

YOUTH MISSION TRIP REQUIREMENTS

Mission Trip Options

Stage 1 Mission Trip

This trip is for first time participants with no prior mission experience and other youth who do not meet the Stage 2 requirements or choose not to transfer to the next level in the Wyoming Church Youth Mission Trip Program. The candidate must have completed 8th grade by the trip date and be 14 years of age. The purpose of this trip is to introduce the youth to the world of missions and enhance their spiritual growth. The location of the trip will be within a few hours of home. The cost of this type of trip will be relatively modest and the duration of the trip will be 5-7 days. Participation in this type of trip with the Wyoming Church Family will be required for participation in any more advanced trips.

Stage 2 Mission Trip

This trip is for older youth who have at a minimum completed their Junior year in High School. They will have had at least 2 years of prior mission trip experience with Wyoming United Methodist Church (exceptions will be at the discretion of the leaders). These youth will have demonstrated the ability to submit to those in authority and to live, serve and work well as a member of a mission team. This trip may be to a more distant place such as an Indian reservation in the Mid West or possibly an international trip.

Pre-requisites/Requirements for participation in a youth mission trip

These pre-requisites pertain to all mission team participants, youth and adults included.

Stage 1

- The candidate will be a Christian youth.
- The candidate will be intentionally seeking to make Jesus Christ Lord of their life and will demonstrate this by their words and actions.
- The candidate will demonstrate a seriousness regarding their commitment to mission work and serving as a member of a mission team.
- The candidate will regularly attend Wyoming United Methodist Sunday Worship Services.
- The candidate will regularly attend a Wyoming United Methodist Church Bible Study group and/or Wyoming United Methodist Church Sunday School.
- The individual will participate in fundraisers for the mission trip.(for further details refer to Requirements/Obligations/Fees)
- The candidate will participate in local service projects sponsored by the mission trip team. (for further details refer to Requirements/Obligations/Fees)
- The candidate must have completed 8th grade by the trip date and be 14 years of age.
- Final approval of the candidate for participation in the mission trip program will be determined by the leaders of the trip who may seek advice and guidance from other adult leaders as the program leader deems necessary.

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Stage 2

All of the above as well as:

- The candidate will boldly confess in a public setting (such as during a worship service) that Jesus Christ is Lord of their life and will demonstrate this by their actions.
- The candidate has demonstrated Christian leadership skills within their group of peers.
- The candidate will have had at least two years of prior mission trip experience. (Exceptions will be considered by the Program Coordinator, Trip Leader and pastor based on the youth's dedication and seriousness regarding their relationship and service to Jesus Christ.)
- The candidate will have at minimum completed his/her Junior year in High School and at maximum will have just graduated high school
- Final approval of the candidate for participation in the mission trip program will be determined by the leaders of the trip who may seek advice and guidance from other adult leaders as the program leader deems necessary.

Additional Requirements/Obligations/Fees

When a young person decides to participate in this program, he/she is making a long term commitment to Jesus Christ, himself/herself and the other members of the team. The team will meet many times from January to the trip date. These meetings may be for instruction, team building, fundraisers and/or local service projects. Additionally, there are fundraisers throughout the calendar year which interested candidates are expected to participate in if they anticipate going on the trip the following summer.

Team formation (which includes meetings, fundraisers and service projects) is essential to teach and prepare all team members (adults and youth alike) to become competent and effective messengers for Christ to take His message to the world.

- Meetings: Trip participants are expected to attend all meetings. Important and necessary information is given at these meetings. (Circumstances requiring that a person must miss a meeting are to be presented to the trip leader, preferably prior to the meeting.)
- Fundraisers: In order to promote "fundraising integrity" our fundraisers will not involve third party profit. All Mission Trip Team members (including adults) will be expected to participate in ALL fundraisers.
- Local Service Projects: Our service projects are intended as a gift to God and the recipient, and we choose not to benefit from them in any material way. Opportunities to serve in local service projects will be offered throughout the year. Participation in a minimum of 3 Wyoming United Methodist Church sponsored local service projects is required. Any additional participation is applauded.
- The financial obligation to the sponsoring organization is due to be paid well in advance of the actual trip date. If a team member drops off the team after the final payment has been made he/she will be responsible to reimburse the church for the full amount that was paid for their spot on the trip. (This is barring catastrophic circumstances.) The empty spots will not be filled with last minute participants, even if someone comes forward, as this defeats the purpose of the efforts put forth to develop the team as a cohesive unit in the months prior to the trip.

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Team Formation

- Throughout the calendar year there will be multiple activities which will include team formation meetings, fundraisers and service projects. All team members are expected to actively participate in these activities.
- Mandatory team formation meetings - There will be monthly meetings beginning in January. A retreat weekend will occur in May. Then we will begin weekly meetings, approximately 6 weeks prior to the mission trip
- Fundraisers There will be approximately 4 fundraisers throughout the year. [Peach Festival-August), Take-out Chili Dinner sale (November), Christmas Cookie sale (December), Spaghetti Dinner (April). Other fundraisers may be considered.
- Local service projects – There will be approximately 6 local service projects over the course of the year.
- Following the trip there will be 2 other obligations for the participants.
- Thank you Services held on the 1st Sunday (whenever possible) following return of the team. All team members are expected to attend and participate.
- Follow up de-briefing – this meeting will take place about 2 weeks following return from the mission trip. All team members are strongly encouraged to attend. The adults will meet for about 30 minutes prior to the arrival of the youth. Once the youth arrive, discussion will be held among the group regarding their personal and corporate experiences and suggestions for future trips. Parental attendance and input will also be requested at this meeting.

For more information on how you can become involved in the program, contact the Church Office at 697-8400.