

What to expect...

The Urban Youth Mission begins with an orientation at 5:00pm on Sunday and goes through Friday evening. Fourth Church will provide a week long program of service learning opportunity by partnering with local non-profits organizations and social service providers. Participants will be taken to different neighborhoods in Chicago and discuss poverty, homelessness, and hunger issues experienced in the city.

Frequently Asked Questions...

What are the accommodations?

Your group will be staying at Fourth Presbyterian Church right across from the John Hancock building on Michigan Avenue. Participants are provided cots to sleep on in the Sunday School Classrooms. Males and females will be separated. There are four showers two male, two female and a kitchen facility at your disposal.

What age group can we bring?

Urban Youth Mission is designed for high school and college age groups. However we do not mix ages, once an age group has signed up for a week it becomes designated for that age group. Therefore the sooner you choose a date the better we can accommodate you. For youth groups we require a 1:4 ratio of adults to youth. We require that leaders be **at least four years** older than the oldest participant. Our facilities can accommodate up to 40 participants.

Will it be just my groups?

Urban Youth Mission allows for the opportunity to meet youth from other churches and organizations. If your group does not fill the 40 spots, we will combine groups to fill out the group. Groups will be from the same age group.

What do we do for meals?

Fourth Church will provide breakfast for your group each morning. Sack lunch materials are provided for you to make each morning and taken to your work site. After orientation of Sunday you will enjoy Chicago Style Pizza, dinner materials are provided (some assembly required) Monday through Thursday and your group will be free Wednesday evening to have dinner on your own. Dietary restriction will be accommodated if Fourth Church staff knows at least one week ahead of time.

What do we do for transportation at parking?

Your group will be using public transportation during your stay. Fourth Church staff will provide a CTA pass for each participant to ride the buses and El. Personal vehicles won't be necessary once you arrive. If you will be driving let us know and we will make arrangements for you to park in the garage, parking is \$17/day for each vehicle.

Where is Fourth Presbyterian Church? Is it a safe place for us to stay?

Fourth Church is located in the heart of what is known as the Magnificent Mile, in downtown Chicago. North Michigan Avenue is one of the busiest streets in the city, and we are surrounded by shopping malls, office buildings, and condo towers. It is a bustling, dynamic neighborhood frequented by workers, residents, shoppers from other areas of Chicago, international tourists, and people who live on the street.

Because it is a very active neighborhood, it is both a very safe neighborhood and also a neighborhood that calls for the attentiveness of any high-traffic public area: keeping track of personal belongings at all times is important, and it is recommended that smartphones be used judiciously while out on the street or on public

transportation, as they're very easy to snatch.

As tourist destination, the neighborhood around Fourth Church tends to have a visible police presence to provide assistance.

What each participant should bring:

- Appropriate clothes for hot, humid, and sometimes rainy summer days.
- Modest clothing. (no short shorts or revealing tops)
- Clothing to get dirty
- Closed toe shoes and long pants required at some sites
- Sleeping bag or sheets and a pillow (a cot will be provided for you)
- Water bottle
- Some spending money for your free afternoon _____
- Sunscreen and a hat _____
- Shower shoes
- Shower kit (a bag to carry your towel, toiletries... showers are on a different floor than sleeping area)
- Bathing suit (if your group wants to go to Lake Michigan on your free afternoon)

A typical week at Urban Youth Mission at Fourth Presbyterian Church

Sunday

5:00pm – Orientation

6:00pm – Chicago Style Pizza Dinner

8:00pm – Evening program ends

Monday - Thursday

7:15am – Wake up

8:00am – Breakfast

9:00am – 9:00pm: Volunteering/Programming *Exact schedule varies based on volunteer sites

** Free afternoon on Wednesday

Friday

7:15am – Wake up

8:00am – Breakfast

8:30 am - Clean up/Pack up

FREE DAY!

—————**4:00 pm** - Departure for the Airport

9:46 pm - Arrival at CLT