

**Wisconsin Conference UMC**  
**Volunteers in Mission (VIM)**  
**National Committee**

**Mission Statement: Servants of Christ, Serving our Christ!**

WELCOME 1ST TIMERS!

**HISTORY**

In the beginning only youth were active in WI Volunteers in Mission as Virginia Baillie served as statewide VIM coordinator. An adult work camp, suggested by Tom Morgan, went to Clio, SC in February 1987 to remodel a self-help center; 27 people participated. The Conference National VIM Committee meets three times a year to determine policy and plan trips. Vince Ramsden became VIM coordinator in the fall of 1991 and served until 2000; he still serves as Travel Coordinator. Since then the VIM Committee chairs have been: Bill Breneman, 2000-2004, Wendell Williams, 2004-2008, and Bruce Koch, 2008- present.

**FLEXIBILITY**

"Be flexible" is the motto when on a work camp. These are WORK CAMPS, not necessarily a 5 star vacation. Work camp sites change, work projects change, meal times change, lists of participants change.

**LEADERS**

Leaders are trusted servants and also volunteers. If you have a concern, please talk to them. Plans are made with the group project/travel in mind and not to individuals' desires.

**BUS TRIPS**

If possible, please car pool to Sun Prairie or other designated points of departure. Please read and reread the leader's letter carefully before calling with questions. BE ON TIME; the bus has left without those who were not. In Sun Prairie at the Conference Center, please park your vehicle on the PERIMETER of the parking lot, leaving the middle free for snow plowing in the winter, Conference parking, etc. Signup sheets for work assignments and crews are generally circulated on the bus. Follow the leader's directions; know that things may change upon arrival at the work camp.

**PRAYER PARTNERS/DEVOTIONS**

On the first evening at the camp destination the names of all participants will be placed in a container and each person will draw a name (if you draw your own name, return it to the container). The name you draw is the special person you are to pray for during the work camp. Try to get to know your prayer partner without revealing the fact that you are praying for them during the week. Prayer partners will be revealed during the communion service on the last evening at the work camp. If you choose, you may make a "love gift" using only material found at the work camp; nothing is expected to be purchased for your prayer partner. For examples of "love gifts," ask the leaders or an experienced VIMer.

Giving a devotion of five to ten minutes in the morning or evening is optional. A signup sheet will be provided at the beginning of the work camp. Devotions may consist of scripture or other readings, personal testimony, prayers, and songs. Each one of us has something unique to offer; no devotion is "better than" another.

**FIRST DAY OF WORK AT THE CAMP**

Some are more chaotic than others. Be patient; there'll be a job for you. It's less chaotic if everyone is working at the same site. In cases of disaster relief or several different work sites, transportation, tools, and materials take time to arrange.

**WORK PROJECTS**

Every level of skill is welcome. If you have a high level of skill in something, please be patient with those who don't. If your skill level is not high, this is an opportunity to learn a new skill or improve an existing one. Do not pace yourself by what someone else is doing. We are working for God's glory, not our own. NO JOB IS UNIMPORTANT!

**ENJOY**

Enjoy this experience with other Christians. We're glad you chose to participate.