

Week of Hope Application
Pittsburgh, PA
July 11th - July 16th

Ages: Rising 8th - 9th graders. (Rising 7th graders with permission and if they are over 12 by the time of the trip)

We have 10 slots that we will fill first come first served, giving preference to Trinity Youth and older youth, since younger youth, should we fill up, will have other chances to attend.

Friends are more than invited. Sign up sooner rather than later. You won't regret it!

Deadline: End of March 2010.

DESCRIPTION:

Known nationally for its association with the steel industry, Pittsburgh is packed with honest, hardworking people whose solid character gives new meaning to the phrase "Steel City." However, the Pittsburgh area has an abundance of elderly residents as well as many individuals affected by unemployment. Some communities are still recovering from the harsh, drastic weather specific areas have been subjected to in the last few years. Our group's service will make a real dent in the need of "Steel City."

We will have one "outing" as a Youth Group to do something fun in Pittsburgh. We'll leave bright and early on Sunday the 11th of July and should be home by the afternoon of the 16th.

Typical Day: A "typical" day involves serving others, "God Sightings", daily devotions, and inspirational/interactive worship programs. Your camp schedule will look similar to this:

6:30 a.m. Breakfast crew begins meal prep

6:45 a.m. Rise and shine!

7:00 a.m. Breakfast

8:15 a.m. Morning program

8:30 a.m. Depart for project sites & serve in the community, eat lunch, have devotions

3:30 p.m. Return to the lodging facility

4:00 p.m. Hospitality tasks/free time/meal preparation

5:30 p.m. Dinner

6:30 p.m. Music Team rehearsal or free time

8:00 p.m. Evening program

9:00 p.m. Church group devotions

11:00 p.m. Lights out

Food: A total of 13 meals will be provided during the trip, beginning with dinner on Sunday evening. Meals will consist of continental breakfasts, sack lunches, and hot dinners. Participants take turns preparing the meals and cleaning up. Picnic-style lunches will be put together in the morning and you'll bring these with you to your project site locations when you depart in the morning. The last meal will be breakfast on Friday morning. **IMPORTANT NOTE: Dinner will NOT be provided on Tuesday. Youth groups will have free time that evening.**

Lodging: You will lodge at a local school, community center, church or similar facility. Accommodations will include areas for groups to room together by gender, a common eating area, and a program area. Plan to sleep on the floor (so bring a single size air mattress). Showers will be available; however, they may be indoor showers (locker room style) or they may be outdoor semi-private, temporary showers. PLEASE, make sure you bring a swimming suit to be prepared for any showering situation. The facilities may or may not be air-conditioned, so plan accordingly. You might want to bring a small fan. Pay phones may be available; however, there will always be an emergency phone onsite. Also, although cell phone service may be limited in some areas, feel free to bring your cell. Your leaders will not allow you to use the cell phone during any programs.

Cleanup: Participants serve one another by preparing and cleaning-up meals, and cleaning the facility.

Nature of Projects: Your group will partner with local churches, service agencies, and homeowners. And over the four days, your help will bolster the efforts of the ongoing work in these communities. You'll learn new skills, serve in important roles, and have loads of fun as you: help people with projects in their home...assist the elderly...tutor struggling kids...conduct a backyard Bible club...serve at a food bank...staff an activities camp for disabled children...spruce up the grounds of a financially strapped social service agency...engage children at a day camp...and improve the community in other important ways.

Project Crew Structure: The size of project teams depends on the project and needs of the community. Regardless, you and your group will make new friends while serving on project teams with people from other churches.

PROGRAM: You'll applaud the daily programs and devotions. Each evening, everyone will gather for a time of intimate, interactive, God-centered worship with music, Scripture, video, drama, and hands-on activities. Programs (designed by the youth ministry experts at Group Magazine) are coordinated by a staff member, but you, your group, and other groups will take the lead in sharing music (so bring your guitar and best song leader voices) and participating in other program elements.

STAFFING: Your mission trip will be run by four ministry-minded staff, including two highly-trained, college-age leaders. Additional adults in your group (beyond the 5-to-1 ratio), may apply online for a volunteer position. If chosen as a volunteer staff member, your registration fee is waived. Many of our staff serve year-after-year because they have a heart to minister to church groups.

Supplies: You may be asked to bring certain supplies, depending on project needs. Specific details will be provided at the Week of Hope meetings.

Personal Items: A good list of what items to bring will be provided at the Week of Hope meetings.

Cost: **\$229 per person; \$100 deposit required from each youth, the rest will be raised before we leave. Scholarships are available; please ask Becca Messman or Mary Pratt.**

Pittsburgh Week of Hope

Name: _____

Email: _____

Age and date of birth: _____

Please write why you are interested in going to Week of Hope:

What "gifts" do you bring to the group? (Circle all that apply)

- Good at building things?
- Enjoy leading devotions
- Heart for service
- Patience and then some
- Enjoy sleeping on the floor
- Know the Get Down dance
- Know some new van games
- Care about building a strong youth group
- Like Tater Tots
- Hope to make a difference in someone's life
- Have free time this summer
- Play an instrument
- Know something about drama
- Like to make new friends
- Other: _____

Parent signature: _____

- Please turn in your \$100 payment along with this application
- Place completed form in AP Rebecca Messman's box in the church office or give to Youth Director, Mary Pratt

Once we've received this application, we'll send you a confirmation email letting you know you have a spot. Then, we'll need to you to take part in:

- All week of Hope meetings (dates will be announced in January)
- Fundraising activities (sending letters to family and friends, helping at the spaghetti dinner, etc.)