

# **READ BUT DO NOT RETURN THESE PAGES**

**The following pages represent information you are  
required to read from DUMC.**

**They are not part of the application form.**

**Application forms are contained within a separate file.**

# **DUMC Trip to Garrett County Habitat for Humanity**

## ***What to Expect***

### **Applications Forms Must Be Witnessed; Youth Forms Notarized**

Both Youth AND Adult Application Forms Require a Witness

- The Habitat form "Release And Waiver Of Liability" signature page requires a witness (both adult and youth)
- The Habitat form "Parental Authorization For Treatment Of, And Travel With, A Minor Child" must be notarized

### **Trip Costs**

All participants must pay something toward the trip.

- DUMC members - \$75
- Others - \$125

### **Lodging**

We will stay at St. Paul's UMC in Oakland, MD. We sleep on the floor of the nursery and children's Sunday school room. There are no beds – you must bring your own. Plan to bring either an air mattress or cot and a sleeping bag or sheets.

### **Food**

- Breakfast is provided by St. Paul's. They will typically have a hot breakfast (varies each day, but typically something like French toast, scrambled eggs, or potatoes with ham) as well as a variety of cold cereals, seasonal fruit, coffee, and juice.
- Lunch makings are also provided by St. Paul's. You will pack your own lunch from a variety of lunch meats, cheese, peanut butter & jelly, chips, fruit, and cookies. We will have coolers in which to put the lunches which will be eaten at the site.
- Dinner is typically provided by an area church or other organization. We travel to different locations each evening. Wednesday night is typically the Habitat Board picnic at Ida Maust's pavilion (on what used to be her family's strawberry farm).
- We will bring or buy water and/or sport drinks to have available at the worksite.

### **Showers**

There are no showers at the church. We will shower at the local community college or high school. We will shower after leaving the worksite at the end of each day. You should bring a towel, wash cloth, and appropriate toiletries. You will also need a bag/backpack in which pack your shower supplies and clean clothes each day. We do not return to the church before showering, so all shower supplies and clean clothes must be brought with you to the worksite.

### **Devotionals**

We will have some sort of devotional each evening Monday through Thursday.

## **Good, Bad, Spiritual**

After the devotional is complete, we will go around the room and ask each person for something good, bad, and spiritual about the day. (This may be combined as part of the devotional.)

## **Secret Servant**

In the past, we have done something called "Secret Servant". On Sunday night, we put all participants' names in a bag and ask each person to draw one name. You become the "Secret Servant" to the person whose name you drew. Keep the name you drew a secret.

On Sunday night, you will put your name on a paper lunch bag. You can also decorate the bag if desired. All the bags are hung on a clothesline in a common area.

Each day, you are expected to write a positive note to the person whose name you drew. You should also write positive notes to others in the group – though you don't have to write to each person each day. Adults are encouraged to write something to each of the youth participants each day. The notes are put into the bags each day. In order to maintain your "secret" status, you will probably not want to sign your name to the note.

There is usually free time in the evening. You can use that time to write your notes. We will provide the bags, markers, paper and pens for use in writing the notes and decorating the bags. Some people check their bags at night for notes; others in the morning. Sometimes there will be something in addition to the notes – candy, balloons, etc. (adults may want to bring some of these items with them).

We do something special either as part of, or after, devotionals on Thursday night to reveal the "Secret Servant" to the recipient.

## **Fun Evening Activities**

We try to plan some fun activity after dinner. This might involve boating on or swimming in Deep Creek Lake (courtesy of some trip participants who have boats stored at Deep Creek), mini-golf, arcades, go-carts, or trips to the Creamery for ice cream.

## ***Typical Schedule***

### **Sunday – Arrival Day**

- 1:00pm – plan to depart DUMC
- 4:30 – arrive at St. Paul's and unload
- 5:30 – go to Uno's Pizza on the lake for dinner
- 8:00 – set up Secret Servant and go over any rules (such as times for lights out and all quiet)

### **A Typical Work Day**

- 6:30 – 7:00 – wake up call; get dressed; pack shower bag
- 7:00 – 8:00 – breakfast and pack lunches
- 8:00 – leave for worksite
- 8:30 – 4:00 work at worksite; we will break for 30 minutes for lunch eaten at the site
- 4:00 – leave for showers (typically done in shifts so that we don't all arrive at the shower site at the same time; this is also coordinated with the other groups that will be working with us during the week)
- 5:30 – finish showers; head to dinner
- 6:00 – 7:00 – dinner
- 7:30 – return to St. Paul's or head out for a group activity such as mini golf
- 7:45 – 8:15 devotionals; thoughts for the day
- 8:15 – 10:00 – free time; work on notes
- 10:00 – lights out
- 10:30 – all quiet

