



VILLAGE CHURCH

YOUTH MISSIONS

**2018 YOUTH MISSIONS
INFORMATION PACKET**



2018 YOUTH MISSIONS PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

NEXT STEPS (Milwaukee, WI)

Open to students in grades 8-12
July 8-14, 2018

Personal Contribution: \$100 (Due on 1/21/18)

Minimum # of support letters to mail out: 15 (Due on 2/11/18)

Financial goal of support to be raised by letters: \$250

The city of Milwaukee is beautiful in its rich culture and diversity. Yet, many years after the battle against segregation, Milwaukee still shows signs of separation and racial oppression. This city has the highest teen pregnancy rates in the country, and the highest unemployment rates among African American males. Overall, it is the fourth poorest city in the country. In the midst of these statistics, there is an undeniable sense of potential. There is also an undeniable need for the love and hope of Christ. That is where the local church in Milwaukee, as well as many nonprofit organizations and ministries have stepped in.

Next Step Ministries has a heartbeat to do missions differently, connecting teams like ours with sustainable community-led initiatives they support on a year-round basis. The week will include meaningful work projects, powerful worship and learning experiences, and community development. Work projects may include: home additions/repair, drywall, siding, flooring, wheelchair ramps, and other construction type projects. Through partner organizations like Adullam Outreach (adullamoutreach.com) and local churches, we will also have opportunities to pour into the people and kids living in the areas we are serving.

CAMP BARNABAS, MO

Open to students in grades 8-12
July 6-13, 2018

Personal Contribution: \$100 (Due on 1/21/18)

Minimum # of support letters to mail out: 15 (Due on 2/11/18)

Financial goal of support to be raised by letters: \$250

Camp Barnabas is a unique ministry providing Christian camping experiences to people with special needs and chronic illnesses, along with their siblings. The program exists to offer life-changing experiences to campers and to the people who serve them. Over the past 22 years, Camp Barnabas has welcomed more than 75,000 campers and missionaries to camp. The camp is located in the Ozarks in southwestern Missouri.

Barnstormer:

Barnstormers work hard to help make camp happen. Duties include waiting tables at meal times, washing dishes, helping keep the kitchen clean, and cleaning bathrooms around camp. We have college staff that help lead them in these tasks as well as lead Bible studies and fun activities. Each Barnstormer is assigned to a cabin, where they will get to build relationships with campers and participate in daily activities with them.

Counselor:

These incredible individuals are placed with a camper to unconditionally love and accept their camper, care for all of their camper's needs and assist their camper in having the most awesome week of summer camp ever. To be an effective counselor, you must be willing to put aside your own personal desires and needs during your entire week of service. You must be willing to share God's word in any circumstance. The counselors live in the cabins with their campers and are responsible for assisting their campers in any way they need in order for the camper to have a successful and awesome week of camp.

NAVAJO NATION, NEW MEXICO

Open to students in grades 9-12
Dates: July 7-14 or 14-21
(Pending Camp Availability)

Personal Contribution: \$200 (Due on 1/21/18)

Minimum # of support letters to mail out: 25 (Due on 2/11/18)

Financial goal of support to be raised by letters: \$500

The Navajo Nation extends into Utah, Arizona and New Mexico, covering over 27,000 square miles and making it the largest reservation in the United States. Our team will partner with CFAN (Christ For All Nations) and local churches in the Navajo Nation Reservation in northwestern New Mexico. Together, the team will seek to share the love of Christ with the Navajo people. Navajos desperately need to hear this message, as they face daily the challenges of rampant unemployment, alcoholism, drug addiction, depression & suicide. Over the past years our teams have built a trust with the Navajo people, and we are excited to return once again to continue this powerful ministry.

Our team will participate in a wide variety of ministry throughout the week, seeking to reach people of all ages. These ministries include: Vacation Bible School, ministry to youth, sports ministry, compassion ministry, painting, construction, and repair projects. Our team will stay at the CFAN camp and travel to area churches (such as Dineh Baptist Church) each day to participate in this ministry.



APPLICATION PROCESS

(KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS)

Getting Started:

- Pray, pray, pray about your decision of serving the Lord through Youth Missions. Ask others to pray for you as well! Pray for guidance as you seek wisdom in which teams to apply for.
- Read the project description sheet to learn more about each team and to consider the projects you are eligible for based on your grade level.
- Thoroughly read through the Student Commitment sheet. Decide if you can commit to each of these. If you can't right now, consider any adjustments you may need to make so you can fulfill them.

