

Youth Mission Trip

Summer 2009

Overview

This year the youth group will be trying something new. We will be embarking upon a SUMMER MISSION TRIP to Florida. The mission site is located at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida. The mission project is with the migrant farm communities in Tampa, Florida. More information about the work is attached. We will be traveling with a Youth Mission Company called Team Effort. The Tampa/St. Petersburg location is the location that this company began their work and the one with the most youth in attendance. There is on average anywhere from 150-200 youth engaged in Mission each week.

What event are we going to? We'll be attending a mission project with Team Effort. You can expect worship, music, concerts, small groups, Bible Study, youth group time and a meaningful week of service!

When is the trip? July 5-11 Details of departure will follow

How much does it cost? Our philosophy has always been that the summer experiences are more important than the money it costs, and we don't want any teenager to be prevented from going on the trip for financial reasons. Each family is asked to pay a minimum of \$50 as an application fee for their youth person and all are encouraged to put money towards the mission trip if possible.

There will be Fundraising opportunities and ALL youth are encouraged to participate in Fundraising.

Is youth group attendance required to go on the trip? The church believes the trip is an important experience in the spiritual growth of the teenagers, individually and as a group.

In the past, we have not required attendance at a specific number of events to be invited on the trip; however, we continue to strongly encourage youth (and chaperones) to attend as many youth events as possible prior to July. The better we all know each other before we leave, the more time we can spend on spiritual development when we get there!

What about donations and fundraisers?

Donations to the trip fund (by parents, youth, and others) are still acceptable, and the youth will conduct fundraisers as usual.

Bake Sales: This year's bake sales have been a great success, but we still have one more on June 25.

Songs for Sale: Last year's Songs for Sale event was a huge success. We'll have another one this year on June 18.

Other Fundraising: Be on the lookout for other opportunities to take part in fundraising (e.g. yard work)!

We encourage everyone to participate in these events. They are important to help cover the cost of the trip, but they are also important as team-building times. It's as important to invest our energy as it is our dollars.

What time do I have to get up?

Your adult leaders expect you to be responsible about getting ready on time. Don't plan on long showers. We will be glad to give you one wake-up call; after that, it's up to you and your roommates to get up and get to breakfast on time. Oh, and if you're late for breakfast, you may have to do the chicken dance!

How late can we stay up?

We will be following the recommended guidelines of the Team Effort Staff.

Rules & Responsibilities

1. Prepare for God to touch you. Pray about the trip before we leave and while we're there.
2. Pray for the others going on the trip. Look for ways to make it meaningful for them.
3. Treat each other, the adult chaperones, the other attendees, and the Team Effort Staff with utmost respect. Be prepared to represent Wells Church by loving, caring, and sharing. Here are some ways to show that respect:
 - Always be on time – for departure, meals, evening curfew, and meetings.
 - Always speak kindly to each other. (We don't say "Shut up" or call anyone "stupid.")
 - Always let an adult know generally where you are going or how we can find you. And make sure you are there if we need to find you.
 - Be a good roommate. You will be sharing rooms and bathrooms. Be respectful of each other's space and privacy.
 - Pitch in. Don't wait for someone to ask you for help – volunteer! Your help will be required in meal preparations and clean up. Your help will be much appreciated at all other times.
 - Be a friend. If you're a veteran, be aware of the other first-timers. Make them feel welcome and included.
 - Treat the College and grounds with respect. Put trash where it belongs and be careful to leave things the way you found them.
 - Watch where you walk. Stay out of the street, and give way to others on the sidewalk.
 - And remember that you represent Wells Church. Behave like the responsible, bright, intelligent young men and women that you are.
4. Abstain from inappropriate behavior. . . including (but not limited to) partaking of illegal or controlled substances, breaking house or campus rules, or behaving in an unacceptable manner. You know what that means.
NOTE: The adult leaders reserve the right to take corrective action if a participant cannot adhere to the rules set forth above, up to and including sending a teenager home, if necessary.

How to Contact Us/Phone Tree

- Parents can call Michelle if needed (601) 331-0476.
- Phone Tree will be in use.
- We will contact the church (by phone or email) to let you all know how we're doing.
- If you don't hear from your child, don't worry - it means everything is fine!
Messages are not easy for us to return (we often don't get them until late at night!).

What do I pack?

