

# INFORMATION PACKET

July 14-19, 2024



## 2024 JH Service Trip

 @waypointym

December 13, 2023

Dear Parent, Guardian, Teenager or other awesome person!

I am so thrilled that you are reading this letter right now. In this packet you will find all of the information you need to participate in our 2024 JH Summer Service Trip.

This July we will be spending the better part of a week working with the summer children's program at Washington U.C.C. in Cincinnati, OH. This trip is open to all current 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. You do NOT have to be a member of our church to participate in this trip.

I am thrilled that you are reading this letter because this trip will change your life. You will return home with a new perspective on the world, a new appreciation for all the "stuff" you have, a better sense of why service is important, a desire to make this world a better place, a bunch of new friends, a bag of smelly clothes and your personal gas tank on empty.

Many, many moons ago when I was a Junior Higher, I went on my first service trip to Washington U.C.C. in Cincinnati with Pilgrim U.C.C. in Toledo, OH. Being able to develop a relationship with the people and the community at Washington U.C.C. so many years later is something I am so grateful for. Over the past ten years we have developed a deep and special relationship with our friends in Cincinnati.

I am thrilled that you are considering joining us on this adventure. I don't make many guarantees, especially concerning weather, but I will guarantee this – if you join us on this trip and you come with an open heart and a willingness to serve, you will have the best time ever.

We are very limited on space for this trip, so I encourage you to look through these pages, complete your forms and turn them in with your deposit as soon as possible so you don't get shut out from this summer's trip.

If you have any questions, I am always available and more than willing to talk to you about the trip and help you prepare for this life-changing experience. In the meantime I will be praying that you join our team and that this summer's trip will be as beneficial to you and your growth as a person as it is to the people of Cincinnati.

I am thrilled that you are still reading this letter! Looking forward to having you on our team.

All the Best,

Nate Taylor  
Director of Youth Ministries, Avon Lake U.C.C.  
440.503.2549  
[nate@avonlakeucc.org](mailto:nate@avonlakeucc.org)



Avon Lake U.C.C. 32801 Electric Blvd. Avon Lake, OH 44012 [www.avonlakeucc.org](http://www.avonlakeucc.org) 440.933.3241



## 2024 JH Service Trip

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### Avon Lake U.C.C. 2024 JH Service Trip INFORMATION SHEET

#### WHO CAN GO ON THE AVON LAKE U.C.C. JH MISSION TRIP?

All youth that are currently in grades 7 or 8 are welcome to attend this trip. You do not have to be a member of this church to attend our summer service trips. We also have room for 4 male and 4 female adult chaperons.

#### WHAT ARE THE DATES OF THE TRIP?

The dates of this year's trip are Sunday, July 14 – Friday, July 19, 2024. We will be departing Avon Lake U.C.C. at approximately 12:00PM on that Sunday and arriving that evening in Cincinnati around 5:00PM. On Friday, we will be departing Cincinnati at approximately 9:00AM and returning to Avon Lake U.C.C. around 3:00PM.

#### WHERE ARE WE GOING?

Each summer our JH Service Trip travels to Cincinnati, OH, and stays at Washington United Church of Christ in the historic Camp Washington neighborhood of Cincinnati. The church is located at:  
Washington U.C.C. 2950 Sidney Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45225

#### HOW ARE WE GOING TO GET THERE?

We will be traveling to Cincinnati in 12-passenger vans from Enterprise Rent-A-Car. Our Adult Leadership Team attending the trip will drive the vans.

#### WHAT WILL WE BE DOING?

While we are in Cincinnati we will be doing a little bit of everything. Our main focus during our time there will be to assist the church staff with the summer children's program that they offer to the neighborhood. Between 30-40 children, ages 4-15, participate in this program. The program provides them with educational opportunities, religious experiences, daily breakfast and lunch, and countless other cultural and community activities to help them learn, grow and develop into intelligent and caring young adults. For more information check out [www.washingtonucc.org](http://www.washingtonucc.org).

#### WHAT DOES IT COST TO ATTEND THIS TRIP?

The cost of this trip is \$300.00 for church members and \$400 for non-church members. We ask for a \$100.00 deposit by February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, to hold your spot. Space is limited to 35 youth and 8 adults. Don't delay in signing up for this life-changing experience. If the cost is something that could prohibit you from attending this experience, please speak to Nate privately. We have many ways to make this experience possible for everyone.

