

APPLICATION

Urban Plunge, Spring Break 2012

Saturday, March 17 – Wednesday, March 21
(ending around 12:30 p.m. on the 21st)

**** Applications due by 5 p.m., Friday, February 17****
Turn in at John Perkins Center, 2nd floor SUB

Cost: \$25 (non-refundable *upon acceptance*; scholarships are available)

Please Note!

The number of participants is limited. The following will be taken into consideration:

1. A minimum of 4 males must be accepted due to the nature of this event.
2. Seniority and 2nd time applicants.
3. Review of your application.
4. Ability to commit to **all** pre & post-plunge activities*:
 - One hour of observation downtown or one hour of community service with your arranged group before Plunge (more info to come at first meeting)
 - Meeting #1 on Thursday, March 1 at 7:30 pm
 - Meeting #2 on Thursday, March 8 at 7:30 pm
 - Meeting #3 on Friday, March 16 at 7:30 pm
 - 2-3 post-Plunge meetings, TBA

** times subject to change if major conflicts arise*

Name: Are you (circle one): male female

Phone: Mailstop/Address:

E-mail (please print clearly):

Age: Year in school:

Parent/Guardian name(s):

Address:

Phone:

Person to contact in case of an emergency (other than parents/guardian):

Relationship:

Day Phone:

Home Phone:

What is Urban Plunge?

Urban Plunge is a five-day intensive exposure experience on the streets of downtown Seattle. The purpose is to enable participants to learn about a variety of issues surrounding Seattle's homeless' cultures. Put into small groups of three to four, participants spend the day and evening exploring the streets, missions, shops, and ways in which people operate on a daily basis in downtown Seattle. As the experience unfolds, names and faces will replace labels, discrimination will be experienced, and God's grace will become evident in new ways.

Urban Plunge participants will experience for themselves the tremendous contrasts between the rich and the poor, the powerful and the powerless, the lawbreakers and the lawmakers. They will have the opportunity to experience and critique several forms of Christian response to many of these issues.

Nights are spent in a downtown church, where discussions will be held on different topics and time will be provided for journaling, prayer, and guided reflection.

Participants are allowed only one set of clothes. You will be more fully informed about appropriate clothing choices at the pre-Plunge meetings. Each person will be given 3 bus passes and \$2.50 for the entire experience. This money can be spent on food, transportation, or anything else you might want.

While Urban Plunge puts people in unfamiliar and often potentially dangerous situations, traveling in teams and meeting at checkpoints throughout the day safeguards the experience. Also, most of the traveling and city exploration occurs during the day, when many people are out.

With careful planning and well-informed, prepared participants, Urban Plunge can be a very enlightening and even life-changing experience. Please take time before Urban Plunge begins to reflect and prepare to enter a new culture.

The cost for Urban Plunge is \$25, which will cover debriefing and transportation costs, but the majority of the money will be reimbursement costs to ministries. The fee will not be collected until participants are notified and confirmed.

Upon returning, there will be mandatory debriefing meetings as well as on-going training opportunities the quarter following Plunge with readings, discussions, and visits to and from Seattle-area organizations.

If you have any questions, contact Scott Jackson, Urban Plunge Coordinator,
at 206-330-9380 or jacksons1@spu.edu

Keep this page for future reference.

Urban Plunge Application Questions

Please answer the following questions **briefly on a separate sheet of paper** and turn in along with the first page and the signed contract.

1. What are you hoping to gain from the Urban Plunge experience? How do you think you might be changed?
2. What do you anticipate will be the most challenging aspect of Plunge?
3. What are your thoughts about the causes of poverty and homelessness?
4. Describe an encounter when you were confronted with someone from a different culture or lifestyle. What was your response?
5. How do you envision the homeless population of Seattle? Do you hold any stereotypes about the homeless community? How do you think these stereotypes might be challenged on Plunge?
6. Please rank the following in order of personal importance in what you hope to gain or experience during Plunge. If none of the below, please explain.
 - ___ An understanding of the non-profits and services offered to the homeless community.
 - ___ An extreme confrontation with the stereotypes of mainstream society by breaking social norms.
 - ___ Hearing life stories with homeless individuals.
 - ___ A new vision of God and how He works in the city.
7. Have you ever applied for Urban Plunge before? If so, when?
8. We do not want money to be a hindrance to anyone's participation in this experience. Do you need a full or partial scholarship to participate in Urban Plunge? (total cost is \$25)

Urban Plunge Contract

Please read the following, then sign below for agreement:

“I understand that Urban Plunge is a full 5-day experience (Saturday, March 17 – Wednesday, March 21).

If accepted, I will participate for the full duration, and will abide by the guidelines as presented, for the safety of myself and all others involved. I understand that whenever one is involved in an urban setting, there are risks, and I accept responsibility for my own safety and well-being.

If accepted, I will attend the pre-Plunge meetings and meet given requirements.

If accepted, I will attend the post-Plunge meetings.”

Name (please print) _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____