

There are Scholarships available.  
Please do not let cost be a reason for not participating.  
All participants will take part in one simple, low-pressure fund raising event to pay for supplies, gas, etc.

**Who else will be there?**

Sr. Suzanne Thibault C.A. is the program director for YPWC and she puts together an excellent Summer Staff.  
We may be joined by another group from another area of the country.

More info at  
<https://www.timniven.org/young-people-who-care>



**YPWC Participants**

Fr. Tim Niven can be reached at  
585-507-1433  
[niven@dor.org](mailto:niven@dor.org)



2022  
HIGH  
SCHOOL  
SUMMER  
SERVICE  
PROJECT

SUNDAY JULY 10 TO  
FRIDAY JULY 15

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**YPWC HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER SERVICE**

*A week of Christian Service especially designed for High School students who want to live their faith and grow closer to God.*

*The week centers around service to the people in and around Clearfield County, Pennsylvania, in the norther Appalachian Mountains. All of the service is done in a mix of work, prayer, education, community, and mutual support*

*This publication is meant to be a source of basic information about the project.*

SPONSORED BY



### Who is the YPWC Summer Service Project for?

The *YPWC Summer Service Project* is designed especially for students in high school. Prayer services, work tasks, and other activities are well planned so that high school students will be able to learn from them, appreciate them, and safely participate in them.

### Where, exactly, is Frenchville, PA?

Frenchville, PA is about 25 minutes outside of Clearfield, PA, on Route 80 in West-Central Pennsylvania. Since there is no direct route from here (those pesky Appalachian Mountains), it takes about four hours to drive there. Frenchville is in a region known as Appalachia.

### What is the YPWC Summer Service Project?

The Summer Service Project is a weeklong volunteer experience especially designed for High School Students. It is a week of work, prayer, recreation and learning, all done in community with other parishioners, other volunteers at Young People Who Care, and with the people we serve.



Participants are housed at Bethany Youth Retreat Center in Frenchville (a ministry of Young People Who Care) and participate in service in and around Clearfield County.

Young People Who Care hosts five or six weeks of summer service each year with groups from all over

the region (PA, NY, OH, MI, etc.)

### What is Young People Who Care?

*Young People Who Care* (YPWC) is a rural Catholic mission which was founded in 1976 by Sr. Therese Dush, C.A. and her youth

prevent relationships. So, there are no TV's, radios, cell phones, mp3 players, etc. allowed. This creates an atmosphere that is more conducive to conversations. Meals and snacks are hearty and healthy, but are simple. We don't bring any of our own "junk food", but there are snacks that we make while we are there.



6 - River Swim

Participants have one shower during the week, but there is an opportunity to swim in the river on other days. The water is warm, refreshing, and enjoyable.

### Information Meetings

Every participant, along with a parent, must attend one of the following information meetings in Room 1, next to Greeting area of Church:

- Sunday March 20 at 11:30 am, after the 10:30 am Mass  
or
- Sunday, March 27, at 7:45 pm after Confirmation/Youth group

### Mandatory Preparation Meetings

- There will be three mandatory preparation meetings for all participants: These will be scheduled after participants have signed up.

### How much will it cost?

\$250 per participant, which includes everything *except* meals while traveling, and any personal purchases. Each additional family member is \$50 less.

We also build solidarity by spending time with those who are in some way poor. We visit them, assist them in some way, and make their day, perhaps even their lives, a bit brighter.

Community is experienced in our cooking meals for one another, praying together, working with one another, and playing games together.

Other than a willingness to participate and relatively good health in order to do some hard work, no particular skills are needed. There are some skills that, if you

have them, will be helpful. For example: carpentry, visiting elderly, working with persons with a disability, yard work, playing a musical instrument, singing, art, painting, house cleaning, etc.

Not only is the *YPWC Summer Service Project* a great place to use your skills, it is also a great place to discover and develop new skills. It may be the first time a participant uses a hammer, visits a nursing home, paints a room, plans a prayer service, cooks for a large group, or builds a wheel chair ramp. There are always adults on hand to teach and assist in whatever new experiences participants might be a part of.

### **I've heard we live "simply" while we are there. What does this mean?**

Life at YPWC may be very different from the life that we typically experience. One reason we will live simply is because we want to live in solidarity with the poor. Another reason is that we recognize how some modern conveniences and technologies



4 - Home Crew

group from Pennsylvania. It started off with the purchase of a small farm in Frenchville, PA and is now a multi-ministry mission. There are two retreat houses on the property as well as dorms and facilities for volunteers like us.



### **Who Can Participate?**

Participants must be at least 16 years of age and entering their junior year of high school, up through graduating seniors.

Or, participants can be 14 or 15 years old and entering at least 9th grade if a parent participates with them.

Participants must be practicing Catholics.

All participants must attend one informational meeting with at least one parent, and attend all of our preparation meetings. The dates of these are on the back cover of this booklet.

There is a simple application due April 25, 2022.

### **How do I apply?**

Each person who wishes to be a participant in this year's *YPWC High School Summer Service Project* must complete a three-part application. Applications will be available at the information sessions or online.

### What might a typical day look like?

- Wake up at 6:30 am and breakfast at 7:00 am
- Morning Prayer
- Assigned jobs:

Participants are generally with a different group each day. Members of that day's Home Crew make breakfast and cook supper. They do chores around the Center and plan that day's Night Prayer. Other participants are assigned jobs at various places and around Clearfield county. Weather permitting, we all spend some time in the morning in the blueberry patch. Blueberries are a "cash crop" that supports YPWC's ministries.



In the late afternoon we return for:

- A swim in the river
- Dinner
- Recreation
- A "quiet hour" for personal reflection, prayer, journaling , or even a nap.
- Evening prayer which might include the Rosary, Stations of the Cross, and we will have mass one night during the week.
- Finally, well deserved sleep.

### What types of jobs would we be assigned?

No two trips are exactly alike, but some typical jobs are

- building a wheelchair ramp or repairing steps
- house cleaning
- washing windows

- painting (inside or out)
- yard work
- visiting people in their homes or in nursing homes

Most often, participants work at a different site and with a different group each day.

### Are adult chaperones part of the Summer Service Project?

Adult participants are needed who relate well with high school students, who are at least 25 years old, can drive and have a reliable car to bring. They must be able to provide excellent leadership. All adult participants who have not yet done so must receive diocesan training in "Creating a Safe Environment" which is mandated in all dioceses in our country. We will provide this training during our preparation time.



### What skills do participants need to have?

First and foremost, participants must be willing to live in solidarity with the poor and in community for a week.

Solidarity with the poor is experienced through living simply; that is, doing without some things that we may take for granted. For example, junk food and fast food.