### **Friday – Departure Day/Return Home**

- 6:30 – wake up call; get dressed; begin clean up/break down of sleeping areas
- 7:00 – breakfast and pack lunches
- 8:00 – leave for worksite
- 8:30 – 12:00 work at worksite
- 12:00 – stop work to eat lunch
- 12:30 – clean up of work site and collection of tools
- 1:00 – head back to St. Paul's to load up and clean up
- 2:00 – depending on group wishes and how dirty we are, we may stop to shower before heading home
- 5:00 – 6:00 arrive back at DUMC
- 5:00 – after arrival back at church, through cleaning of church van and/or any personal vehicles used on the trip (remove trash, personal items, vacuum, wipe interior windows, etc.)

## ***What to Bring***

### **Clothes**

- Refer to the clothing guidelines document in the application packet. Sports bras alone are not acceptable.
- The sleeping quarters are usually the nursery and children's Sunday school room in a local church. The girls usually have the nursery while the guys usually have the Sunday school room. Please bring appropriate sleeping attire.
- There is usually a chance to go swimming on Wednesday night (in a large pond) – bring a swimsuit.
- The temperature in Garrett County is usually about 10 degrees cooler than Montgomery County and often less humid. You may want to bring a jacket and a pair of long pants for the early morning or late evening.

### **Shoes**

- You should bring shoes with thick soles that can't be penetrated by a nail.
- Tennis shoes are not acceptable for the worksite.
- You may want to bring flip flops for the showers

### **Bedding**

You will need a cot, air mattress, or other padding since we will be sleeping on the floor. Bring a sleeping bag or sheets.

### **Towels/Toiletries**

Bring a towel, washcloth, and appropriate toiletries for the shower. You may want to bring a second towel to use after swimming. Sunscreen and bug spray are a good idea. You will need some sort of bag to transport your towel, toiletries, and clothes to/from the shower site.

### **Food**

There is no need to bring food or drinks – all meals are provided. However, we welcome donations of bottled water and extra snack items such as crackers, cookies, chips, granola bars, etc. that can be shared with the group.

### **Water Bottles**

If you have a plastic re-usable sports type water bottle or thermos, bring it with you. This will reduce our dependence on paper cups and/or the need for single serving water bottles and reduce the amount of trash at the site.

## **Tools/Safety Equipment**

If you have any of the following items, please bring them with you. Habitat and DUMC will have tools available for those that don't have them.

- Hammer
- Tape Measure
- Nail Pouch/Tool Belt
- Safety Glasses
- Work gloves

## **Money**

You will want to bring a small amount of spending money for our fun evening activities and/or emergencies. The cost of the evening activities is not included in the cost of the trip and must be paid for by the participants.

- We typically make at least one visit to Funland to play mini-golf, arcades, go-carts, etc.
- We usually visit the Creamery several times for ice cream.
- There is also a large Wal-Mart store in town for emergency supplies, but we don't encourage shopping.

## **Gift for Secret Servant**

- You may want to bring a special, but inexpensive, gift to give your secret servant recipient.
- You may also want to bring special "prizes" such as candy, balloons, or gag gifts to place in the secret servant bags of someone who made your day special.

## ***Trip Costs***

### **Work Camp Fees**

- Garrett County charges DUMC \$175 for each person we commit to sending. This fee is not pro-rated for people who are unable to attend the full week and is charged even if the participant does not attend.
- The Habitat trip is not funded through the church budget. We rely solely on “second-mile” donations from individuals and various groups in the church to help cover the fees and expenses we incur.
- DUMC has to commit to a minimum number of attendees by June 1<sup>st</sup>. If we tell Garrett County we will bring 30 people, but only 20 actually register, we still must pay for 30 people.
- DUMC members/attendees must pay at least \$75 toward the work-camp fee at the time of registration to help defray expenses. A check (made payable to DUMC) must be attached to the application. If payment is not received, the applicant will not be allowed to attend. This fee applies even if you have participated in Habitat in previous years. This fee is non-refundable. Scholarships are available for DUMC members.
- Non-DUMC members/attendees must pay at least \$125 toward the work camp fee at the time of registration to help defray expenses. A check (made payable to DUMC) must be attached to the application. If payment is not received, the applicant will not be allowed to attend. This fee applies even if you have participated in Habitat in previous years. This fee is non-refundable.