Before Tuesday, November 28:

- Complete the Youth Mission Application and have your parents complete the parent reference form. Also have a Student Ministry Mentor complete the Mentor Reference Form. Give yourself plenty of time to complete the entire application by the deadline.
- Turn in your completed forms to 24/7, Salt & Light or the office by **November 28!** All students must turn in the following items to apply for a short term mission project:
 - Youth Mission Application (Section A-C)
 - Signed Student Commitment Form (Section D)
 - Parent Commitment Form (Section E)
 - Parent Reference Form (Section F)
 - Mentor Reference Form (Section G)

Important Information and Dates (Mark these on your calendar!):

It's extremely important that you attend all meetings and are part of the Youth Missions Fundraiser!

- Mid-December: we will send out letters of acceptance and inform students which team they will be serving on this summer.
- January 21, 4-6pm: January Meeting (parents attend, non-refundable personal donation due)
- March 2, 6:30-8pm: Youth Mission Fundraiser Set-up
- March 3, 3:30-9pm: Youth Mission Fundraiser
- Fri, Mar 16, 6pm to Sat, Mar 17, 6pm: Youth Missions Service Retreat at Camp Hickory (Ingleside, IL) - this is a new location this year (drop off and pick up will be at the camp)
- April 22, 12-2:30pm: April Meeting
- May 5, 8am-4pm, Spring Work Day: make up date if missed the Retreat
- June 10, 9am & 10:45am services: Commissioning Service & June Meeting
 - Commissioning Service at start of the 9:00am service
 - Youth Mission Meeting & Breakfast during rest of 9am service (Room 101)
 - Commissioning Service at start of the 10:45am service
- Other meetings scheduled by the team
 - Final Team Meeting (Parents invited): this is typically 1-2 weeks before departure
 - Pack & Pray: on the day before (or of) the mission project
 - Team Reunion: end of July or early August

Any questions please contact Pastor Dan, Pastor Aaron, or Shynell Newell in the church office.

847-244-6606

Pastor Dan: EXT. 182 dan.hays@vcgurnee.org

Pastor Aaron: EXT. 184 aaron.mead@vcgurnee.org

Shynell Newell (Financial/Fundraising): EXT. 189 shynell.newell@vcgurnee.org

Meg Fitzpatrick (Trip Details): EXT 203 meg.fitzpatrick@vcgurnee.org



FINANCIAL INFO AND KEY QUESTIONS

Every year it is exciting to see how God provides for the financial needs of each student & team. With around 100 participants, this is no small endeavor. It is important that each student plays an active role in helping us raise the necessary funds & building a large network of prayer warriors & financial supporters.

Here is the part you will need to play:

- ⇒ Giving your own financial contribution
- ⇒ Sending out support letters— this is such a great opportunity for others to partner with us in supporting the ministry that will take place this summer
- ⇒ Serving at the Youth Missions Fundraiser— this is our big opportunity to serve families here at our church & for them to support us financially.

Questions & Answers:

1. What if my family chooses to not send support letters?

While we strongly encourage students to send out support letters, we understand there may be circumstances that lead a family to decide not send out these support letters. In these cases, we ask the students to take the following steps:

- In place of support letters, students should send out a modified prayer letter (send out as a letter or email).
- Give an additional contribution in place of support letters (see Page 1 in the Youth Missions Information Packet). The amount required is the support letters goal listed for each team. These amounts should be given at check-in to the Youth Mission Service Retreat on March 16.

2. What if I do not meet my support letter financial goal?

Periodically we will have a student fall short of the support letter financial goal (see Page 1 in the Youth Missions Information Packet). In these cases, there are some additional steps we will ask the student to take. Pastor Dan and Aaron and your youth mission team leaders will help guide the students through this.

- Follow up with the people you sent support letters. This can come in the form of a phone call, text, email, or Facebook note. Ask them if they received your support letter and if they have any questions about what you will be doing this summer. Don't pressure them to give financially, but sometimes people do need a helpful reminder and if they ask you can express your need for additional supporters.
- Send out additional support letters. Prayerfully consider others you didn't send out letters to initially.
- Find other ways to raise money and give this towards your youth missions support raising. There are tons of options here: babysitting, doing odd jobs, etc.
- Make an additional personal contribution.

