



MISSION TRIP 2012

Congratulations!

You have worked hard to be eligible for this year's mission trip to Tennessee. Your servant heart is being rewarded in getting to be a part of a really amazing and really fun mission experience. Look at the flair on the right side of the page. You are going to be a part of a growing legacy of junior high mission trips. This is a special trip to a unique destination. We hope that it will be a tremendous blessing to you. But as you prepare for the trip in many tangible ways, i.e. support letters, fundraisers, making new friends, etc., we hope that you will prepare your heart spiritually. It is so vitally important that each of us be preparing for this journey that doesn't just begin in July and end when we get home. It is a journey with God to depend on Him more, to increase in our love for Him and to serve those around us. The actual trip is only a part of the journey. It is only a tool that God will use to help us become more fully devoted followers of Him.

May you truly be blessed as you pursue Christ with your whole life.

Newport, Tennessee
Trip Dates: July 7-15
Trip Cost: \$695



MISSION TEAM

- Elizabeth Baker
- JJ Barrett
- Emma Barrington
- Hannah Bernett
- Nathan Black
- Kristopher Brown
- Hannah Cook
- Faith Deel
- Rachel Dugger
- Sarah Ghormley
- Kyle Hensley
- Ben Hughes
- Mikayla Kuipers
- Andrew Ligon
- Ryan Mann
- Austin Moore
- Nathan Moore
- Hannah Rodriguez
- Justin Russell
- Margaret Russell
- Ryan Scott
- Jacob Shaw
- Noah Shaw
- Luke Sternhagen
- Shannon Swain
- Sara Thomas
- Karis Trippe
- Danielle VanHecke
- Natalie VanHecke
- Kristin Wange
- Makenna Wehe
- Rylan Wehe
- Emily Wilken
- Madeleine Williams
- Kaitlyn Wilson
- Sarah Winn



Meet Melissa!

She is the Administrative Assistant for the Woodcreek Youth Ministry. She can help you with any questions regarding this Mission Trip! Her contact info is: melissa.miller@woodcreekchurch.com

972-238-8722 x129

TEAM LEADERS

- Chris Thompson
- Tim VanHecke
- Michael Spaulding
- Kristi Shaw
- Chad Shaw
- Lucas Henry
- Carol or Tim Bernett
- June Underhill
- Susan Williams
- Claire Winn

SERVANT TEAM

- Lauren Atchison
- Kailey Davis
- Mason Goss
- Dylan Johnson
- Emily Parsoneault
- Ivy Nichols
- Sarah Thompson
- Graham Williams
- Ryan Wilson
- Taylor Winn

MISSION TEAM PHOTO DIRECTORY

STUDENT PARTICIPANTS



Faith Deel



Kris Brown



Luke Sternhagen



Mikayla Kuipers



Shannon Swain



Margaret Russell



Ben Hughes



Sarah Ghormley



Madeleine Williams



Emily Wilken



Hannah Rodriguez



Sarah Winn



Emma Barrington



Elizabeth Baker



Hannah Cook



Sara Thomas



Danielle VanHecke



Kristin Wange



Andrew Ligon



Makenna Wehe



Nathan Moore



Rachel Dugger



Ryan Mann



Nathan Black



Karis Trippe



Hannah Bennett



Justin Russell



Ryan Scott



Natalie VanHecke



Rylan Wehe



JJ Barrett



Kaitlyn Wilson



Austin Moore



Jacob Shaw



Noah Shaw



Kyle Hensley

BIBLICAL BASIS FOR SUPPORT RAISING

Many people have been blessed by the Lord with the financial resources needed for a Short Term Mission Trip (STMT). If God has not given you the resources for the trip, He may desire to do some “faith building” in your life by having you raise some or all the funds. In fact, even if you have the financial resources to pay for the STMT, we encourage you to raise at least a portion of the costs. Support raising is not something to be taken lightly, however you can have a lot of fun combined with the hard work. Raising support for a STMT can seem like an overwhelming task. It can also be a very exciting part of your ministry. It is very much a part of your ministry. It is not just something that must be done in order to get you to the mission field. By involving others in the process, you are giving them the opportunity to be involved in missions and thus be blessed. Many concerns about raising support don’t start with techniques, but rather with questions regarding the Biblical basis of raising support. Therefore, let’s take a look at the Biblical basis for support raising by looking at what scripture has to say.



