

# YOUTH FORCE ARDMORE



JUNE 17 - 22  
7TH - GRADS  
C O S T T B D  
DEADLINE JUNE 3

## A Brief History of Youth Force

Youth Force began as a summer mission project for three Oklahoma City area churches in 1987. It began as four full day sessions that met sporadically during the summer month. Projects such as the Ronald McDonald House, the Ark Family Shelter, Skyline Urban Ministries, and others received the benefit of the youths' help.

In the fall of 89 a group of youth directors met with the vision of a week-long mission project in the inner city of Oklahoma City. Having previously taken groups to out of state projects, these youth leaders wanted to provide Oklahoma youth an opportunity to be in mission at home. Drawing upon the experiences of previous Youth Force mission, Mountain T.O.P., the Appalachian Service Project, Group Work Camps and San Marcos Mission Project, the decision was made to keep the Youth Force name, but to expand it to a one-week, five day mission project. This format allowed for better utilization of job skills, consistency of participants, and an increased awareness of mission effectiveness. There were fifty-six participants in 1990. There was no housing and the participants went home each evening and returned to work in the mornings.

Youth Force 1991 saw the addition of housing for participants. The girls stayed at Epworth United Methodist Church, and the boys at May Avenue United Methodist Church. Breakfast was prepared and served at Epworth by a dedicated crew from Wickline United Methodist Church in Midwest City. Lunches were prepared by the manna managers and dinner was eaten in the cafeteria at Oklahoma City University. OCU also provided showers in the field house. 86 girls used 2 showers. Eighteen families were served by Youth Force in 1991 when the name "God Squad" was adopted for the small work teams. There were 158 participants in 1991.

1992 brought about major changes in Youth Force with the moving of housing and meals to OCU. This move allowed an explosion of participants. One day was added to the schedule with everyone arriving on Sunday and leaving on Friday. Cool rooms, beds, and hot showers were a welcome addition for all participants. The theme for 1992 was Youth Force – A Labor of Love. Twenty-five projects were completed for Skyline Urban Ministries, Neighborhood Services Organization, and L.I.F.E.

In 1993 the number of participants for Youth Force maxed out at 225. Housing was again at OCU and 28 projects were completed. Love in Action was more than just a theme as this dedicated group of youth and adults worked, played and worshipped in an attitude of love.

In 1994 Youth Force Satellite came into being. 75 youth and adults served in the rural areas of Southeastern Oklahoma. The Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference provided the housing. Rural Youth Force took on its' own character. Urban reached capacity before the middle of March with 250 registrants. God made phone calls nightly during worship.

1995 was a "hot" year for Youth Force both at the Youth Force Rural Kiamichi and Youth Force OKC. Temperatures soared but so did spirits. OCU continued to provide housing for OKC participants who numbered 225. The center for mission activities also changed to OCU as we said good-bye to Epworth Church, which so graciously hosted Youth Force for several years. Youth Force Rural Kiamichi (Satellite) continued to grow with 80 participants. Antlers United Methodist Church prepared wonderful meals for hungry workers!

1997 was an exciting year in both Lawton, Enid and OKC. The support seen in the communities was excellent. In Lawton the city wholeheartedly joined in our efforts challenging us to extend the boundaries of Youth Force even farther.

In 1998 Youth Force extended to Cleveland County while staying strong in both OKC, and Lawton.

From 1998 to the present Youth Force has continued to grow with sites all over the state of Oklahoma (Frederick, Duncan, Ada) and has been a part of MANY communities. In fact there have even been extensions of Youth Force in Florida, Tennessee, Texas, Louisiana, and maybe even places we aren't aware of. Each of these follow the same model and have begun with people from Oklahoma moving into areas and carrying the model and vision of Youth Force.

The horizons are still great! We are excited to continue to bring the good news of Jesus Christ to the people of Ardmore.

# Youth Force Ardmore 2018

THE PURPOSE OF YOUTH FOCE IS TO PROVIDE A POSITIVE MISSION EXPERIENCE  
TO ALL PARTICIPANTS WHILE REVIVING HOPE TO THE COMMUNITY

## PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Check one:  Youth  College Team  Adult

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Age (as of 6/17/18) \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in Fall 2018: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Cell Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt Size: S M L XL XXL (adult sizes)

## PERMISSION, LIABILITY & MEDICAL RELEASE FORM

I (we), the undersigned parent(s) or guardian(s) of

\_\_\_\_\_  
Youth Force Participant / participant's birth date

agree to hold the Oklahoma Conference leadership team and the leaders free from liability for injuries, damages, or losses unless caused by willful or intentional conduct on the part of the leadership team, leaders, or camp staff.

As legal guardian(s) I (we) give permission to the camp staff to seek medical attention if needed for this camper.

Our Health Insurance Co. is \_\_\_\_\_ Policy # \_\_\_\_\_ Group # \_\_\_\_\_

Camper's pre-existing medical conditions & current medication use \_\_\_\_\_

\*ALL MEDS will be turned into camp medical staff at time of arrival (with the exception of emergency meds: inhalers, epi-pens, etc)

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

Immunization information: Tetanus \_\_\_\_\_ most recent date \_\_\_\_\_

May we have permission to administer: Tylenol, Motrin or Benadryl to your child? YES NO

Parents' home phone (with area code) \_\_\_\_\_ Business phone (with area code) \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Phone (other than parent/guardian) \_\_\_\_\_

I (we) as legal guardian(s)/parent(s) give permission for the above named child's personal property to be searched, if just cause is determined by the event staff. If such search is deemed necessary, the participant's property is to be searched in the presence of two staff persons, designated by the Event Leader/Site Official.

