

Summer Mission 2026

Informational Sheet

What agency will we be using for our Mission experience?: Jerusalem Farm in Kansas City, Missouri

What is Jerusalem Farm?:

Jerusalem Farm is more than just a week of doing service. It is a year round service community. We will get to join their missionaries for a week long service experience. Jerusalem Farm is about helping participants both deepen their commitment to the call of the Gospel, and work for justice in our world today. They are committed to the four cornerstones of Service, Community, Prayer, and Simplicity. We will learn how to live these Cornerstones in our lives.

Service Possibilities:

Each day will be spent either renewing homes by doing such things as scraping, painting, repairs, siding, building a ramp or deck, or helping to build new homes for low income families. You'll bring hope to disadvantaged people. You do not need to be an experienced carpenter or painter to participate.

How do Mission Trips Work?:

Preparation begins in November, with six preparation sessions. Work projects commence right after breakfast on Monday morning. We will be the only group there this week. Lodging is in a gender divided dorm at Jerusalem Farm. Each day begins with prayer and ends with a program of games, music, witness and prayer.

Who can go?:

Anyone who is in 8th Grade or High School this year and participating in STORM Youth Ministry. We will have to limit the number and there is an application to fill out that must be returned with the deposit (non-refundable if you are chosen to go) by November 16, 2025 to Jennifer Olson. Priority will be given to those people who are active in STORM. Everyone going must attend at least one of the Retreats this year and make a commitment to be at all of the Preparation Sessions from 7:00-9:00 pm: Monday, December 8 - teens and parent(s), Wednesday, January 14 - teens, Monday, February 2 - teens, Thursday, April 16 - teens, Tuesday, May 12 - teens, and Monday, May 18 - teens and parent(s). Please request off of work.

Where and When are we going?:

We are going to Jerusalem Farm in Kansas City, Kansas. We are planning our trip to begin on Sunday, June 14, 2026 and to end on Saturday, June 20, 2026.

What are the costs?:

We are going to ask participants to contribute \$250 and to get sponsors for another \$100 (if you choose not to get sponsors, you pay \$350). The actual cost of the Mission Trip is \$400 per person. Add to this the cost of chaperones, van rental, gas, and meals along the way and the cost of the trip is approximately \$800. We will be doing group and individual fund-raising to offset the cost of the trip and participants will be required to help with this. This will include service to our Parishioners for a donation. An initial deposit of \$100 (non-refundable if you are chosen to go) is due by Sunday, November 16, 2025. Please turn this in earlier if possible, because we have a Trivia Night in early November and need to know who is helping. Helping with the Trivia Night Fundraisers will reduce your fee by \$50 for each one. Two additional payments (or the fundraised money) of \$100 and \$150 will be due January 15 and March 15. The estimate of \$350 is based on the assumption that you will work 6-8 Mass Fundraisers, attend all 4 teen preparation meetings, and attend both car washes. If you don't help with this fundraising, your fee will be higher. If you know you can't make something, for example the summer car wash, you can work extra service fundraisers to make up the difference, or you can just pay the extra. At the June meeting, you will pay any balance you have left from missed meetings or fundraisers and will commit to the summer fundraisers. We may add in a couple of individual fundraisers. Sponsorships is another great option for individual fundraising. You can send out letters to friends and family asking them to sponsor you. The money they send is a donation and will offset the cost of your trip. I have an example letter and forms if you want to participate in this. These individual fundraisers can reduce your fee below the \$350 minimum or can decrease your fee if you aren't able to do all the fundraisers. Several participants fundraised their entire fee in past years. We do not want money to be the reason someone doesn't participate! If money is an issue, contact me and we can see if we can find you a sponsor and find you some extra fundraising opportunities!



Our Whole Group at Jerusalem Farm 2025



Working on the Siding



Prayer at Jerusalem Farm



Holding a Goat



Building a Deck



Helping out in the Kitchen



A Group on the Deck We Built



Picking Turnips



Working on the Deck



Playing Cards



Our Group at the State Capital



At the Zoo on the Way Home



Lunch at Shelter



Dinner



Recreation Night at the Pool

Application To Participate In the Summer Mission Trip

If you decide that you are interested in participating in the trip, please complete this application and return it with your \$100 deposit (non-refundable if you are chosen to go) to Jennifer Olson by Sunday, November 16, 2025. Priority will be given to those who are active in STORM.

It is to your advantage to turn them in early to guarantee a spot.
We have a limited number of spaces available, so please turn your information in as soon as possible.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ E-mail: _____

Date of Birth: _____ / _____ / _____ Male _____ Female (Circle) _____

Current School & Year: _____

Parent's Name(s): _____

1. Have you participated in a Mission Trip before? When & Where?
Why are you interested in participating in the Summer Mission Trip?
What do you hope to get out of the experience?

2. What do you wish to share with the people you encounter on the Mission Trip?
What skills and/or gifts do you possess that may be helpful on a trip of this kind?

3. Do you have any allergies or medical conditions? Please list them.

Commitment

I understand the nature of this Mission Trip experience. I agree to cooperate with the Joliet Diocese Code of Behavior and to be financially responsible for the cost of the Mission Trip and to help with all fund-raising. I understand if I do not help with fundraising, I will have to pay more. I am also willing to participate in the formation meetings to prepare for our trip that will occur in the months prior to our departure in June 2026.

Signature of Participant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent: _____ Date: _____