



## First Church in Ipswich

JUNE 24-29, 2018

# PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND **URBAN WORK CAMP**

## For High School Youth

*Join us for 5 days of community service work with organizations serving homeless families and refugees. We will work on a farm that grows food for hungry families, volunteer in a food pantry and a shelter sorting clothing, organizing food, preparing meals and offering child care for homeless children and we will support international refugees and ESL learners. Join us in forming new friendships as we work and play together staying at UCC's Irons Homestead, just outside of Providence. Join us in reflecting on our adventures and returning to First Church on Sunday to teach the congregation what we have learned in service to others.*

### Work?

We will join with Dorcas International, which works with refugees and ESL learners, The Providence Rescue Mission, which organizes clothing, food, and shelter for homeless families, McAuley Ministries, which provides daytime meals and childcare for families in transition, Franklin Farm, which

grows local food for hungry families, and PICA, which has a food pantry and soup kitchen in the heart of Providence.

### Housing?

Our home will be at the Irons Homestead, in Glocester Rhode Island, which has bunks, bedrooms and a fully-equipped kitchen, a swimming pool and labyrinth, hiking trails and a worship space. We will prepare our own food, bring our own bedding, and enjoy their beautiful facility.

**IRONS HOMESTEAD**  
**688 Snake Hill Road**  
**Glocester, RI 02857**  
[401-710-9478](tel:401-710-9478) office  
[401-441-7681](tel:401-441-7681) cell  
[www.ironshomestead.org](http://www.ironshomestead.org)

### Support?

Our work camp will be led by Rebecca Pugh ([revrebecca@aol.com](mailto:revrebecca@aol.com)), Beth Viehmann ([bvmann@comcast.net](mailto:bvmann@comcast.net)), Dennis Quinn, as well as Rev. Jennifer Geary, from the Irons Homestead.

**We will need one more adult who can help us with the cooking!**

### Food?

We will bring our own food and prepare it together. Our menu and each student's food contributions will be decided at our upcoming planning meeting.

### Community Service Hours:

This trip includes 60 community service hours, between volunteering with homeless families, teaching English, and farming, and preparing meals for the volunteers who come with us to Rhode Island.

### How much does it cost?

The contribution to the costs for the week will be \$250. You may also wish to bring a little pocket money for the ride home. Scholarships are available and can be obtained through contacting Carmen at the church office: (978) 356-2211.

## SCHEDULE

**April I:** submit all forms to First Church Office.

### Pre trip planning and fundraising:

April 30 – Fundraiser.

Planning meeting TBA

**Sunday June 24 (Depart for Providence)**

Meet at the church at 10:00 am for commissioning and worship, loading cars and trucks and departing. Arrive in time for a swim, supper, unpacking, orientation, settling in, and possibly a local concert.

### **Monday June 25**

Meet with formerly homeless people to learn about their lives in the morning, volunteer work in the soup kitchen in the afternoon, produce picking in the evening.

### **Tuesday June 26**

Volunteer work with the Providence Rescue Mission and Food Bank; evening fun night, with campfire, telescope, and games.

### **Wednesday June 27**

Volunteer work with the Providence Rescue Mission and Food Bank; evening workshop reflecting on race, identity, and privilege.

### **Thursday June 28**

Work with refugees, English language learners, and soup kitchen.

### **Friday June 29**

Prepare and serve a meal at homeless shelter, plan worship for Sunday, closing circle, drive home.

### **Sunday July 1 (Youth Sunday)**

We re-group at worship at First Church in Ipswich, telling sermons and stories and offering prayers and songs from our adventure and week of ministry.

### **Who can go?**

Youth who have finished grade 8 by the end of June, through high school, are welcome to apply to participate. The cars and trucks can seat 10 youth, chaperones, and luggage.

### **Time deadline:**

#### **April 1 for submitting:**

- a. the permission slip, health form copy, and release form
- b. the signed group contract
- c. the cost of the trip, or request for scholarship

### **Contract?**

The contract defines how we will live as a community.

### **Fundraisers:**

We will be doing one fundraiser for the trip--a Spring Dinner on April 30.

### **First Church Unplugged:**

We don't bring cell phones on youth retreats and service trips, except for the chaperones' phones for emergencies. We know that this is unusual for young people in our culture, and yet we have found that it frees people to live in the moment, make friends in unexpected places face to face, and fully participate in the community. Plenty of pictures will be taken by chaperones.

### **What is Youth Sunday?**

Youth Sunday is a day in which all youth who traveled in service have the chance to tell stories, share experiences, and reflect theologically with the congregation of the First Church in Ipswich. It is a required part of the week's experience, and has tended to be a highlight of the year for the congregation, to learn about the wisdom and insights of youth who have ventured afar in the name of the church. Youth Sunday this year is July 2, 10 am, at First Church in Ipswich.