I (we) give my permission for my child to be photographed or videotaped, which may be used by The United Methodist Church for camp promotions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
signature of parent or guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
date

\_\_\_\_\_  
signature of parent or guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
date

*If there are two parents or legal guardians, both signatures are preferable. In the event of an emergency, some health care or emergency service providers will only discuss the patient's needs or health issues with a parent or guardian signed above.*

*For Youth Force participants over the age of 18, all statements above apply to adult signees.*

## PARTICIPANT COVENANT OF CONDUCT

In all meetings or other events under the sponsorship/guidance of my church, I am a representative of that Christian Community and I am responsible for my actions. I understand the following guidelines will be followed.

1. I will not bring or use firearms, explosives, illegal drugs, alcoholic beverages or tobacco products because all are prohibited.
2. My conduct will be in keeping with the highest Christian regard for all people.
3. I will be expected to participate in all group activities and small group meetings.
4. I understand that sleeping at night is good for my health and alertness so I will be in my room in my bed when indicated by my camp schedule
5. I will follow all dress codes and dress appropriate for my Christian witness.
6. I will leave all areas clean; meetings, rooms, work sites, sanctuary, and other activity areas.
7. I will participate in the full week of camp; arriving on Sunday by 3:00 PM and not leaving until noon on Friday.

**I have read and understand the Participant Covenant of Conduct and agree to abide by it**

Participant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

date \_\_\_\_\_

# An Overview of Youth Force Ardmore 2018

- **DATES & COST:** The dates for Youth Force Ardmore are Sunday, June 17-Friday, June 22. The cost for youth participants is . . . . The deadline for registration is June 3.
- **WHO CAN COME:** Youth Force is open to students who are entering 7th grade through students who have just graduated from high school. There is also a team for college students.
- **WHAT'S A GOD SQUAD?** Our work groups are called God Squads. Each God Squad will have 2 adults and 8-10 youth who will work together to complete the projects at their site throughout the week. The God Squads will be made up of a mix of students from junior high and high school and guys and girls. You may not know anyone else in your "God Squad" but by the end of the week the people in your God Squad will be some of your best friends!
- **WORK SITES:** There will be a variety of jobs that have been selected prior to your arrival. Work sites may include siding, minor construction repair, painting, yard work, etc. The homeowners will be those who are physically or financially unable to do the work themselves. Some will be elderly, some may be families with young children, and others disabled. You will work on one job until it is completed.
- **GOD SQUAD LEADERS:** Most adults will serve as God Squad leaders. They will be working with another adult to be the leader of a God Squad as well as sleeping in the rooms with the students from their own church.
- **TECH ANGELS:** We also have a need for some adults to serve as Tech Angels. These are adults who have lots of carpentry skills and knowledge who would oversee 2-4 sites. They would assist God Squads in performing the tasks and would provide much of the knowledge and necessary work and leadership to complete the task, especially in situations where a problem arises or in a place where God Squad leaders are unsure of what to do. If you have anyone who is interested and qualified, please let us know!
- **HOUSING INFO:** We will be sleeping and eating at Ardmore First United Methodist Church. Church groups will be sleeping in rooms throughout the church in designated guy/girl areas. Bring bedding – including air mattresses or cots! You will also need to bring your own towels and toiletries.
- **EVENINGS:** Evenings after dinner will be filled with recreation and worship.
- **CLOSED CAMP:** Youth Force is a CLOSED camp. Once you arrive, you are expected to stay the entire week. Visitors must check-in with the director prior to visiting anyone.
- **PURPOSE:** Our call as Christians is to love God and love others. The work that we will do will change the lives of the homeowners and probably your life as well. The relationship you will build with the homeowners, with other God Squad members, and with your church is also very important. We hope that Youth Force will intensify and restore your commitment to God through servanthood and missions. We hope it will give you a greater understanding of living out our calling as we seek to restore one another and see for ourselves what it means to commit our lives to Christ and serve Him even as he has given true life to each of us. Get ready for an awesome week and one that is life-changing!



# Youth Force Ardmore 2018 Schedule

## SUNDAY

3:00-4:00 P.M.	Arrival and Registration
4:15 P.M.	Welcome & Introductions
4:30-5:30 P.M.	Leader Meeting/Student Games
5:30 P.M.	Dinner
6:30 P.M.	Visit work sites
7:15 P.M.	God Squad Leader Meeting with Tech Angels
8:30 P.M.	Worship
10:00 P.M.	Church Chat
10:30 P.M.	In your rooms
11:00 P.M.	Lights Out!

## MONDAY-THURSDAY

6:30 A.M.	Breakfast
7:00 A.M.	Total Group Devotion/Send-off
7:15 - 3:00 P.M.	Work on Job Sites
3:00 P.M.	Showers/Free Time
5:00 P.M.	God Squad Leader Meeting

### Monday/Tuesday

5:30 P.M.	Dinner
6:30 P.M.	Recreation
8:30 P.M.	Worship
10:00 P.M.	Church Chat
10:30 P.M.	To Rooms
11:00 P.M.	Lights Out!

### Wednesday

5:30 P.M.	Dinner w/homeowners
6:30 P.M.	Worship w/homeowners
	Free Time @ church
9:00 P.M.	Church Chat
9:30 P.M.	To Rooms
10:30 P.M.	Lights Out

### Thursday

5:30 P.M.	Dinner
6:30 P.M.	Worship
8:00 P.M.	Church Chat
9:00 P.M.	Recreation
12:00 A.M.	Lights Out

## FRIDAY

8:30 A.M.	Breakfast
9:00-10:30 A.M.	Pack Up & Clean Up
10:45 A.M.	Worship
12:00 P.M.	Depart for Home