

Service of Commissioning for ASP Volunteers



Summer 2025

Leader: Today we commission those who have been called to serve with Appalachia Service Project. ASP's theme verse for this year comes from the book of Matthew, in which we find careful instruction for how to glorify God through good works that produce the beauty and comfort of light to those around us. Hear these words from the Sermon on the Mount: "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Leader: Will you accept this commission and live it to the best of your abilities as you strive to Be the Light?

Volunteers: We will.

Leader: As you serve, will you seek to grow in love for God and neighbor, and promise to support each other and the staff of Appalachia Service Project so that we may together be people who are salt and light?

Volunteers: We will.

Leader: As you travel, will you live in the promise of the Good News and share the love of Christ with all people?

Volunteers: We will.

Leader: People of God, will you support these persons who God has called to serve with Appalachia Service Project? Will you pray for them, encourage them, and send them as ambassadors of Christ and representatives of this congregation/community?

Congregation/Community: We will.

Leader: Let us pray. God of light and love, we pray for safety as this team travels, for courage as they try new things and overcome fears, and for excitement as they learn more about you and your children in Appalachia. Help them to accept all people right where they are just the way they are, and to embrace all people as neighbors. Bless them with servant hearts so they may be lights to each other and to everyone they meet. In the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, amen.

Leader: May God bless you, protect you, strengthen you, and fill you with compassion as you serve in _____ County. May you be a light to everyone around you, so that they may see your good works and praise God.