### **Confirmation:**

This retreat is the final event after the year long confirmation program, and every confirmation class member is expected as a participant of the week-long community service retreat.

### **What's the Packing List?**

- \*Please pack a sleeping bag, small pillow, towel, flashlight, and toiletries.
- \*Please pack modest, old clothes, sufficient for a week's working primarily in feeding the hungry. Aprons welcome.
- \*Please pack a snack to share for the ride down on Sunday, and a non-perishable one for the ride home the following week. Non-sugary is best for this group.
- \*Please pack a Bible, a journal, and pencils and pens.
- \*Please pack several small gifts for your Ipswich "Secret Buddy", to whom you will be assigned at the beginning of the trip, and a "hostess gift" for a new friend in Providence, whether this be a leader in the Irons Homestead, or a host at one of the organizations we serve.
- \*Please pack a non-disposable water bottle to carry with you.
- \* Please pack a mug, spoon, fork and table knife that will be yours for the week, to help us cut down on dishwashing.
- \*Please pack a few games you would like to share with friends, and musical instruments.
- \*Please plan for the food contribution sharing, which we will organize together, mid-May.

### **Theological Framework:**

Just as Naomi and Ruth sheltered each other when famine wiped out their clans and left them bereft, even though they were of different tribes, so will we seek to offer comfort and shelter to some of the city's most devastated citizens, in the name of the One who sought a preferential option for the poor and the outcasts, and found that they had some of the greatest insights of all.

**First Church in Ipswich  
One Meetinghouse Green  
Ipswich, MA 01938**

978-356-2211

e-mail: [firstuccipswich@aol.com](mailto:firstuccipswich@aol.com)

**URBAN WORK CAMP, Providence Rhode Island  
June 24 - July 1, 2018**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Youth cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Medications: \_\_\_\_\_ Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that if my child does not feel well, I will be contacted.

In addition, my child has or does not have (please circle one) permission to take the following medications, should he or she need them.

(please check off the medications that your family is comfortable with, or cross off everything if you don't want your child to take medicine)

----- Aspirin	----- Ibuprofen	----- Tylenol	----- Homeopathic remedies
----- Metamucil	----- Cough medicine	----- Cough drops	----- Benadryl

A photo copy of your Insurance card Co./I.D., taped to the back of this document:

Any other concerns: \_\_\_\_\_

My child has my permission to participate in the youth activity of First Church in Ipswich. In the event of an emergency, and I cannot be contacted, I give my permission to the adult leader in charge to seek emergency medical treatment for my child.

My child \_\_\_\_Has, \_\_\_\_Does Not have permission to be photographed and posted in church displays or on the First Church website.

I also agree to not hold First Church in Ipswich, or its employees, and/or adult volunteers, responsible for any injury sustained while on the church property or during this adventure trip.

I have read the above statement, and my signature implies agreement and consent.

Youth Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**FIRST CHURCH YOUTH GROUP CONTRACT**  
**MUST BE READ AND SIGNED BY STUDENT AND PARENT/GUARDIAN**

I \_\_\_\_\_, understand that I will be representing my church, my family, and myself on this church trip. I further understand this trip is a privilege and, as such, I will conduct myself maturely, responsibly, and in a safe manner.

This means that:

1. I promise not to engage in behaviors that put me or my group at risk, including but not limited to breaking curfew, bullying, lying, stealing, experimenting with drugs, tobacco, alcohol, or weapons. I promise not to bring knives, guns, or lighters on this trip. I promise not to light fires unless there is a very unusual emergency and the team needs one for cooking or survival. Penalties for engagement in these prohibited behaviors will include expulsion and possible loss of privilege to go on further trips. This means that I may be immediately suspended from all trip activities and may be sent home at my or my family's personal expense.
- 1a. I will refrain from public displays of affection, realizing that this sometimes makes people feel left out and poses a strain on group dynamics.
- 1b. I agree with the church's no cell-phone, no laptop, no i-pod policy on youth retreats.
2. I understand that what the chaperone says goes and I will abide by what he/she says at all times even if I think I know better.
3. I will be with at least one other youth group member at all times. Unless structured otherwise, I will remain with the group and follow the scheduled activities.
4. I will abide by church curfews (though they may be earlier than the times with which I am familiar).
5. I will alert an adult immediately if I am feeling sick or having a serious problem.
6. I will be respectful of other people's property. I understand I am responsible for any damage I do to property during this trip, whether it is accidental or not.

The purpose of these rules is to assure the enjoyment and safety of all participants. I understand that my failure to comply will result in a phone call home, possible dismissal from certain activities, and/or removal from the trip, and possible loss of privilege to go on future trips.

Participant signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. # \_\_\_\_\_

Please feel free to make a copy of this for your records.

**Please return the four items listed below to the church office by April 1, 2018.**

A signed permission slip

A signed contract

A copy of child's health insurance card

Full payment, \$250, or request for a scholarship.