

INFLUENCER



SUMMER 2024

YOUTH & ADULT PARTICIPANT Info Packet

**for the 2024 FLY Group Mission Trip in
Erie, Pennsylvania
July 7-13, 2024**

With your parents/guardians, please be sure to read through this entire packet before completing the following BY Monday, Oct. 23, 2023:

-Complete the ONLINE APPLICATION HERE:

<https://faithpenfield.org/resources/summer-mission-trip>

-Submit a \$100 COMMITMENT DEPOSIT made out to "Faith Lutheran Youth" and drop off in the FLY Registration mailbox at Faith or mail it to: Faith Lutheran Church, 2576 Browncroft Blvd. Rochester, NY 14625

ABOUT THIS MISSION TRIP:

Since 1993, Faith Lutheran Youth (FLY) has partnered with Group Mission Trips to serve Jesus while serving others. Jesus calls us to serve others in John 13:14, "Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet." Followers of Jesus are to serve others – reflecting Christ to the world. This is our call. This is our life.

I N F L U E N C E R 

SUMMER 2024

Group Work Camp (also known as Group Mission Trip) is designed to deepen your walk with Christ, while you serve people in Christ's name. It's not so much about the "service projects" (although the challenge is important); it's more about God changing the lives of the people you serve... and your hearts. The "work" fades, but the impact of selfless service and new relationships lasts! Our FLY family loves serving Jesus together and having fun at the same time!

The residents of Erie, PA are in need of home repairs. For many residents, they are unable to work on their homes due to physical or financial reasons. Home projects may include: building wheelchair ramps & handrails, weatherizing homes, reconstructing sagging porches, interior & exterior painting, and carpentry work. The residents are truly grateful and in great need of the help you'll bring! You'll meet people that you'll never forget – people whose lives will be forever changed because of the love and hope you bring. And in the process, lives will be transformed by Jesus working in and through you!

The boroughs adjacent to Erie, PA have seen a cultural change over the last several years as major industrial businesses have left and caused the community to rely on tourism for the foundation of their economy. This beautiful area draws many tourists, being only two hours from Niagara Falls and directly along the lengthy shores of Lake Erie. Welch's grapes are also grown here and are a great excuse to enjoy grape jelly or juice! However, the same weather that makes Erie perfect for growing delicious grapes creates harsh winters along the south shore of the lake that boasts the "Best Sunsets in the World." Nonetheless, tourism is slight during the harsh winters and many businesses have struggled to survive during the off-season. With such, residents need your assistance to help preserve the beautiful community of homes in the city. We can guarantee your week of service will greatly impact the residents of Erie and you will not regret taking a week off to be around the amazing city and people of Erie.

This work camp is open for youth entering 9th grade in the fall of 2023 through college students. Adults will be selected by Pastor Peter Johnson based on youth ministry experience level, previous work camp experience, and Group Work Camp's adult-to-youth ratio. The total cost of the trip will be around \$770 per youth (see cost breakdown on pg. 9 in this packet) but a lot of the money can be FUNdraised! Please talk to Pastor Peter for the cost breakdown for adult participants.

With your parents/guardians, please be sure to read through this entire packet before completing the following BY Monday, Oct. 23, 2023:

-Complete the ONLINE APPLICATION HERE:

<https://faithpenfield.org/resources/summer-mission-trip>

-Submit a \$100 COMMITMENT DEPOSIT made out to "Faith Lutheran Youth" and drop off in the FLY Registration mailbox at Faith or mail it to: Faith Lutheran Church, 2576 Browncroft Blvd. Rochester, NY 14625

Work Camp DETAILS:

INFLUENCER 

SUMMER 2024

Transportation: Our adult chaperones will drive our group to Erie, PA on Sunday, July 7 and back to Rochester on Saturday, July 13, 2023. Throughout the work camp week (M-F), youth will be with their site leaders each day from 8:30am-3:30pm.

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

6:45 a.m. Rise and shine!

7:00 a.m. Breakfast and gather supplies for the day

8:00 a.m. Morning program

8:30 a.m. Leave for project sites and serve at project locations

3:30 p.m. Return to lodging site for clean-up and free time

5:00 p.m. Dinner

7:30 p.m. Evening program, youth group devotions, free time, prep for bed

11:00 p.m. Lights out

Food: Youth will be responsible for bringing money for food July 7 (breakfast & lunch) and July 13 (breakfast & lunch). A total of 16 meals will be provided during the work camp week, beginning with dinner on Sunday evening. Meals will consist of hot breakfasts, sack lunches, and hot dinners. All meals will be prepared for you by lodging facility staff. 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 Saturday morning. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Dinner will NOT be provided by the lodging facility on Wednesday. Youth groups will have free time that afternoon.

Lodging: In Erie, PA our group will stay in a facility (usually a school) that does not have air-conditioning, so we'll need to bring fans. The lodging facility has 12 (open with dividers) showers for females and 12 (open) for males at the facility. Bring swimsuits and shower shoes. Everyone will be sleeping on floors, gender separate, so bring your air mattresses! 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.

Cleanup: Facility staff prepares and cleans-up all meals and cleans the lodging facility. Our group is responsible for cleaning our classrooms on the last day of work camp.

PARTICIPANTS:

Criminal Background Check: To provide the safest environment for young people every participant 18 years of age and older must be screened by the church and have a current background check (within the last 24 months). Please complete Faith's online criminal background check here: <https://www.ministryopportunities.org/Application.aspx?oid=24184>

Next Spring: Pastor Peter will send each work camp participant an **online link** to complete a skill level application. This application will give you an opportunity to tell Group Mission Trips your skill level in painting, roofing, construction, etc... This will help Group Mission Trips assign you to a crew with similar skill-levels. You will receive your crew assignment on Sunday evening, after we arrive in Woonsocket.

SERVICE PROJECTS:

Nature of Projects: Our group will provide home repairs at no cost for elderly, disabled, and disadvantaged people that need our help. Project crews typically serve the same resident for the entire week, creating an environment where meaningful relationships develop. And, most projects are designed to be completed during the week, allowing our group to experience the satisfaction of a job well done.

At the Erie, PA work camp, our group will demonstrate Jesus' love and compassion in tangible ways, serving real people in need while working on projects like...

- Replacing gutters
- Building wheel-chair ramps
- Painting homes
- & Other home repair projects that the homeowner cannot otherwise complete.

Project Crew Structure: Typically, you'll work at a home in small teams (five-six teenagers with one or two adults) helping someone who needs — and appreciates — your help. Each crew member is a valuable part of the team fulfilling an important and defined role within the crew. You and your group will make new friends while serving on project teams with people from other churches.

Erie's Camp Partner Agency: Our amazing Cosponsor in Erie has impacted surrounding communities for several years. The return to Erie will again establish a strong presence of Group Workcamps and the impact we have together with locals dedicated to their hometown.

PROGRAM:

You'll applaud the daily programs and devotions. Along with hundreds of other people, you'll experience high-impact, interactive programs with music, Scripture, video, drama, and hands-on activities...led by a trained youth ministry professional and a song leader.

Daily youth group devotions will be written by various Faith members & leaders. These devotions will be read by our youth group every evening — helping us unpack the daily Biblical themes and life applications.

Theme: "INFLUENCER" Make-up tips, viral videos, and giving away large amounts of money to complete strangers are a few ways young people have found themselves becoming famous, influential, and extremely wealthy. Along with social media, we're all influenced by the people around us through news, music, work, school, sports, and basically anywhere we direct our attention. Whether we think so or not, everyone is an influencer in some way or another. Everything we do is watched by our friends, family, peers, and others around us, making an impression and having influence. Our goal with

the program this year is to help students navigate the many influences in their lives and encourage them to look toward Jesus, the greatest influencer of all time, so they use their influence to positively change their culture. Romans 12:2

STAFFING: Group Work Camps provides a well-trained trip Director, Program Leader, Song Leader, and up to 14 additional trained staff to handle project materials, project assignments, office tasks, program multi-media, project site coaching...and more. Many of the “Red Shirt” staff serve year-after-year because they have a heart to minister to church groups.

