

# ONC Tree of Life Mission Trip 2013

- Meredith Piela

Over the upcoming April vacation, the Old North Church High School Youth Group will be embarking on a mission trip to the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota. We will be spending a week at the Tree of Life Mission working to strengthen sovereignty, economy, culture and history, and fix up the area, since it is the second poorest area in the country. As a group, we have done numerous fundraisers in the past few months for the trip, which have given us the opportunity to bond and work as a team. This trip will allow us to develop a better understanding of the Native American culture, and it will make us appreciate what we have. This is the first time the youth group has ever been to South Dakota for a mission trip, and we hope to make it a huge success. In previous years, the youth group has gone to North Carolina to volunteer in the Habitat for Humanity organization for their mission trip, and last year they went to New York City to help the homeless. Hopefully when we come back, we will have developed a better understanding of the Native American culture, become more appreciative, and be a closer group. The Tree of Life is a great organization, and we are so lucky that we get to volunteer there.

If you are interested in the Tree of Life Ministry, you can visit their website:

[www.treeofliferelief.org](http://www.treeofliferelief.org).

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