#### WHAT FORMS DO I NEED TO FILL OUT TO ATTEND THIS TRIP?

Everyone must have the following four forms completed and filled out entirely to attend our trip next July. All but one of these forms are available online. The links to the registration forms will be available beginning on Sunday, January 7, 2024 when registration opens.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2023-24 Waypoint YM Waiver/Release Form | <input type="checkbox"/> 2024 JH Service Trip Overnight Consent Form |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2024 JH Service Trip Registration Form  | <input type="checkbox"/> Washington U.C.C. Waiver/Release Form       |

## WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO GO ON THE TRIP?

There are a number of things you need to do to go on this summer's trip. The first and most important is to pray about this opportunity. Are you ready and willing to serve God and the people in Cincinnati? Next you will need to do the following:

1. Fill out all of your required paperwork beginning on Sunday, January 7, 2024
2. Turn in your \$100, non-refundable deposit and pay your entire balance before May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.
3. Volunteer at all of our fundraisers.
4. Recruit a minimum of 5 people to participate in our Dirty Dog 5K Race.
5. Attend church and Jr. High on a regular basis
6. Attend ALL of the team meetings and/or fundraising events

## ARE THERE ANY MANDATORY EVENTS OR MEETINGS THAT I MUST ATTEND?

Yes. We will require that everyone participate in our Dog Wash & Dirty Dog 5K on Wednesday, July 24, 2024. There is a significant cost to pulling off these trips and it is critical that everyone participates and helps in our fundraising efforts. We will be recruiting parents and youth to be a part of our Dog Wash & Dirty Dog 5K planning team. Watch for information about this coming very soon. Our expectation is that everyone either participates or volunteers in the race/walk and/or volunteers for the Dog Wash.

We will also have a team meeting on Monday, July 1, 2024 where we will cover our agenda, covenant, expectations, packing lists and much more. We will introduce you to our leadership team and our Youth Ministries Summer Assistant.

## IMPORTANT DATES:

- \_\_\_ Thursday, February 1, 2024 DEPOSIT DUE
- \_\_\_ Wednesday, May 1, 2024 BALANCES MUST BE PAID IN FULL
- \_\_\_ Monday, July 1, 2024 TEAM MEETING 6pm
- \_\_\_ Wednesday, July 24, 2024 Dirty Dog 5K & Dog Wash 6PM
- \_\_\_ Monday, July 29, 2024 Post-Trip REUNION & Worship Planning 12PM – 1:30PM
- \_\_\_ Sunday, August 4, 2024 Service Trip Worship Service 10AM – 11AM

\*All dates are tentative and subject to change

## QUESTIONS:

If you have any questions between now and July, please don't hesitate to contact me at [nate@avonlakeucc.org](mailto:nate@avonlakeucc.org) or 440.503.2549. Please read our weekly youth ministries email that will have a special section for JH Service Trip Updates. There will be lots and lots of things you need to know before we get out of here. Be on the lookout.

## STAY IN TOUCH:

Weekly Email



Follow us on Instagram:



Follow us on Facebook:





## 2024 JH Service Trip

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Avon Lake U.C.C. 2023 JH Service Trip  
Dirty Dog 5K Run & Dog Wash

On Wednesday, July 24, 2024 we will be hosting our Annual Dirty Dog 5K & Dog Wash. The event is a fundraiser for our JH Service Trip each year. In order for this event's continued success we rely on the help of our service trip students and families. This help comes in many shapes and forms including, but not limited to the following:

Avon Lake U.C.C.



**RUN/WALK:** The best and easiest way to help make this event a success is to run or walk in the race and get others to run or walk as well. Every student going on this summer's trip is encouraged to have at least 5 runners or walkers in the event. Race registration link coming in February.

**DONATE:** We will have a small concession stand at this event and then we normally provide snacks & beverages for the race participants after the event. We also need things like dog treats and tennis balls. Donation link coming soon!

**SPONSOR:** Another stream of income for this event is our invitation to local businesses and organizations to be a part of this event through our t-shirt sponsorship program. There are several different levels of sponsorship for a company to be a part of this year's event. Sponsorships range in cost from \$250 - \$1,500. For more information on how you can become an event sponsor, please contact Nate Taylor at [nate@avonlakeucc.org](mailto:nate@avonlakeucc.org).

**VOLUNTEER:** In order to run an event of this size it requires a lot of volunteers. Another opportunity for you to help out at this year's event is to sign-up to volunteer. Our volunteer opportunities include dog washers, course marshals, timers, water stop, concessions, racer hospitality, check-in, set-up team, tear down crew and much more. You can sign-up to volunteer starting in February.

### IMPORTANT DATES:

March 1, 2024	Registration Opens
July 7, 2024	Earlybird Registration Deadline – price goes up \$10 after this date
July 21, 2024	Race Registration Deadline
July 24, 2024	Dirty Dog 5K & 1-Mile Dog Walk

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

[www.avonlakeucc.org/dogwash](http://www.avonlakeucc.org/dogwash)

[nate@avonlakeucc.org](mailto:nate@avonlakeucc.org)



Avon Lake U.C.C. 2024 JH Mission Trip

### PACKING LIST

#### WHAT YOU SHOULD BRING:

Toiletries: soap, shampoo, toothbrush and toothpaste, etc.

Deodorant – Avon Lake U.C.C. Service Trip Law Section 3-D4368

Shower Shoes: recommend for hygiene

Towels: at least two (you will get dirty)

Sleep Stuff: sleeping bag or blanket, twin bed fitted sheet, pillow, pajamas

Work Clothes – old shirt, old shorts, old shoes for one or two days of possible painting/community projects

Shorts, T-shirts, and Sandals are appropriate for evenings and off days.

Shoes: tennis shoes, old sturdy shoes, sandals, slides – shoes for a variety of activities

Swimsuit: please use modesty when choosing what you will be wearing.

Sunglasses

Spending Money: Lunch on Sunday, Kings Island spending money (tickets are covered) and other miscellaneous things

Camera

Sweatshirt or Light Jacket

Water Bottle – A MUST

Raincoat

Day bag/Bookbag

Cell Phone/Ear buds (available only at certain times during the week)

#### WHAT YOU SHOULD NOT BRING:

Expensive tech items: ipods, video games, laptops, TV, DVD players, etc.

Valuable jewelry, watches, cameras (consider bringing a disposable or inexpensive camera), etc.

Cigarettes, alcohol, drugs

Weapons of ANY kind

Bad Attitude

Excessive Flatulence

Live Animals

Trampoline

Grand Piano

Canoe, Jet Ski or other watercrafts

\*Please note that Washington United Church of Christ CANNOT BE RESPONSIBLE for lost or stolen items.

NOTE: Per my policy, I will not comment on possible weather conditions, temperatures, traditional July weather, fronts, systems or any other form or meteorology. For your assistance I recommend [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com) or [www.weatherbug.com](http://www.weatherbug.com).



## 2024 JH Service Trip

@waypointym

Avon Lake U.C.C. 2024 JH Service Trip

### GOALS & COVENANT

#### GOALS:

1. Grow – Our hope is that over the course of this trip you will be able to grow as a person and as a Christian. We hope that this trip will provide you with more clarity on this thing we call life and how you are a vital part of the picture and how you fit into God's big, awesome design.
2. Serve – This is not a vacation. Our number one priority while we are here is to help the people of Cincinnati, OH in any way we possibly can. This requires a change in mindset and a realization that first and foremost we are here to serve and secondly to have a ridiculously good time.
3. Connect – There are 45 of us from our church here this week. One of our goals is that each of you would be able to connect with others from our church, that you would step out of your comfort zones to make some new friends, and that you would develop a network of connections of other awesome people who enjoy serving Jesus.
4. Seek – Each and every night we are going to provide you with a chance to participate in a learning experience and a small group time. During this dedicated time, when we pray before meals, when we pray at the start of a new workday and countless other times during the week we hope that you will make it a point to thank God for making all of this possible.
5. Have Fun – Finally we want to destroy the stereotype that serving Jesus and having fun are two completely different things. We hope that you will make a point to laugh a lot, to sing, to whistle while you work and enjoy yourselves and your time in Cincinnati immensely. We take pride in ensuring that among the very few things we can guarantee, you having fun is one of the most important.

#### COVENANT:

1. I will respect everyone and everyone's belongings. I will respect their views, their privacy, their space and their right to be here.
2. I will refrain from using any drugs, alcohol or illegal substances.
3. I will not use undesirable or foul language.
4. I will respect the places we visit and leave them in better shape than they were when I arrived.
5. I will be respectful of the people we meet, their way of life and their beliefs.
6. I will make time daily for God.
7. I will participate in all activities, work projects and daily chores.
8. I will use discretion and common sense in my attire. I understand that shirts must be worn at all times. I will refrain from wearing clothing that expresses alcohol/beer slogans or obscenities.
9. I will avoid gossiping, criticizing or starting rumors.
10. I will not engage in gambling, betting or wagering on anything throughout the duration of the trip.
11. I understand that on a trip like this, things can change often. I will be flexible, understanding and willing to "go with the flow." Semper Gumby.™
12. I will do my best to represent myself, my church, my community, my family and Jesus in the best way possible.
13. I will be aware of our schedule and will be on time.
14. I will have a large, ridiculous amount of fun!
15. I will do everything possible to attend all meetings, fundraisers and other events required for my participation in this trip.
16. I understand that failure to comply with this covenant will result in disciplinary action that does not exclude being sent home from the trip at my own expense.