- Casual clothes – shorts, jeans, t-shirts, sneakers, etc. (Please dress modestly.) We don't have access to laundry facilities.**
- Toiletries – shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothbrush, etc.**
- Beach clothes – swimsuits, clothes that don't hold water, beach towel, and shoes that can get wet. You may also want a backpack or extra bag for wet clothes afterwards.**
- Bible, notebook, pen.**
- Spending money (optional) for T-shirts, CDs, YSF fundraising, etc. Meals, some snacks, and for meals on the off day.**
- Jacket/sweater for cold nights.**
- Pillow and blanket for the bus! The bus can be VERY COLD at night (and warm during the day).**
- Videos for the bus (appropriate for ages 11 and up); headphones, if you plan on listening to your own music.**
- Recreational equipment - tennis racket, beach towel, camera & film, etc.**
- Your very best and most respectful attitude.**

What Not to Pack

You already know this, but just as a reminder . . . DON'T BRING:

- Inappropriate games, music, or clothing – if you're in doubt, leave it at home!**
- Controlled/illegal substances, or other mood-altering substances (tobacco products, energy drinks, caffeine pills, etc.).**
- Anything you can't keep up with on your own (your adult leaders cannot be responsible for money or expensive equipment).**
- A bad attitude, or one that excludes or ridicules other people.**
- No bubble paint for clothing or nail polish. We've had to buy some carpet because of past spills. Paint your nails or clothes before you get on the bus, and let it go after that!**

Health Form

Wells Memorial United Methodist Church 601-353-0658

2019 Bailey Avenue

Jackson MS 39213

Trip Leader: Michelle Shrader

I give my consent for the youth group counselors, the Team Effort staff, and/or qualified medical personnel to act on my behalf in securing and administering necessary emergency medical care and treatment for:

Full legal name of child: _____

Child's Social Security Number: _____

Child's Date of Birth: _____

Name of Parent/Legal Guardian: _____

SSN of Parent/Legal Guardian: _____

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian: _____

Relationship: _____

Address: _____

Day/Evening Phone(s): _____

Cell Phone: _____

Medical Information of Child

Allergies: _____

Date of last Tetanus or DPT: _____

Any medications being taken: _____

Other information: _____

Insurance Information

Name of Insurance Company: _____

Policy/Group Number: _____

Address of Company _____

Name of Parent/Guardian Employer _____

Permission

I/we, the undersigned parents of _____,
agree to his/her participation in the Wells Church Youth Group trip to Tampa,
Florida to serve in mission with Team Effort.

I/we understand that this trip may include side excursions off the grounds of
the conference center, including a whitewater rafting expedition (accompanied by a
professional guide or guides).

I/we will not hold Wells Memorial United Methodist Church, the
chaperones, or the staff of the United Methodist Conference Center personally
liable in the event of an accident.

Child's full legal name: _____

Printed name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Date: _____

Youth Covenant

To help make this week enjoyable and meaningful to myself and others, I agree to:

- Treat all other people as I would like to be treated—with respect, courtesy, and honesty
- Follow the schedule, be where I am supposed to be (when I am supposed to be there) and participate in all sessions.
- Be respectful of my companions, the chaperones, the retreat leaders, fellow retreaters, and the residents of the assembly grounds.
- Refrain from behaviors/habits that are not appropriate for young Christian men and women (such inappropriate behavior included the use of any tobacco products or any other illegal substances).

Printed Name of Youth _____

Signature of Youth _____

Witnessed by Parent or Guardian _____

Parent Covenant

I/we have read and agree to the above covenant signed by our child, and agree to support non-corporal disciplinary action(s) taken by the chaperones in the event the covenant is broken.

Printed name: _____

Signature: _____

TEAMeffort

Permission Slip & Release of Liability

CAMP LOCATION

CAMP DATE

CHURCH NAME

CHURCH ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

I, (please print) _____ acknowledge that I have volunteered to participate in construction and other activities at TEAMeffort, Inc. I understand that these activities are not conducted in the course of trade or commerce, and do not involve the lease or sale of goods or services.

I am aware that I am voluntarily participating in these activities of construction, which include, but are not limited to, the construction of homes, loading and unloading materials, painting, framing, finishing, transporting to and from building sites, and other related activities, with the knowledge of the danger involved. I hereby agree to accept any and all risk of injury and verify this statement by placing my signature below.

I hereby agree that I, my assignees, heirs, distributees, guardians, and legal representatives will not make a claim against, sue, or attach the property of TEAMeffort, Inc., its directors, officers, agents, employees, volunteers, suppliers, or contractors. This release is intended to be broad in its effect.

I authorize a church representative and/or TEAMeffort staff member to obtain medical treatment for my child in the event of injury or illness and agree to pay any expenses incurred for treatment.

PARTICIPANT NAME

D.O.B.

ADDRESS

CONTACT PHONE

INSURANCE CARRIER

POLICY NUMBER

ALLERGIES

DATE OF LAST TETANUS SHOT

MEDICAL INFORMATION

SIGNATURE OF PARTICIPANT

DATE

SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN (IF PARTICIPANT IS YOUNGER THAN 18)

DATE

THIS DOCUMENT NEEDS TO BE NOTARIZED

NOTARY: