



The Center  
MISSION OUTSIDE THE BOX

# 2021 TPC Youth Mission Week

## August 2 – August 6 (Monday – Friday)

### Middle School Youth, High School Youth & Parents:

When our Youth Advisors and Pastor Joel began planning for this summer's youth camp experiences, we quickly determined we would not be leaving the state of Maryland, and a HS Mission Trip to Tennessee and the MS Conference at Massanetta Springs in Virginia would be put on the backburner for another year. We are not comfortable asking our youth (and their parents) to travel out of state this summer. From there we considered an at-home virtual experiences through Massanetta and the Montreat Youth Conference, but we also kept looking for opportunities for our youth and advisors to be outside and in-person this summer. After exploring a few options, we are excited to now invite our middle and high school youth to a Mission Week through The Center!

### What is The Center?

The Center ([click here](#) to watch a 5-minute intro video to their ministry) is a mission arm of the Presbytery of Baltimore and seeks to find opportunities for churches to serve in areas where God's love and justice are already at work (they don't try and reinvent the wheel but partner with existing ministries). Prior to Covid, The Center invited out-of-state churches to stay in their downtown facility and serve through a Baltimore Presbytery congregation's mission initiative (TPC twice was a "mission host" for The Center through our food insecurity ministries). This summer they have switched gears and are creating mission experiences for church groups within Maryland.

### What will this week look like?

From Monday, August 2 to Friday, August 6, our middle and high school youth will serve in mission sites throughout the day and sleep at home! Youth will serve at The Center's food insecurity and farming mission partners located in Baltimore and Baltimore County. Youth will be dropped off by their parents at service sites in the morning (8:30-9:00 a.m.) and picked up in the afternoon (3:30-4:00 p.m.). Middle and high school will gather at the same location but will be broken up into age-specific groups throughout the day. With Pastor Joel on sabbatical this summer, Jenness Hall, TPC's Children's Minister, will lead this week alongside TPC youth advisors. The Center will also provide on-site staff to help lead and provide theological reflection for our entire group at the end of the day. Youth and adults will be masked and socially distanced throughout the day.

### Who can register for this week?

Youth currently in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade.

## Where will we be serving?

Two out of the three service sites are in stone:

Stillmeadow Community Fellowship's Peace Park ([click here](#)) – Roughly 30-45 minutes from TPC, Stillmeadow's Peace Park was once a 10-acre stretch of dying trees and invasive vines but is now slowly becoming a thriving green space. Stillmeadow's goal is "to plant about 3,000 trees on the land, ultimately repopulating the urban forest and creating an oasis with trails, meditation stations, an amphitheater and vegetable gardens." Two days of our Mission Week will be spent serving at Stillmeadow's Peace Park.

Glenwood Life Recovery Garden ([click here](#)) – Located 15 minutes south from TPC on York Rd., Glenwood Life Counseling Center's Recovery Garden began as a space for its clients to grow flowers and vegetables for therapy and to address the food desert in which they live. It has since incorporated native species plantings and classes on composting. Four years ago, TPC helped begin this ministry with both our hands and finances. We will serve at Glenwood Life on the last day of our Mission Week, Friday, August 6.

## How much does this week cost?

Though the cost of a mission week through The Center is \$300 per person, we are underwriting \$150 per person through TPC's Holmes Mission Fund, which leaves each participant with a **\$150 out-of-pocket payment**. To reserve a spot on the 2021 TPC Youth Mission Week, please mail in a \$150 check written out to *Towson Presbyterian Church*, or online at [towsonpres.org](http://towsonpres.org) (click on the orange "Give to TPC" button at the top right; next scroll down and click on the orange "Give Now" button; under "Select a Fund" click either "Workcamp-Senior High" or "Workcamp-Middle School" depending on the age of our teen. **Please register by May 30.**

*\*If additional financial assistance would be helpful, please contact Pastor Joel. We do not want finances to keep anyone from experiencing these transformative summer trips.*

## Will there be meetings with youth and advisors before August 2?

Yes! As we approach August 2, Jenness Hall, youth advisors and teens will meet to prepare for this week.