Avon Lake U.C.C. 2024 JH Service Trip

### **HOMELESS CARE PACKAGES & CHILDREN HYGIENE KITS**

One of the more impactful activities that our students take part in while they are in Cincinnati is the collection, sorting, packing and handing out of Homeless Care Packages. These plastic bags are filled with things someone living on the street would find useful and would greatly appreciate. We are not naïve to think that these packages will change the course of someone's life, but we are naïve enough to believe that any act of love is good, and that we are called to do good things, to be the light in the world, and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Over the next several months we will be collecting items for our Homeless Care Packages to take with us to Cincinnati next July. Your help in collecting these items would be greatly appreciated.

All donations can be returned to church. We will have a drop off area set-up in the church by our Youth Ministries bulletin board and a drop off spot in the Buoy.

**HOMELESS CARE PACKAGES ITEMS:** Peanut Butter or tuna pouches, tissues, mints, gum, hard candy, wet wipes, hand sanitizer, bottled water, fruit cups, applesauce, crackers, plastic spoons, small boxes of cereal, granola bars, pretzels, cookies, socks, deodorant, travel size soap, shampoo and conditioner, toothbrushes, combs, etc.

There is another opportunity to help the children we work directly in the summer program at Washington U.C.C. We invite our students to purchase full size items of the following products to provide these young people with individual hygiene kits. These items can be collected between now and July and dropped off in the same areas listed above for the homeless care packages.

**CHILDREN HYGIENE KITS:** Set of bath towels and wash cloths, full size shampoo and body wash, full size conditioner, full size toothpaste, set of toothbrushes, full size kids mouth wash.

We are incredibly grateful for any and all donations. These items go a long way to providing care and dignity to so many people of all ages.

Proverbs 19:17 "Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done."





## 2024 JH Service Trip

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Avon Lake U.C.C. 2024 JH Service Trip

### ITINERARY

#### SUNDAY – July 14, 2024

12:00 Check-in  
12:45 Depart Avon Lake, OH  
5:30 Arrival of Campers  
Get settled in apartments  
Pizza, Salad, Dessert Supper  
Orientation  
Worship  
11:00 Lights Out!

#### MONDAY – July 15, 2024

7:15 Wake-up Call  
8:00 Van Groups  
8:30 Children Arrive & Breakfast  
9:00 Worship  
9:15 Summer Children's Program  
12:00 Lunch and break  
1:00 Summer Children's Program Ends  
2:00 Homeless Experience  
4:30 Showers  
5:00 Dinner @ Camp Washington Chili  
6:30 Interpretive Program  
8:00 Evening Devotions & Games  
9:00 FREE Time  
11:00 Lights Out!

#### TUESDAY – July 16, 2024

7:15 Wake-up Call  
8:00 Van Groups  
8:30 Children Arrive & Breakfast  
9:00 Worship  
9:15 Summer Children's Program  
12:00 Lunch and break  
1:00 Homeless shelter tour  
4:30 Dinner Prep & Cooking  
5:30 Community Dinner  
7:30 Ice Cream Run  
9:00 Evening Devotions & Games  
10:00 FREE Time  
11:00 Lights Out!

#### WEDNESDAY – July 17, 2024

7:15 Wake-up Call  
8:00 Van Groups  
8:30 Children Arrive & Breakfast  
9:00 Worship  
9:15 Summer Children's Program  
12:00 Lunch and break  
1:00 Summer Children's Program Ends  
2:00 Depart for King's Island  
10:00 Return to Washington U.C.C.  
11:00 Lights Out!

#### THURSDAY – July 18, 2024

7:15 Wake-up Call  
8:00 Van Groups  
8:30 Children Arrive & Breakfast  
9:15 Summer Children's Program  
11:00 Lunch  
11:30 Depart for Reds Game  
12:30 First Pitch  
3:00 Return to WUCC  
5:00 Dinner  
6:30 FREE TIME. Pack. Clean.  
8:00 Closing Worship  
9:00 FREE Time  
11:00 Lights Out!