Jesus and His disciples were supported by others.

And it came about after this, that He began going about from one city and village to another, proclaiming and preaching the Kingdom of God; and the twelve were with Him . . . and many others who were contributing to their support out of their private means. (Luke 8:1-3)

Paul was financially supported and accepted this support with enthusiasm because he was helping to store up treasures in heaven for those who supported him.

Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek for the profit which increases to our account. But I have received everything in full, and have an abundance; I am amply supplied, having received from Epaphroditus what you have sent, a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well-pleasing to God. And my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:17-19)

As Christians use their material possessions to further the works of Christ, God is glorified.

For the ministry of this service is not only fully supplying the needs of the saints, but is also overflowing through many thanksgivings to God. (2 Corinthians 9:12)



Christians should be willing to give up their material possessions so that others may be made spiritually rich.

For you know the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich. (2 Corinthians 8:9)

TIPS ON WRITING A SUPPORT LETTER

The goal is to get your readers to read your letter!

Make it fun. Be creative.

Use themes, photos, illustrations.

Use an attention grabbing statement! People become immune to the usual, ordinary and obvious.

Make it personal. People are not just supporting a ministry machine, but a person.

Tell stories. Share a personal experience where you had the opportunity to tell someone about Christ or reached out to someone in some special way.

Be simple and concise. Just share the most important details. Short paragraphs are more well-read. Try to keep your letter to one page.

Plan ahead. Nothing hinders good support letters more than rushing. Support letters are not just a side thing, they are your ministry!

Above all else, make your letter a priority and take some time to do one that is quality, don't just "get it out".

People are investing in you and are worth your time.



BENEFITS OF SUPPORT RAISING

- It stretches your faith!
- It allows you to develop deeper relationships with supporters.
- It builds a base of prayer support. Those that are financially invested tend to be more prayerfully invested. "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Matthew 6:21
- It gives you the resources to minister to people who may never be reached any other way.
- It gives people the opportunity to invest in something that has eternal consequences and merits eternal rewards.

SUPPORT LETTER EXAMPLE

Dear Friend,

Greetings. How are you? I wanted to send you a letter to inform you about a mission trip that I am taking this summer to Kalamazoo. I am extremely excited about the challenges and opportunities that God is going to present to me through this trip. I know that God has amazing things that he wants to teach me and incredible ways that He wants to use me for His glory.

The trip will be 7 months long as we will be riding to Kalamazoo on donkeys. I am going with my church youth group and I am one of 24 participants. While we are in Kalamazoo, we will be feeding the lonely, treating the homeless and ministering to the sick. We may even get to do some underwater basket weaving for the little children. I know that there may be some other unexpected opportunities to minister...so whatever God allows me to do, I want to do it all for His glory!

Will you please pray for me as I embark on this exciting adventure? I am a little bit nervous and I am not completely sure what to expect, but I know that it will be so wonderful to get to serve in Jesus name.

Can I ask you for one other thing? The trip itself costs \$1,000,000. (Donkey food is not cheap.) I need to raise the intended amount before the next blue moon, so I have stepped out in faith knowing that God will provide the funding for this trip. If you are able, will you partner with me by helping support me financially on this endeavor? Your contribution, whatever the amount, is priceless and will be an eternal blessing to both of us. If you are led to give financially, please make the check out to my church, so that you can receive a tax deduction for your generous gift. Also, please be sure to write my name on the memo, so that it will be credited to my mission trip account.

I am really looking forward to sharing with you about the experiences of the trip upon my return home. Thank you so much for your prayers...I treasure them more than you may know.

Blessings,

Henry

SUPPORT LETTER DETAILS

Please be sure to consider the following items as you write your support letter...

