

SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH TO HOST BENEFIT CONCERT FOR FORT COLLINS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY AND BIKE & BUILD

Young Cyclists Roll through Fort Collins, CO to Assist with Affordable Housing Efforts

Fort Collins, CO, (July 15th, 2009) – Thirty-four young adults with Bike & Build Inc., a national non-profit committed to affordable housing, will ride into Fort Collins to volunteer at the job site and hold a benefit Outdoor Bluegrass and Folk Festival, in partnership with St. Paul's Episcopal Church on Thursday, July 16th from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Proceeds from the event will benefit Fort Collins Habitat for Humanity and the Bike & Build program.

Fort Collins is just one stop on their journey from Providence, RI to San Francisco, CA in order to raise money and awareness for affordable housing causes across the country.

The Outdoor Bluegrass and Folk Festival will be **held at St. Paul's Episcopal at 1208 W. Elizabeth**. The event will feature a variety of Bluegrass, Folk and original music from local Colorado artists, including headliner, **The Hartman Family Band**. Other acts include **The Hydes, Natalie Tate, and Laura Goldhamer with Griff Snyder**.

A donation of **\$5 per person** is suggested.

During the event, The Bike & Build group will offer a bike clinic and provide additional information about their organization. Food and beverage will also be available for sale, with a portion of sales to benefit the organizations.

“We are deeply proud that Bike & Build has 250 riders this year who are so committed to the affordable housing cause that they are willing to raise much-needed funds and spend two months of their summer biking across this amazing country,” said Bike & Build Executive Director Rosemary DiRita. “Bike & Build provides the opportunity; it is the riders who make the impact on housing issues through our cycling trips.”

B&B distributes funds for affordable housing projects in three ways. It donates to housing groups in the communities visited, awards grants through a competitive selection process to affordable housing projects around the country run by young adults, and gives much of the money to Habitat for Humanity chapters building houses in the cities where B&B routes begin.

The Providence to San Francisco group will be hosted by Saint Paul's Episcopal Church from July 15th - 17th. To follow the group's progress across the country and to see pictures and read blogs from the cyclists, visit: <http://bikeandbuild.org/rider/route.php?route=P2SF&year=2009>

The group will be traveling for more than 10 weeks and will help to build affordable housing in nine locations, including Lawrence, Kansas, Fort Collins, Colorado, and Moab, Utah. In order

to participate in the trip, each rider raised at least \$4,000 to help fund the trip costs and affordable housing efforts nationwide.

Bike & Build offers eight cross-country biking trips each summer. The 18 to 25 year old riders see and experience first-hand the affordable housing need in this country. They stop in towns along their route and participate in construction efforts at affordable housing sites that are in progress. The riders also meet with local officials and community members to discuss affordable housing issues.

About Bike & Build

Based in Philadelphia, Bike & Build is a non-profit organization that encourages young adults to address the country's affordable housing crisis through organizing bicycle trips. Trip participants support the affordable housing cause by fundraising and building efforts. Since 2003, Bike & Build has motivated over 750 young adult volunteers and contributed over \$1.6 million to housing groups such as Habitat for Humanity and Rebuilding Together to fund projects in the United States. For more information, visit www.bikeandbuild.org or call (267) 331-8488.

About Fort Collins Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit Christian organization that empowers low-income families by partnering with them to build affordable housing. Habitat does not give the houses away, but rather sells them to families in need through no-profit loans. Qualified families also contribute hundreds of sweat equity hours in the building of their home alongside hundreds of community volunteers who give of their time and talents. Since its inception in 1993, Fort Collins Habitat for Humanity has constructed 42 homes in the Fort Collins community. Visit us at www.fortcollinshabitat.org to learn more.

About St. Paul's Episcopal Church

St. Paul's Episcopal Church is a parish that celebrates our diversity of belief: a Christ-centered parish which welcomes all cultures, races, lifestyles, sexual orientations, ages, and genders. We join together in proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a worshipping community through sacraments, prayers, teaching, fellowship, and outreach. Our worship services are Sunday mornings at 7:30 and 10 AM. For more information visit us at www.stpauls-fc.org or call (970) 482-2668

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