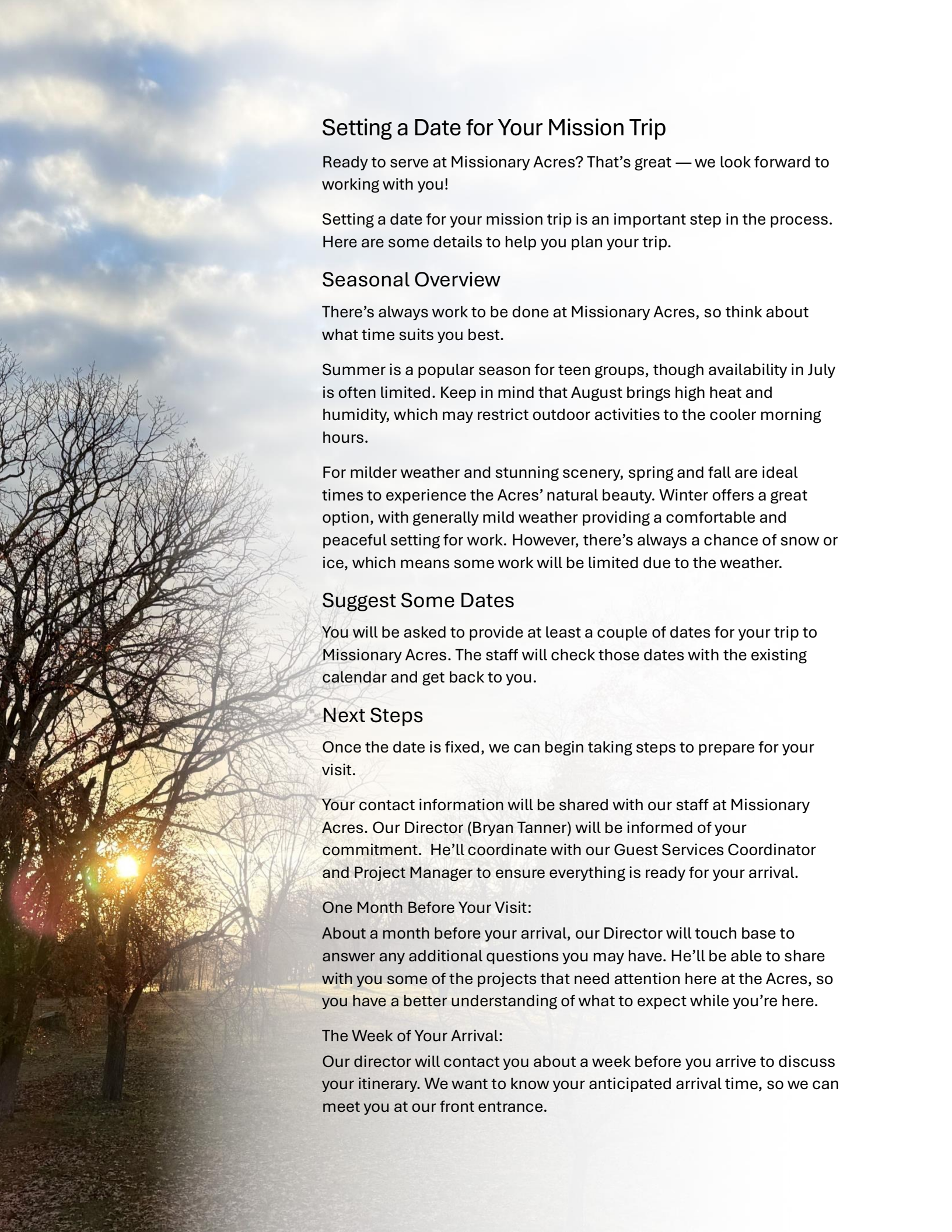
Baptist Mid-Missions continued developing the property, with the goal of bringing Pastor Emerson's vision to life. Over the years, Missionary Acres has been developed and led by many godly men and women who have poured their hearts and lives into developing the Acres into the special ministry that it is today.



Missionary Acres exists for the purpose of providing affordable, quality housing in a safe, peaceful, family-oriented environment for faithful servants of Jesus Christ who have served in full-time occupational service with ministries of like faith and practice as BMM.