- where, when and why you are going
- what you will be doing
 - I know that our projects are uncertain at this time but you can give a general description of typical rural projects (www.youthworks.com)
- who you are going with
- ask for prayer
 - financial support is really only secondary
- ask for financial support with the most humble of attitudes
 - please do not enter into this with the expectation that you deserve free money
 - volunteer to serve (i.e. mow lawns, baby sit, clean garage, weed flower beds)
- give a date by which to send funds
 - don't make this date too late or you may not know what funds you have available until the last minute
 - the sooner the due date the less likely they will put it off and forget
- have funds made out to **Woodcreek** with your name on the memo
 - inform your donors that their contribution is tax deductible!
- have funds sent to your home
 - keep a record of who gives to you
 - bring the donations to the church ASAP, seal them in the registration envelopes and drop them in the lock box. The donations will be added to your MT account!
- be sure to send a thank you letter for any financial support you receive
 - send this as soon as you get the money, do not wait until after the trip, they may appreciate the confirmation that you received the check
- be sure to send a follow up letter after the trip to everyone
 - tell them about the trip and your experiences, let them have a chance to praise God with you!
 - do not exclude the people that did not send you financial support; they may have given you prayer support, which is much more valuable!

TENNESSEE

PACKING LIST

- Water bottle (extremely important!)
- Sunblock, lip balm, hat, sunglasses
- Long pants
- Long sleeved shirts and sweatshirt(s)
- Short sleeved shirts (no sleeveless shirts or tank tops)
- Appropriate length shorts
- Tennis shoes and/ or work boots
- Work gloves
- Nice clothes for worship service
- Underwear and socks
- Swimsuit, towel, wash cloth
- Shower shoes
- Small shower bag or backpack
- Soap, shampoo, other toiletries (extra contact lenses, backup pair of glasses)
- Sleeping bag and pillow
- Small air mattress or foam camping pad (twin size or smaller, unless you plan to share)
- Bible
- Notebook and pen
- Spending money
- Insect repellent
- Flashlight
- Dust mask for painting
- Scraper and paint brushes

Do not bring:

- spray deodorants or aerosol room fresheners
- portable game device, portable DVD player

Typical Daily Schedule

- Breakfast
- Personal devotions / quiet time
- Entire group gathers for prayer
- Depart for ministry sites
- Lunch
- Resume work at ministry sites
- Cleanup ministry sites
- Shower time / free time
- Adult leaders' meeting
- Dinner
- Cultural / fun evening activity
- Evening Club
- Church group time
- Bed time!

YouthWorks Clothing Policy

For Students & Adults

YouthWorks loves the community where you are serving this summer! Because of this, we ask that you recognize that your words, actions and appearance during your week contribute to the way we present ourselves to a community. Choosing modest clothing helps to avoid distractions in our representation of Christ. We ask that you choose apparel consistent with the following guidelines. We appreciate your help in creating a safe, respectful, distraction-free environment for your mission experience.

Please Bring

Loose-Fitting Clothing

During the week your clothes may endure paint, sweat, mud and lots of love from children! Bring clothes that you can work and play hard in.

Closed-Foot Shoes

To prevent injury, you need to bring a pair of shoes that completely cover your foot. Bring shoes that you don't mind getting dirty or wet at work sites and that you can wear in the kitchen. No plastic shoes (e.g. crocs).

One-Piece Swimsuits

Although we won't swim at every YouthWorks site, swimsuits are a good idea for additional privacy in the showers (not all of our communities offer private showers. If a swimsuit is not needed for an activity, it is OK to wear a two-piece swimsuit for showering.) Please choose modest swimsuits for swimming activities. If you do not bring a one-piece for swimming, you'll be asked to wear a t-shirt over it.

Mid-Thigh or Longer Shorts (or pants)

You will bend, twist, sit, climb and crawl as you love and serve communities. Short shorts will only get shorter with these activities. A good measure is to let your arms fall to your side – if your fingers touch skin, bring a longer pair of shorts. We recommend that you bring Capri pants.

Please Don't Bring

Apparel that Distracts

Including . . .

- Tank tops or sleeveless shirts
- Short shorts
- Clothing that reveals undergarments
- Clothing that reveals midribs or chests

Apparel that . . .

