

Wilton Congregational Church Youth Mission Trip June 24 to July 1, 2018

You're invited!

As a high school student or rising freshman (in summer 2018) you are invited to join the WCC Youth Mission Trip Team. Below are the details of the 2018 trip, which is sure to be a meaningful and exciting experience. It is not necessary to be a member of WCC to be part of our team!

Where and Why: Appalachia (Greenbrier County, West Virginia)

The Appalachia region is an area rich in resources and natural beauty. While endowed with abundant natural resources, Appalachia has long struggled and been associated with poverty. In many areas, the Appalachian people suffer hardship from the loss of jobs due to the decline of the mining, steel and manufacturing industries. The shortage of gainful employment in some cases has also led to drug and alcohol addiction in communities and as a result the poverty has continued.

On June 23, 2016, thunderstorms brought torrential rain to much of West Virginia. Greenbrier County was the hardest-hit, with at least 15 deaths confirmed. At the time, Greenbrier County Sheriff Jan Cahill described the county as "complete chaos". Flooding in White Sulphur Springs destroyed many homes and swept some clean off their foundations.

It is expected that recovering from this disaster will take from three to seven years for the Greenbrier County community. Our team will be doing various construction type projects to assist in the ongoing recovery and we will have the opportunity to meet and form relationships with those whom we serve. We will also spend time as a group enjoying local cultural and recreational activities.

When: Sunday, June 24 to Sunday, July 1, 2018

Transportation: Coach Buses, leaving from WCC. We estimate 8 to 10 hours on the bus each way.

Lodging: Hotel in Lewisburg, West Virginia. Participants will sleep 4 to a room.

Cost: \$975 Total (\$1075 for Participants registering after Dec. 15, 2017)

\$300 Deposit due by December 15, 2017.
Remainder due by May 1, 2018.

Scholarships for part of the cost for those in need are available to WCC members and will be handled confidentially. Contact Rev. Coffman or Lydia Gajdel for information.

Add'l Requirements: As a means to create and build a team prior to the trip, each volunteer is expected to earn 15 "credits" during the year, by attending or participating in WCC and Community Service events. A full schedule of this year's activities and associated "credit" values will be published by October 1. A sample of the credits "system" is attached.

**Mission Trip Points System
2017-2018**

Each Participant must earn 15 credits between now and May 1 in order to attend the trip. If you are a student living outside of the area, we will set up other ways for you to earn credits.

Total points needed: 15

At least 10 points must come from Category 1

Category 1		Category 2	
Fundraisers	2	Attending Sunday worship	1
Outings	2	Completion of Confirmation program	2
Service opportunities	2	Member of church board or committee	2
Attending Sunday Youth Group	1	Church school teacher	1
		Choir or bell ringer	2
		Christmas pageant acting or tech help	2

**Wilton Congregational Church
Youth Mission Trip Registration Form
2018 Trip – June 24 to July 1, 2018**

Registration Form signed by student and parent, along with a check for the \$300 deposit are due by December 15, 2017. Final payment of \$675 is due by May 1, 2018.

Student Name:

Home phone: (____) _____ - _____ Cell phone: (____) _____ - _____

Email Address: _____

Current School: _____ Current Grade: _____

Special Skills:

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Home phone: (____) _____ - _____ Cell phone: (____) _____ - _____

Email address: _____

WCC Member? Yes _____ No _____

For parents:

Would you be interested in being a chaperone on the trip? Yes _____ No _____

Would you be able to volunteer to help with trip preparations? Yes _____ No _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return to WCC to the attention of Lydia Gajdel, Director of Youth.

Questions: Contact via email: lydia@wiltoncongregational.org, or phone: 203-762-5591.