

MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT FAQs



Our Middle School Retreat is coming up, Friday, April 13 to Sunday, April 15, 2018. The following are Frequently Asked Questions about the Middle School Retreat from Middle School Parents.

Who goes on the Middle School Retreat?

Middle Schoolers in 6th, 7th & 8th grade are invited to go on the Middle School Retreat. This includes friends who don't attend WCC. Middle School Leaders also go on the retreat to continue to grow their relationship with middle schoolers. Christa (Middle School Director) and Nate (Middle School Associate) plan all of the activities and discussions for the whole weekend.

What happens on the Middle School Retreat?

Lots of things! We will enjoy games, discussion times, devotions, free time, Crossroads, small groups, great food and more! There will be plenty of different activities for everyone including times as a big group, small group and even individual time, a little something for everyone!

When is the Middle School Retreat?

Check-in begins at the West Entrance of Wayzata Community Church at 6pm on Friday, April 13. The bus will return at noon on Sunday, April 15.

Where is the Middle School Retreat?

The Middle School Retreat will take place at the YMCA's Camp Ihduhapi this year. Although this Camp is close, all middle schoolers will take the bus and stay the full time to get the full experience of the weekend together.

Why go on the Middle School Retreat?

Our retreats are a great way for us to get away and get to know each other better, meet new people and grow in our relationship with God. Quantity of time leads to quality of time which helps us to build our relationships and grow in our faith. We also enjoy some really good laughs and great conversations.

Should my child eat dinner before check-in on Friday?

Yes! Please bring them to WCC with a full belly.

What are the sleeping arrangements?

We stay in heated cabins and buildings that have bunk beds for every person. Girls stay in one area with female leaders and boys stay in another area with male leaders. Middle schoolers should bring a sleeping bag (or sheets and a blanket) and a pillow. We also have up to date inside bathroom facilities.

How do the kids get to the Retreat?

We hire a professional bus driver to drive us to camp. We have a trailer and bus to comfortably accommodate our kids and their luggage.

What is the cost of the Middle School Retreat?

Each middle schooler pays \$125 for the weekend. This includes the \$98 we pay Camp Ihduhapi for our lodging and 4 meals (Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner, Sunday breakfast). This also helps to cover our bus expense, additional snacks, and activity and game supplies. CampSite, the program we use to register, allows you to set up payment plans for paying for the weekend.

Scholarship are available by talking to Christa.

Who are the adults that go on the Middle School Retreat?

Our middle school leaders join us for the weekend to continue to grow their relationships with your child. They have all been leaders for at least the beginning of the school year and more than half of them have been middle schoolers leaders for multiple years. All of our middle schooler leaders have been background checked.

What should my middle schooler pack?

This is our packing list:

- Water Bottle!!!
- Flashlight
- Pillow and bedding (sleeping bag or sheets and a blanket)
- Personal toiletries (toothbrush, tooth paste, brush/comb, etc)
- Shower Gear- shampoo/ conditioner/ towel (and shower shoes!)
 - YOU WILL NEED TO SHOWER DURING THE WEEKEND DUE TO FUN GAMES!
- Pajamas
- Plenty of “camp” clothes (Bring a couple extra sets of clothes!)
 - PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU BRING AT LEAST ONE OUTFIT YOU CAN GET MESSY AND WILL KEEP YOU WARM, DEPENDING ON THE WEATHER.
- Jacket or Fleece (it might be cold at night and we like activities throughout the day & evening!)
- Rain gear (check weather)
- Socks & underwear
- Two pairs of shoes (one for being active, one for slipping on)
- Personal items Journal, Bible, Book, etc.
- If needed.... Winter Gear- Jacket, warm hat, warm gloves, boots, etc.
- OPTIONAL- A silly outfit/costume to wear to our special dinner on Saturday night.

Please do not bring:

- CELL PHONES - Christa's cell number will be the emergency contact for the weekend 612-229-1461
- Other electronics- no iPad or other screens (digital/disposable cameras are ok)
- EXPENSIVE CLOTHING OR JEWELRY
- Money (nothing to buy for the weekend)

Do other kids really leave their cell phones at home?

Yes, and if they don't, Christa (or Middle School leaders) will hold on to them for the weekend. Please have them hand you their phone when you drop them off. Christa will have her phone on her if you need to get in contact with them or check in. They don't need their phone and it will be a better experience without it and to be present with each other.

Should I send any additional snacks with my middle schooler?

We will have plenty of snacks. If you want to send more, please talk to Christa first. Snacks are not allowed in sleeping areas so all snacks will be in group spaces at all times.

What if my child has allergies, food restrictions or takes medication?

We have had many middle schoolers that go on overnights with us that have allergies. Christa will carry any child's epipen to every meal. I let the Camp know about any food allergies or food restrictions. We do not buy any snacks with nuts. Christa also remind middle schoolers to take medication when necessary. If you would like to have a conversation about your middle schoolers needs, please feel free to call Christa.

What is the theme and messaging of the weekend?

Christa plans the entire weekend. This is a Retreat for our group only. Other groups will not be joining us. Our theme this year is the Spring Olympics. We will be talking about leadership and how to be a leader, whether that's quite or loud, through words or actions and what Jesus taught us about being a leader. Christa shares the messages of the weekend and Middle Schoolers Leaders share our devotional time.

Who should I contact in case I need to get a hold of my child?

If you need to get ahold of your child while we were on the Middle School Retreat, Christa Workmon, WCC Middle School Director will have her cell phone on her at all times. Her number is 612-229-1461.

How do I register my child?

Please go to www.wayzatacommunitychurch.org/ms-specialevents to register your middle schooler for the weekend. If you don't have a CampSite account, you will have to create one and fill in a detailed medical form. This form will be saved in the system so that you don't have to fill it out again.

If you have any other questions about the WCC Middle School Retreat, please email Christa Workmon, Director of Middle School Ministry at cworkmon@wayzatacommunitychurch.org