Youth Choir Mission Tour 2026:
THE GATEWAY TOUR
SUNDAY, JUNE 14 - 21, 2026

TRIP DETAILS: This year, Youth Choir Mission Tour embarks on an exciting 4-and-a-half-day-long travel tour to St. Louis, Missouri on what we are calling: "The Gateway Tour." Over the course of the week, beginning and ending with a sending and closing home concert on each book-ended Sunday here in Roswell, our students will be traveling to St. Louis for a 4 and a half day long out-of-state tour to serve with our hearts, minds, souls, and hands 'under the Arch' at the Gateway to the West! While on tour, we'll have the opportunity to offer worship concerts at churches and local area ministries, see and experience fun historical, cultural, and play sites (including Six Flags), and engage in needed, supportive, hands-on mission work in local communities along the way. This promises to be an unforgettable worship-filled and missional experience for your students to take part in. We need all hands on deck as we gaze west under the Arch!

DATES & DAILY PREVIEW: Sunday, June 14 - 21, 2026

(Tentative Schedule)

- **Sunday, June 14:** We begin Mission Tour with a "Send-Off" Concert here in Roswell at Vickery Rose Retirement Village at 4pm (with a call time for your sudents of 2pm). This concert will conclude at 5pm, being sure your student is rested, packed and ready for departure on Tuesday afternoon.
- **Monday, June 15:** *no planned activities.*
- **Tuesday, June 16:** On Tuesday, we'll meet at 12:00pm to check-in and pack the bus. We leave from First Baptist Roswell at 1:00pm and head towards Mt. Vernon, Illinois for an over night stop on our way into St. Louis.
- **Wednesday, June 17 - Friday, June 19th:** On Wednesday morning, we'll arrive in St. Louis and begin our "in town" activities! We'll stay in St. Louis for 2 nights at the same local area hotel.
- **Friday, June 19:** On Friday morning, we'll wrap up our last day in St. Louis, and that evening, we'll head for Mt. Vernon, Illinois again for an overnight stay on our way home.
- **Saturday, June 20:** On Saturday, we'll depart for Atlanta and will be arriving back on FBR's Campus around dinnertime between 5-6 p.m. (pending travel logistics). *Before students are dismissed, we'll all help set-up the Sanctuary for Sunday morning's home concert.* Your students will get to rest up at home for their final concert on Sunday morning (and will get to wash their tour outfit clothes).
- **Sunday, June 21:** Sunday morning, your students will meet, (having been rested, washed, and lovingly fed at home) at 9:45a for a warm-up and rehearsal before leading in worship for their "Home Concert" at 11a. Following the end of the worship service, "that's all folks!" - allowing

plenty of time to celebrate the Dad's and father figures in your family's life (Happy Father's Day)!

REQUIRED PARTICIPATION: Because of the time, energy, effort, and resources needed to embark on this trip, by participating in Mission Tour, your student(s) are agreeing and committing to being active participants in ALL Mission Tour Activities, both here at home, and 'on the road,' including any "bonus" Mission Tour rehearsals, parent and/or student meetings, the "Send-off Concert," and the "Home Concert." The "Send-off Concert" and the "Home Concert" is *mandatory* and must be attended by all participants.

COST: The tour cost is **$375.00** and includes lodging, transportation, ALL activities, and meals. A portion of your student's "tour cost" will be refunded back to them in increments throughout the tour at each meal for food. A set amount of this money will be given to your student at each meal to ensure they have an appropriate amount of money to use on a good meal! Souvenirs and extra spending money are NOT included. **$100 deposit secures your spot DUE by Sunday, May 24th.** *The remaining balance is DUE Sunday, June 14th!*

- *If the cost of this trip is an issue in any way for you, your student, or your family, please talk directly to me about a scholarship opportunity. We want and need your student to go! Please, do not let money be an issue for hindrance for you or them!*

ATTIRE: Your student(s) will need their concert attire we usually wear in worship. Your student will be also provided with 2 t-shirts for tour (2 for group activities); these will be laundered while we are on tour. Attire on tour will be causal, but appropriate as we are ambassadors for Christ and respect representatives of First Baptist Roswell. Closed toed shoes are required for them at our mission project sites.

HOTELS & ROOMING: Your students will be rooming together with each other in Hotel Rooms each night on Tour, a rooming assignment will be given to them on tour (3 and 4 students to a room) . Each of the three hotels has been vetted and is safe and secure for us to stay in. Students will have "quiet hours" and a "required" lights out time while on tour to ensure appropriate sleep and rest that will be needed for our trip. Each night on tour, at "lights out" your students will be secured in their rooms with Chaperones located in next-door rooms throughout the hall.

TRAVEL: Our tour this year entails 2 modes of transportation. Individual Parent/Student transportation while here in Roswell, and a charter bus coach while on the road to, in, and from St. Louis.

- For our "Send-off" Concert and "Home Concert" here in Roswell, and drop-off and pick-up from FBR's campus on Monday and Friday, your student will be responsible for transportation by themselves or from parent to and from these "in-town" events.
- We will be traveling together on 1 large charter bus coach, driven by a professional driver from a vetted bus company, as we have in years past. The same bus will pick us up at First Baptist and drive us to St. Louis, be with us in St. Louis, and bring us back home to Roswell.

CHAPERONES: As of now, our adult chaperones this year will be David Warren, Keith Phillips, Logan Carpenter, and Katie Warren. More details to come!

REGISTER TODAY! An initial deposit of $100 secures your student(s)'s spot. Please complete registration by: **SUNDAY, May 24, 2026.** Use this link to register for Tour: https://fbroswell.elvanto.net/form/a2c49078-54dc-41f1-9021-795f19b0890d/

(PRE-TRIP) PARENTS & STUDENTS MEETING: Final form submission, guidebook review, and a Q&A time for parents and students will be held on: **Sunday, May 31st at 5:00pm** *in the Choir Room at FBR.*

A more in-depth and complete detailed guide for Mission Tour, "The Guidebook," will be published both in print and digitally as we near closer to Tour and as participants and plans are finalized. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, ***PLEASE*** do not hestitate to let me know. I am happy to help as best we can.

Thank you for your entrusting me, our chaperones, and our church with your students. This is a sacred committment we do not take likely. I am BEYOND excited for Mission Tour this year, and for the ways God will work in and through the lives of our students. I am grateful for each of your students and for your support as parents of the particitpation, dedication to, and minstry through Youth Choir.

Grateful in Christ,

Rev. David Warren
Minister of Music & Worship, First Baptist Roswell