3. What if I am unable to serve at the Youth Missions Fundraiser?

The Youth Mission Fundraiser is HUGE, so it is extremely important that everyone participates in this event. If a student has a significant conflict the day of the fundraiser, they must notify Pastor Dan or Pastor Aaron of this well in advance. In place of the roughly 6 hours of serving that day, we will expect the student to fulfill those 6 hours by helping with the preparations leading up to the Youth Mission Fundraiser.

4. What if I can not attend the Youth Missions retreat?

Participation at the Service Retreat is crucial; so we ask students to put a high priority on this event! It is helpful if a student has a conflict during a portion of the retreat to have them still come for the portion they can attend. We typically have a number of students doing this each year, and it helps having the student present with their team, even if it is not for the full Friday evening through Saturday evening. In the case of a complete conflict with the service retreat weekend, students will be required to make up this experience by serving at the Village Church Spring Work Day on Saturday, May 5. This should be communicated well in advance with Pastor Dan or Pastor Aaron.

First and Last Name: _____



VILLAGE CHURCH

YOUTH MISSIONS

**2018 YOUTH MISSIONS
STUDENT APPLICATION**

*Turn in by November 28, 2017
to 24/7, Salt & Light or the church office*

Date Returned: _____
(for Office Purposes)



YOUTH MISSIONS APPLICATION

Deadline: Tuesday, November 28, 2017

If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.

Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. - Philippians 2:1-4

SECTION A: PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full Legal Name (first, middle & last): _____ Birthdate: _____

Name you prefer to go by: _____ Year in School: _____

Email Address (PLEASE WRITE LEGIBLY!): _____

Address/City: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ T-Shirt Size (XS-XL): _____

Food Allergies/Dietary Restrictions: _____

Parent(s) Name(s): _____

Parent Email(s): _____

SECTION B: TRIP INFORMATION

Please pray and think about which team you want to serve with and place a checkmark next to **at least two teams** (do not "rank" your choices) for which you wish to be considered.

___ **Next Steps (Milwaukee, WI)**

Dates: July 8-14

Grades 8-12

*Support goal: \$250

___ **Camp Barnabas, MO**

Dates: July 6-13

Grades 8-12

*Support goal: \$250

___ **Navajo Nation, NM**

Dates: July 7-14 or 14-21

(Pending Camp Availability)

Grades 9-12

*Support goal: \$500

___ Barnstormer (14-15)

___ Counselor (16-18)

Tell us what interests you about the teams you have selected:

SECTION C: SPIRITUAL INFORMATION

Please take some time to prayerfully and thoroughly answer the following questions about yourself. We ask that you respond in as much detail as you can in order to help us have a more complete picture about how God is at work in your life. (use a separate sheet of paper if necessary).

1. Do you have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ? Please share with us how you became a Christian.
2. Describe how you have seen yourself growing spiritually over the past year - and ways you'd like to see yourself grow in the next year.
3. What has impacted you the most at 24/7 or S&L this year?
4. Why do you want to participate on a youth mission team?
5. What do you think your greatest contribution to this team would be, and what is the biggest way you would be challenged/stretched through this?
6. Is there anything that will keep you from attending the meetings, fundraisers, service retreat, or workdays? (see page 2 in the Youth Missions Information Packet)
7. Is there anything else significant happening in your life that we should be aware of?

SECTION D: STUDENT COMMITMENTS

The participants with Village Church Youth Missions are expected to follow and fulfill several core commitments. Please read through each of these carefully and reflect on your willingness to accept and follow each commitment listed.

As a member of Village Church Youth Missions, I accept the following core commitments...
(Initial each commitment and sign the bottom of the page.)

Youth Ministry Participation– Being Actively Involved in church and youth ministry

- _____ I will attend church on a weekly basis
- _____ I will attend 24/7 or S&L regularly (more than 50%)

Team Preparation– Taking My Role Seriously

- _____ I will participate in all mission team meetings (Indicate any conflicts with these meeting dates/times):
January 21: January Meeting
March 2-3: Youth Missions Fundraiser
March 16-17: Youth Missions Service Retreat
April 22: April Meeting
June 10: Youth Mission Commissioning & June Meeting
- _____ I will complete all outside preparation work needed for my particular team
(Ex: ministry prep, required forms/passport, etc)

Support Raising– Sharing My Part in Raising the Needed Funds

- _____ I will submit the required personal contribution amount (see chart in Youth Missions Information Packet, page 3)
- _____ I will send the required number of support letters (see chart in Youth Missions Information Packet, page 3; this also list the required contribution if your family elects to not send support letters)
- _____ I will serve at the Youth Missions Fundraiser set-up and event

Comments:

While we will work with some conflicts, the youth mission commitment needs to be a significant priority. If a student cannot meet these commitments and has numerous conflicts, we will direct them to not serve on a Youth Mission team this year.