### **Other Costs Incurred by DUMC and Habitat Leaders**

In addition to the work camp fees, DUMC and the Habitat trip leaders incur other costs associated with the trip:

- Daily purchase of ice and sodas/sport drinks – We purchase ice and drinks every day for our lunches. While food for lunches is provided by Habitat and our host church, drinks and the ice (to keep the lunches and drinks cool) are not. This can add up to close to \$200.
- Purchases of snacks – While food for lunches is provided by Habitat or our host church, snacks are not. If we don't receive enough donations from participants, we will need to purchase additional snacks. This can add up to \$100.
- Sunday night pizza party – We have a tradition of going to UNO's Pizzeria on Deep Creek Lake the night of our arrival. This can add up to \$200-\$250 depending on the number of participants.
- Watermelon eating contest – \$50 for watermelons and supplies such as plastic bags/tablecloths and paper plates
- Gas for church van

### **Personal Spending Money**

Participants may want to bring a small amount of spending money to use for:

- Ice cream (at least one and often two nights) at the Creamery
- Mini-golf, go-carts, and/or arcades
- Purchasing Habitat related items (ball caps, nail aprons, t-shirts, cookbooks, etc.) at the Habitat board picnic

## ***Registration Information***

- Registration Forms Are Available on the Church Website – just look for the Habitat For Humanity information
- Registration Requires A Complete Application – No one will be added to the list of participants until BOTH a signed completed Garrett County Habitat application and a signed completed DUMC Supplemental Habitat application have been received by the trip coordinator. (Emails, phone calls, or text messages will not reserve a space for you.)
- Registration Requires Appropriate Fee – All participants must include the appropriate fee (\$50 for DUMC members/attendees; \$100 for everyone else) with the application. Scholarships are available for DUMC members.
- The number of youth (under 18) allowed to attend will be based on the number of adult participants (25 or older). There must be one adult for every three or four youth under 18. This is a requirement from Habitat. Youth will be added to the participant list in the order the applications are received.

## ***Other Trip Rules and Requirements***

### **Full Week Participation Expected**

- Participants are expected to arrive on Sunday evening and stay through Friday until the group leaves to return home. All exceptions must be cleared in advance with the Habitat leaders.

### **Construction/Lack of Work**

- There will be times when there is not enough work for everyone at a given time. Sometimes we have to wait for supplies to arrive. Sometimes we have to wait for someone else to complete their part. This is simply the nature of construction. Habitat leaders will do their best to make sure everyone has something to do.
- There are no unimportant jobs. Even “grunt work” such as moving dirt or digging holes is important.

### **Devotionals/Grace**

All participants are expected to participate in the nightly devotionals. In addition, Habitat leaders may ask for volunteers to lead the devotionals one night or to offer grace one morning before breakfast.

### **Cell Phone Policy**

Youth are not allowed to have cell phones on the worksite. Cell phones must be left in the church van/personal car during the day. Phones may be brought out and used at lunch time, but must be returned to the van after lunch. Violation of this rule is grounds for removal from the trip (parents will be called and asked to pick up the youth immediately).

### **Tobacco Policy**

- Tobacco includes cigarettes, e-cigarettes, cigars, pipes, chew, snuff, and dissolvable tobacco products such as pellets, sticks, and strips.
- Tobacco use is restricted to adults 18 and older.

- Use of tobacco by any youth is grounds for removal from the trip (parents will be called and asked to pick up the youth immediately).
- Tobacco must not be used on the worksite, in the host church, or on the host church grounds.

### **Daily Cleanup of Church Van/Other Vehicles**

- All participants are expected to help keep the church van and other vehicles used on the Habitat trip clean during the trip. This includes, but is not limited to: daily removal of all food wrappers, drink cans, and other trash; removal of personal items (for example dirty socks); neatly organizing boots, work gloves, tools, etc.
- In addition to the daily cleanup, ALL participants will be asked to participate in an end-of-the-week full cleanup of the church van (and other vehicles if asked by the driver). This includes a complete check of the van to remove all trash, personal items, tools, etc. The van must be vacuumed and the interior windows cleaned. The cleanup may also include an exterior wash at the van driver's discretion. If the weather permits, the end-of-week cleanup must be done on Friday afternoon when the group returns to DUMC (before youth participants are allowed to be picked up by parents). In case of rain, Habitat leaders will select an alternate day/time and notify participants.

### **Contact Information**

Trip Organizer – Anita Duvall

240-485-7650 (cell/text) (please include your name when calling/texting)

[anita.duvall@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:anita.duvall@fda.hhs.gov)

### **Garrett County Habitat Website**

<http://www.garretthfh.org/>