To keep the costs to the residents as low as possible, the staff at Missionary Acres are all supported by churches and individuals. We also rely on volunteers like you who donate time and money to help us at Missionary Acres. Your sacrifice allows the staff to meet the needs of the residents and maintain the beautiful property.





Setting a Date for Your Mission Trip

Ready to serve at Missionary Acres? That's great — we look forward to working with you!

Setting a date for your mission trip is an important step in the process. Here are some details to help you plan your trip.

Seasonal Overview

There's always work to be done at Missionary Acres, so think about what time suits you best.

Summer is a popular season for teen groups, though availability in July is often limited. Keep in mind that August brings high heat and humidity, which may restrict outdoor activities to the cooler morning hours.

For milder weather and stunning scenery, spring and fall are ideal times to experience the Acres' natural beauty. Winter offers a great option, with generally mild weather providing a comfortable and peaceful setting for work. However, there's always a chance of snow or ice, which means some work will be limited due to the weather.

Suggest Some Dates

You will be asked to provide at least a couple of dates for your trip to Missionary Acres. The staff will check those dates with the existing calendar and get back to you.

Next Steps

Once the date is fixed, we can begin taking steps to prepare for your visit.

Your contact information will be shared with our staff at Missionary Acres. Our Director (Bryan Tanner) will be informed of your commitment. He'll coordinate with our Guest Services Coordinator and Project Manager to ensure everything is ready for your arrival.

One Month Before Your Visit:

About a month before your arrival, our Director will touch base to answer any additional questions you may have. He'll be able to share with you some of the projects that need attention here at the Acres, so you have a better understanding of what to expect while you're here.

The Week of Your Arrival:

Our director will contact you about a week before you arrive to discuss your itinerary. We want to know your anticipated arrival time, so we can meet you at our front entrance.

General Information

The rest of this packet includes essential information to help you learn more about this unique ministry of Baptist Mid-Missions and understand more about the process and what to expect. You'll also find some policies and procedures that we have in place to keep the Acres a safe and welcoming environment for all.

Please take time to read through it carefully and let us know if you have any questions.

Lodging

We have limited guest accommodations for volunteers. Our Guest Relations Coordinator oversees the logistics and scheduling.

Each guest house includes:

- Fully equipped kitchens with a refrigerator, stove, sink, microwave, stocked dishes, silverware, etc.
- Beds complete with bedding
- Bathrooms stocked with towels
- Laundry facilities (The largest guest house features in-house laundry, while smaller accommodations share a centrally located washer and dryer.)

We aim to keep these guest houses welcoming for future volunteers. Please treat them with the same care as in your own home, and if you have any trouble, please let us know as soon as possible.

Note: Pets are not allowed in the guest spaces.

There is no charge for volunteer accommodations, but there is information available on how to donate to Missionary Acres to help defray the cost of electricity if you so choose.

If you have any special needs or requests, kindly inform us in advance so we can make the necessary arrangements to accommodate you.

RV Accommodations

Missionary Acres features three adjacent RV pads, each equipped with 50-amp and 15-amp electrical service, water, and sewer connections. Additionally, we offer an extra 50-amp service conveniently located next to one of the guest houses.

Meals

Meals are the responsibility of our guests. Larger groups are encouraged to use the fellowship hall and kitchen of Evangel Baptist Church on the property of the Acres. You may want to recruit some volunteers to prepare the food for your group.

Guests are responsible for purchasing their own groceries.

We suggest doing so in Farmington (approximately 1 hour north), Fredericktown (with a Walmart around 30 minutes north), or Poplar Bluff (with Walmart, Aldi, Kroger, and other grocery providers about 30 minutes south), depending on your travel direction to Missionary Acres.

There is also a small grocery store in Greenville (8 miles away) though it offers less variety and slightly higher prices.

Eating With Residents

Some groups enjoy inviting residents to join them for meals. Please remember, this is entirely optional, and there is no pressure to participate. This can be a wonderful opportunity to connect with the residents you'll be serving.

If you're interested in inviting residents for a shared meal, let us know, and we'll help with the arrangements.

Types of Volunteers

We desire that your time as volunteers at Missionary Acres is profitable and enjoyable for you. Understanding your group make-up and selecting a date will be some of the first things you will decide as a volunteer individual or group. We hope that the following will help you as you recruit and advertise for others to join you in this valuable mission trip.