- Includes obscene, vulgar, abusive or discriminatory language or images
- Advertises or promotes alcohol, chemical, tobacco or any other product illegal for use by minors
- Represents hate groups, is gang-related, or contains threatening language

Why Not?

We represent Christ in the communities that we serve. These “prohibited” clothing items often work against, not for, our efforts to serve as the hands and feet of Jesus. This distracting apparel can be disrespectful and damaging to our long-term relationship building within a community.

We don't want to be the “clothing police” and we know that you don't want us to be either. We ask for you to understand this clothing policy and follow it.

YouthWorks staff will ask the adult leaders to enforce the policy by asking you to change your clothing if it is believed to be a distraction.



Please mark your calendars for the dates listed below. Here are some important highlights.

- 🕒 Please make every effort to attend each meeting and bring this notebook and your book with you!
- 🕒 Please spend time reading and journaling the book before the assigned date. We will discuss those chapters at the meetings.
- 🕒 The team building event is here at the church this year. It is free as a mission team member but you will need to bring cash for dinner afterwards.
- 🕒 Mission Cafe is on Sunday, May 20th. The JH Mission team will be involved with this in some part. More details to follow but please plan to be available that day!
- 🕒 The July 5 meeting will be with parents, will involve last minute details for the trip and will include ice cream :)

Bake Sale

The Bake Sale is a group fundraiser to help you meet your financial goal. Only those team members who participate will be able to receive proceeds from the income. You may either bring home baked goods or work the tables between services. Please sign up for what you will be doing.

If you can bring baked goods, please have them in the Atrium to sell by **7:45am on February 26**. Please wrap brownies, cookies and other small items in small quantity packaging.



MISSION TRIP PREP JOURNAL READING SCHEDULE

By February 19 Meeting	Intro, Chapters 1,2,3
By April 1 Meeting	Chapters 4,5,6,7
By May 6 Meeting	Chapters 8,9,10
By July 5 Meeting	Chapters 11,12

Important Dates for the 2012 Mission Team

Date	Info	Room/Location	Time	Due Dates
January 29, 2012	Meeting with Parents	Creekside	4-5pm	
February 19, 2012	Team Meeting	Creekside	4-6pm	Support Letters
February 26, 2012	Bake Sale	Atrium	During Sunday services	
April 1, 2012	Team Building	Creekside	4-8pm	Testimonies
May 6, 2012	Team Meeting	Creekside	4-6pm	YW Waivers
July 5, 2012	Meeting with Parents	Creekside	7-9pm	Final payments

Trip Dates: July 7-15, 2012

Newport, Tennessee

Demographics

Majestic mountains, sparkling rivers and scenic wilderness are the backdrop for the 7,449 residents of Newport, Tennessee. Located in eastern Tennessee's Cocke County, Newport is approximately 50 miles east of Knoxville. The Pigeon River and Norfolk/Southern Railroad run parallel to Newport's Main Street, where you can enjoy shopping and dining. While this town has a low cost of living, there still are residents who struggle to make ends meet, often because of the lack of educational and employment opportunities. Only 60 percent of Newport's residents have a high school diploma, and the unemployment rate hovers near 8 percent. Twenty-nine percent of the population lives in poverty, including almost 48 percent of children under age 18. Visit Newport and be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ to this peaceful community.

About the Ministry

Participants serve in a variety of ways during a YouthWorks mission trip. Students may spend all week at one service site or switch between sites during the week. Examples of service sites that your students may participate at are Kids Club and Work Projects. Kids Club is a hands-on program led by your youth offering high-energy games, crafts, skits, songs and interactive lessons all designed to help kids learn about Jesus. Work projects may include painting houses, performing minor home repair, cleaning up debris, volunteering in community gardens or other projects in the community. They are all blessings to the community and people in need. We cannot confirm until all groups arrive exactly what service opportunities your students will be a part of during the week. We ask that you come with a willing and flexible spirit!



NEWPORT STATISTICS

- Population of Newport is 7,449.
- 29% of population lives in poverty.
- 8% unemployment.
- 40% of residents (over 18) have no high school diploma.