WHAT TO BRING:

Supplies: Each group must bring supplies such as ladders, painting supplies, and construction tools including circular saws, electric drills, hammers, etc. The FLY adult chaperones will take care of this supply list. Youth will be expected to bring a paintbrush, roller, screwdriver, etc...

Personal Items: You will receive a full packing list next spring/summer of what to bring. It’s pretty much what you’d expect—including a single size air mattress or foam pad for sleeping, water bottles, work gloves, sunscreen, etc...

Shots & Vaccinations: Please ask your health care professional if any immunizations are recommended for this area.

Medical Insurance: Every participant will be required to carry a copy of their medical insurance card with them.

*****Additional Information & Itinerary will be provided at our next
Work Camp Info Meeting!***

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please contact Pastor Peter Johnson at: flypenfield@gmail.com or cell #: (585)773-4475.

2024 Group Work Camp

FLY Covenant

- Erie, PA Team -

A covenant is an agreement made between a group of people. It helps define the expectations we have of one another and the consequences for failing to meet those expectations. The purpose of making a Group Covenant is to aid harmonious living and provide a good experience to everyone involved.

Below is the Group Covenant for the members of Faith Lutheran Youth (FLY) attending our 2024 Group Work Camp to Erie, PA. Each participant and their parent/guardian (if participant is under the age of 18) must read the Group Covenant.

BEFORE THE GROUP WORK CAMP

- 1. We will continue to *Grow* in our relationship with Christ and others in these ways:**
 - Actively participate in weekly worship services and Bible studies.
 - Attend my Group Work Camp info meetings & hangouts.
- 2. We will continue to *Connect* with God and other Christians in these ways:**
 - Talk with our loving God every day through prayer.
 - Participate and invite friends to Sunday Night FLY and other FLY activities.
- 3. We will continue to *Serve* God and serve others in these ways:**
 - Volunteer at our FLY FUNdraisers.
 - Serve God by serving Faith Lutheran Church and our community.
- 4. We will respect our FLY Group Work Camp leaders in these ways:**
 - Being supportive of their decisions, even if we don't always agree.
 - Reflect Christ's love to other youth and adults.
 - Regularly communicate with other Group Work Camp participants in order to build friendships.
- 5. We will honor our church members and FLY Group Work Camp leaders in these ways:**
 - Sharing Christ through our words and actions before, during, and after our 2024 trip.
 - Regularly thank other church members for supporting our trip and praying for us.
 - Making our trip payments on time so we are able to reserve transportation, lodging, restaurants, etc...

DURING THE GROUP WORK CAMP

- 1. We will keep in mind that we represent God and the Church and will do so in the following ways:**
 - Having a positive attitude and being flexible when things go wrong or schedules change.

- Being supportive of our FLY Group Work Camp leaders' decisions, even if we don't always agree.
- Being respectful, obedient, and considerate to the adult leaders and other trip participants. This includes telling the truth, being where I say I'm going to be, and doing what we've agreed to do.
- Treating one another in a loving, Christian manner by respecting and caring for each other. When disagreements or problems do come up, we will talk to that person first and then, if necessary, bring the issue to the attention of a FLY leader instead of gossiping or venting to others. (*see Matthew 18*)
- Being culturally sensitive in our words and actions, especially in contexts that are different from what we're used to back home in Rochester.

2. We agree to care for each other by helping each other in these ways:

- Being on time for meetings, and other scheduled activities so we don't hold everyone up.
- Being tidy in our hotel or other lodging facilities and considerate of others' sleep needs.
- Offering to carry luggage, open doors or assist with any job.
- To help one another by encouraging a Christian atmosphere, including others (being inclusive), using Christ-like language, staying away from cliques, and praying for one other.