1. Youth team with a few adults – Adult volunteers with your group will be helping to supervise the teens as they work and will also be their chaperons in the guest accommodations. Therefore, a good adult to teen ratio is necessary. Groups should strive for a ratio of 1 adult per every 4 teens that are brought with two adults being the minimum. For example, you could bring up to eight teen boys with two male adults, or four teen boys and four teen girls with one male and one female adult. Larger groups would continue to follow the 4:1 ratio. Bringing older and more mature teens with a healthy work ethic will help greatly as well.
2. Adult team with a few teens - This dynamic is quite different than the previous one. When there are more adults coming, we will ask if the adults have specific skills or desires for serving. Teens can be helpers to the adults in this scenario.
3. All adult group – If the group is bringing all men or a mixture of men and women, we will seek to accommodate projects that match the skill level of the group.
4. Mixture of adults, teens, and children – Guest housing can be a challenge if a number of families come and their desire is to have their own guest space. This can limit the number of volunteers that we can accommodate at one time. For safety reasons, children will need supervision from adults at all times and they should not be on construction sites.

Minors

Our child abuse prevention policy does not allow noncustodial adults to be alone with minors in our guest spaces or other private settings. Convicted sex offenders are not allowed to volunteer at Missionary Acres. Vetting and/or background checks should be made by the sponsoring local church.

Medical Releases

Groups bringing minors without their parents should have signed medical release forms with them in the event that anyone needs medical attention.

Drugs and Alcohol

Smoking, alcohol drinking, or illicit drug use is not allowed on the property.

Modesty

Personal appearance should reflect modesty, with one's habits, body care, attitudes, speech, and conduct glorifying Christ. Sleeveless t-shirts and inappropriate shorts are not allowed. Please bring work attire.

Chiggers, Ticks, and Other Outdoor Hazards

As with any location, Missionary Acres is home to various insects and pests.

If you'll be working outdoors, we recommend you bring the following:

- Closed toe shoes or rubber boots
- Long pants
- Insect repellent
- Sunscreen

You'll also want to check for ticks after spending time outdoors so you can remove them promptly.

Severe Weather

Occasionally, extreme weather can visit southeast Missouri. It is always a good idea to be prepared for potential hazards. In the event of severe weather, volunteers should take shelter in designated areas and follow instructions from Missionary Acres staff members.

It's important to stay calm and follow safety protocols to ensure everyone's well-being.

Use of Missionary Acres Equipment

Work that is performed by volunteers is under the supervision of Missionary Acres staff.

Volunteers are not allowed to operate tractors or other large equipment without special permission. A John Deere gator is often available to groups for assisting in shuttling people around the property. These vehicles are only operated by adult licensed drivers.

Quiet Hours/Noise

Missionary Acres is a retirement village, so we kindly ask you to be mindful of your neighbors by respecting quiet times in the evenings and early mornings.

Visiting the Local Area

Many volunteer groups like to plan one day or afternoon during their stay to see the sights near the Acres. If you'd like additional information on what's nearby, please let us know.

Volunteer Information Form

To begin the process of securing a volunteer reservation at Missionary Acres, please fill out the following form and return it to both ronh@missionaryacres.com and maoffice@missionaryacres.com. Thank you for your desire to serve the Lord by serving as a volunteer at Missionary Acres. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Primary Contact:	Name:	
	Phone:	
	Email:	

Affiliated Church:	Church Name:	
	Pastor:	
	City, State	
	Phone:	
	Email:	

Understanding the composition of your team will help us plan your visit to Missionary Acres more effectively. This information can be updated at any time if needed.

Type of Volunteer Group: Please select one: <input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Group <input type="checkbox"/> Teen Group <input type="checkbox"/> Mixture	Number of People Coming:	Men:
		Women:
		Teen Boys:
		Teen Girls:
		Other Children:

Please list the preferred dates that you would like to volunteer at Missionary Acres.

Example: June 16-21, 2026

Preferred Dates:
Option 1:
Option 2:
Option 3:

Some groups enjoy inviting residents to join them for meals. Please remember, this is entirely optional, and there is no pressure to participate. This can be a wonderful opportunity to connect with the residents you'll be serving. Would you like the staff to organize this for you? If you choose to participate, the staff will coordinate with you to make the necessary arrangements.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes Please <input type="checkbox"/> No, Thank You
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Missionary Acres is a Ministry of Baptist Mid-Missions