Cancellation Procedure: If the student is no longer able to participate in this mission project, he/she will forfeit his/her personal contribution and should notify his/her team leader and Pastor Dan or Aaron immediately. The student must also send a letter to his/her supporters informing them of his/her decision and advise them that their support will go toward others on the team.

Students: By signing this, you indicate that you understand the above guidelines and agree to abide by them. Please understand that failure to follow through with your commitments to any of these guidelines could jeopardize your position on your team.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parents: By signing this, you indicate that you understand the above guidelines and agree to assist your student in abiding by them.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

SECTION E: PARENT COMMITMENTS

As part of your child's participation on a summer missions team, we ask parents to be involved in the process. The primary area we need your help is with the Youth Missions Fundraiser; participation by at least one parent (preferably both) is required for the fundraiser on March 3 or helping with preparations leading up to the event. Parents can choose from options to help: either prepare for the Silent Auction or help the night of the fundraiser.

Help with preparation for the Silent Auction:

The silent auction is our main source of support from the fundraiser. We need an army of volunteers to make this a success. If you volunteer and get selected for either A or B, you will not be asked to help the night of the dinner. Here are volunteer options:

- A** Donation team (contact local businesses, pick up donations, organize donations by category, give donation)
You can work on your own for most of these
- B** Basket preparation team (organize supplies, create baskets, make bows, put the baskets together)
You can work on your own or come in on "work nights" and work together with other volunteers

Help the night of the Fundraiser:

- C** Set-up Team (2:30-5pm)
- D** Meal Team (4-6:30pm)
- E** Clean up Team (6:30-9pm)

Please indicate your 1st and 2nd choices for the area you would like to serve. Use the letter listed above to indicate your choices.

Parent 1:

Name: _____ Email: _____

1st choice: _____ 2nd choice: _____

Parent 2:

Name: _____ Email: _____

1st choice: _____ 2nd choice: _____

Donations Needed:

We have been very blessed in past years by the success of our Silent Auction. A huge reason we have been successful and able to raise a lot of support for our youth missions teams is because of donations we have received. Please let us know if you have an item that you would be willing to donate. Here are some ideas of items we have received in the past:

Gift cards or cash donation (these will be used to buy supplies and filler items), restaurant gift cards, iTunes gift cards, tickets to sporting events, home decorating items, toys, games, rental property, tools ... anything you think could be used in a gift basket (only new items).

Comments:

SECTION F: YOUTH MISSIONS PARENT REFERENCE FORM

Thank you for taking a few minutes to complete this reference for your child who is applying to join one of our summer mission teams. Your input will give us a more complete picture of your child! We recognize it's sometimes difficult to be completely objective but please be as thorough and honest in your evaluation as you can.

Student's Name (Print): _____

Parent's Name (Print): _____

1. Describe how you see your child growing as a Christian. How is God at work in and through his/her life? What are some areas in which your child could seek to grow as a Christian in the months ahead?
2. In what ways have you seen God work through your child's life to impact the lives of others? In what ways do you believe he/she could serve effectively while serving with this mission team?
3. How would you describe your son/daughter in ten words or less?
4. Do you have any questions regarding these projects that would be helpful for us to address with you?
5. "Open-mic" time: Share with us anything else about your child that you feel we need to know - please help us to make as informed a decision as we can about your student.

SECTION G: YOUTH MISSIONS MENTOR REFERENCE FORM

Thank you for taking a few minutes to complete this reference for this student, who is applying to join one of our summer mission teams. Your input will give us a more complete picture of your student! Please be as thorough and honest in your evaluation as you can. Please return this form by November 28 to 24/7, Salt & Light or the church office.

Student Name (Print): _____

Mentor Name (Print): _____

1. Describe how you see this student growing as a Christian. How is God at work in and through his/her life?

2. What are some areas in which this student could seek to grow as a Christian in the months ahead?

3. In what ways have you seen God work through this student's life to impact the lives of others? In what ways do you believe he/she could serve effectively while serving with this mission team?

4. Do you have any recommendations or reservations of this student serving on one of our Youth Mission teams?

5. Please rate the student in each area on a scale of 1 to 10 (1 = lowest, 10 = highest)

Openness to share	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Maturity	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Spiritual Growth	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Leadership	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Servanthood	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Teachability	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10