3. In addition, we expect our FLY Group Work Camp leaders to:

- Show patience and try to get the "whole story" before reacting.
- Be flexible when a change of plans or rules is needed.
- Consult us in decision making as much as possible.
- Follow this covenant fairly in dealing with problems.

4. For safety and consideration, we will agree:

- To stay in groups at all times. We will only leave the direct supervision of a FLY leader with their **expressed permission**. We will never go anywhere by ourselves. We will always be with a partner or a group of three and will not leave anyone by themselves.
- To report any illness or personal emergency to an Adult Leader. If we cannot find an Adult Leader or need additional help, we will go to a Group Red Shirt (staff member) or another authority figure.
- To refrain from the use of cell phones and other electronic devices during Group Work Camp programming (Bible studies, worship, youth group devotions, etc...) which could cause a distraction to us and those around us and also during times when it could pose a safety issue or hinder interaction with the rest of the group.
- To keep a copy of our insurance card with us at all times (Pastor Peter will also have copies of all forms.)
- To remain in communication with our FLY Group Work Camp leaders.

5. We willingly agree to abide by these rules and expectations:

- To fully participate in all Group Work Camp events.
- We will "step out of our box" and try new things to enrich our overall experience of a Group Work Camp.
- Feeling free to voice our opinion in a respectful manner and to stand up for one's values and opinions.
- To treat the lodging facilities with respect – not stealing anything or destroying any part of the property. We understand that we are financially responsible for anything that we break.

- To be in our lodging facility, lights out and quiet at the designated time each night.
- We understand that being outside of our lodging facility and/or allowing others into our room after the designated time will result in being sent home.
- To not participate in any of the following behaviors: Use or possession of alcohol, drugs (including tobacco), or weapons (including pocket knives); new body piercings or tattoos; sexual behavior of any type (*aka "No Purpling"*); sexting; bullying; violence/fighting, etc. We understand that these are behaviors that can get us sent home.
- To never be in the room of a member of the opposite sex without the **expressed permission** of a FLY leader and the door completely open.
- To abide by the following dress code:
 - Girls:** Clothing must be better than school dress codes and appropriate for a Christian gathering. No short shorts and visible bra/bra-straps.
 - Boys:** You must wear shirts at all times (other than at the pool, beach or showers) and no baggy pants or shorts (we don't want to see your underwear).
 - Both:** The content (pictures/text) on your clothing must be consistent with a Christian worldview. Keep in mind that people not associated with our Group Work Camp will be in our midst.
- We understand that if we are in violation of the dress code we will be asked to change clothes and may lose privileges such as swimming or a fun group activity.

6. When something in this covenant is not followed, a FLY Adult Leader will discuss the problem with me and I will have knowledge of the possible consequences listed below. All consequences will be at the discretion of the FLY Trip Leader (Pastor Peter Johnson for our Erie, PA team)

- A FLY leader will be assigned as a "shadow" to stay with me until trust is restored.
- Certain privileges like our group's Wednesday activities may be taken away by a FLY leader.
- I will be confined to the lodging facility with supervision for an appropriate period of time. My parents will be called.
- I will be sent home at my parents' expense.

AFTER THE GROUP WORK CAMP

- 1. We will continue to "love our neighbors as ourselves," Mark 12:31.**
- 2. We will share all that God did in and through us at the Group Work Camp in these ways:**
 - Share stories from the trip at our annual Sponsorship Picnic (July 19, 2024).
 - Participate in the youth-led worship services at Faith (July 21, 2024).
 - Tell friends and family members why we went on a Group Work Camp and what we learned about God and our neighbors.
- 3. We will continue to live as members of the Church in these ways:**
 - Worship our loving and gracious God on Sundays and throughout the week.
 - Dig into Scripture and talk to God on a daily basis.
 - Actively grow in community with other Christians through FLY and other Christian groups.
 - Humbly serve others outside the walls of Faith Lutheran Church.
 - Share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through words and actions!