#### FRIDAY – July 19, 2024

7:15 Wake-up Call  
8:00 Breakfast  
9:00 Depart Cincinnati  
3:00 Arrive in Avon Lake

\*schedules are tentative and subject to change

Washington U.C.C.  
2950 Sidney Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45225  
513.541.7757  
CONTACT: Laurel Humes

# Washington UCC Discipline, Liability & Medical Release Form

Make a copy for yourself and bring the ORIGINALS with you

Check One: ☐ Adult ☐ Student GENDER: ☐ Male ☐ Female

Individual's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ H.S. Graduation Year \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parents/Legal Guardians (with whom you live) \_\_\_\_\_

Church You are Attending with \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Group Leader's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Health Insurance Company \_\_\_\_\_ Policy Number \_\_\_\_\_

Known Allergies and Reactions \_\_\_\_\_

Medications Currently Taking \_\_\_\_\_

I, the parent or legal guardian of the student listed on this form, certify that he/she has my full approval to participate in this Washington United Church of Christ Mission Trip/Work Camp. The individual identified on this form understands that all students are expected to abide by the rules and be directly responsible to Washington United Church of Christ. Washington United Church of Christ and Group Leader assumes responsibility for discipline at the Work Camp and, if necessary, may, because of misconduct or disobedience, require a student to leave. In such instance, I will assume full responsibility for returning the student home.

Further, I do release and hereby agree to hold blameless Washington United Church of Christ and its employees and agents from any and every claim arising, or which may be asserted by me or by any member of my family by reason of participating in any activities associated with Washington United Church of Christ Work Camp. **I agree to pay for any damages to Washington United Church of Christ as determined by Washington United Church of Christ, including any keys not returned at the time of group check out. I understand that Washington United Church of Christ will not bear any liability or responsibility for property of the above named which is damaged, stolen, or lost during the event. I have been advised that participants should not bring electronics or other valuables to this event and if participant chooses to do so it is at his or her own risk.**

Further, I do authorize the minister, leader, or sponsor of this attending church or any Washington United Church of Christ employee, in the event I cannot be reached by phone, to give consent to a physician and/or hospital for emergency medical or surgical treatment while on this trip. It is understood that I will assume any financial responsibility for any expense that may be incurred for said emergency treatment.

Further, I do certify that said child is covered by adequate accident insurance. My consent and signature is given below. I have read and agree to the information given in this entire form.

Printed Name of Parent/Legal Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Parent/Legal Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone (in case of emergency) \_\_\_\_\_

Person to notify if you cannot be reached:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I, the participant fully understand that I may be involved in construction work such as hammering, painting, roofing, dry walling, as well as gardening, food preparation, and neighborhood clean-up activities. There have been very few injuries on previous work camps, however accidents can occur causing injuries including but not limited to: scrapes, bruises, broken bones, quadriplegia, and death.

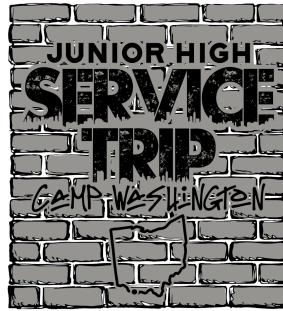
I, the participant will assist the leadership by informing/calling attention to situations which may cause injury for myself and/or other participants such as, defective equipment, surface conditions, not feeling well or being fatigued.

I accept and assume all responsibility for my personal actions and any and all risks of damage or personal injury which occur during or result from my participation.

Further, I, the participant hereby release, discharge and hold harmless Washington United Church of Christ, its coordinators, directors, and staff from any and all claims, demands, damages, or causes of action, present or future, whether the same be known, anticipated or unanticipated, resulting out of my service.

I covenant with God, my local church, and Washington United Church of Christ to participate fully in the Work Camp as it is planned and as it develops, and to abide by the covenant and behavior guidelines established by the group for the sake of life together.

Signature of Participant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



Thank you for considering this experience for yourself or for your child. It simply comes down to this...we believe in these trips. I have been leading these trips for almost 15 years and I have seen transformation take place and hearts moved and lives changed in ways I never imagined. I am saying a prayer tonight for YOU. I pray that God stirs something inside of you to say yes to this adventure. I pray that God challenges you to step out of your comfort zone and clear a week of your summer for serving others. I pray that God shows you a side of yourself you never knew you had. I pray that you find the courage to answer God's call and we can't wait to serve alongside you this July. Trust me...you won't regret it. Set yourself on lifelong journey of gratitude, service and giving of yourself for the betterment of others. Sign-up for this experience.

All the best,

Nate Taylor  
Director of Youth Ministries  
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440.933.3241 church  
440.503.2549 cell  
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