2024 Erie, PA Work Camp Payments & FUNdraisers

Estimated Cost Per Youth:

- \$498 registration fee
- \$110 for Gas \$
- \$100 for Van & Trailer Rental
- \$50 for Wed. half day activity in Erie, PA (July 10)
- \$12 for New FLY work camp T-shirt

Estimated Total: \$770

*Final cost will be communicated to each participant in the spring of 2024

WC Payment Schedule	Amount	Due Date	Total in Your FLY Account
Commitment Deposit	\$100	Monday, Oct. 23, 2023	\$100
Payment #2	\$100	Sunday, Dec. 3, 2023	\$200
Payment #3	\$100	Sunday, Feb. 4, 2024	\$300
Payment #4	\$100	Sunday, Mar. 3, 2024	\$400
Payment #5	\$100	Sunday, Apr. 7, 2024	\$500
Payment #6	\$100	Sunday, May 5, 2024	\$600
Payment #7	Remaining balance, if needed	Sunday, June 30, 2024	\$770

(Checks made to "Faith Lutheran Youth")

**All payments are non-refundable.*

***In early June, FLY workcampers will receive a letter from FLY stating the amount of money they earned through our 2023-24 FUNdraisers. In case they overpaid for the trip, they'll have an opportunity to receive a check from FLY. Participants may or may not have a remaining balance due on June 30, based on their FUNdraised amounts.*

2023-24 FLY FUNdraisers:

- Hot Dog & Burger FUNdraiser - Sept. 10
- Bake Sale - Nov. 5
- Babysitting Night - Nov. 24
- Ornament FUNdraiser - Dec. 3
- Coffee House/Placemat FUNdraiser - Jan. 26
- Spaghetti Dinner/Placemat FUNdraiser - Feb. 14
- Cinnamon Roll Sunday - Apr. 7
- Pancake Breakfast - May 5
- Sponsorship Table - June 16, 23 & 30
- Letter-writing campaign - Anytime

FLY Fundraising Hours Policy

(from pg. 7 of our FLY Policy Manual)

Each year, Faith Lutheran Youth (FLY) offers a variety of fundraisers to help offset the cost of major events. These major events include:

1. Group Work Camp in July
2. Other week long summer events such as the Youth Gathering

We typically have the following fundraisers at church:

1. Hot Dog & Burger FUNdraisers
2. Coffee House in January
3. Spaghetti Dinner in February

All events are done through volunteer efforts with FLY advisors, youth, and parents. Even if a person isn't planning on attending a work camp, their fundraising efforts support the FLY ministry. If your child volunteers for a fundraiser, only their hours will be credited to their account. The overall volunteer hours of the youth will then be counted for that school year. The overall income of all fundraising events will then be divided by all the youth hours to get an hourly rate. When a youth incurs an expense such as work camp, his/her overall amount of hours earned multiplied by the hourly rate will then be applied to help offset that cost. The youth can earn up to the amount of the cost of the event(s) - (they cannot earn more and get the excess back). The cost of the event(s) less the amount earned will then be compared to the deposits made for the individual. If there is still money due, they will be notified of that amount. If they are overpaid, there will be a refund issued up to the amount of deposits made to date.

EXAMPLE:

\$2000 (Overall fundraising income) ÷ 50 (Total hours worked by everyone) \$40 per hour	\$40 (per hour) <u>x 8</u> (total hours you worked) \$320 total amount earned towards your account
---	--

Who should I contact about...?

Contact Pastor Peter Johnson on the fundraising opportunities or if you have any questions.

(Church #: 585-381-3970 x16; Cell #: 585-773-4475; Email: flypenfield@gmail.com)

If there is any issue with you or the youth being able to afford an event, please contact Pastor Peter ahead of the event. We are blessed to have resources available to help cover the cost.