



Welcome to this exciting trip to Florida! We are so excited to be taking part in this every-four-years event, and to work for Christ in the world. Across The United Methodist Church, the Dakotas have a reputation for bringing a great group to this gathering, and I look forward to another meaningful and powerful trip.

With approximately 95 youth and adults on the trip, we will be trusting our youth to behave in a manner that brings glory to God and is in keeping with the covenant they have made with one another and with the trip leaders in the **code of conduct**. The attached packing list contains dress suggestions, but the best guide is to consider if the clothes you are wearing would be okay if you are at your grandmother's home and her friends came for a visit. We are representing our faith and our churches at this event. We will also be receiving at least two T-shirts that we will wear on appropriate days. This leads to group building and awareness (and it's fun to identify your friends screaming their heads off on a roller coaster.)

Travel plans are nearly complete. We will be departing from four airports, which leads to lots of fun in making our arrangements. You should be able to see the departure for your group on DakYouth website!

On this trip, we will be **Housing** at three different locations. On arrival and for our mission work, we will be staying at the Warren Willis Camp and Retreat Center, a UMC ministry in the Florida Annual Conference. After our morning's work on Tuesday, we will transfer to a Holiday Inn in Daytona Beach, the alternate housing site for the Ocean Conference Center for Youth 2023. We will not need to bring bedding for our stay. For each youth, there will be an assigned Housing Shepherd. These will be assigned by gender and will give every youth another opportunity to connect with a youth leader from the Dakotas. Finally, we will spend one night in Orlando after an amusement park and before traveling home.

We know many youths have medical needs, including **prescription medication**. We are asking that the youth leader from your church handle the meds for your group in whatever way they choose. If you are travelling without an adult or would prefer to have someone else overseeing your youth's medication, please contact the Dean, and the medication will be handled by Housing Shepherds or our Chief Medical Officer as appropriate.

We are working on our plan for breakfasts at Youth 2023. Lunch and supper will be provided as part of our registration fee, and meals (excluding during travel to and from Florida) will be a part of our planning. We will be prepared for any **food needs and allergies** you have entered on your registration forms, and appropriate meals will be available.

We will be collecting youth **cell phones** (and other distracting electronics) at the work sites during the mission work. We want to encourage the youth to be present and aware of the ministry's work. The phones and devices will be collected by our adult leaders and will be secured appropriately. The youth will have their devices in the evening and during YOUTH 2023.

YOUTH 2023 Be Bold will be held in the Ocean Center, located directly on Daytona Beach. We will be participating in worship, Bible study, workshops, on-site missions, and small group experiences with thousands of United Methodist Youth from across the denomination.

Our plan is to then return to Orlando for a day at Universal Florida, where you will have access to both parks, and your registration covers the cost of one meal for that day.

This event is packed with activities and will be made up of eight **long days**.

We will be flying to Florida on Saturday, July 22, and returning to the Dakotas on Saturday, July 29.

Saturday	Travel Day
Sunday	Group Get Together, Mission Work
Monday	Mission Work
Tuesday	Mission Work, travel to Daytona Beach, Youth 2023 begins.
Wednesday	Youth 2023
Thursday	Youth 2023
Friday	Travel to Orlando, Universal Florida
Saturday	The Florida Mall, Travel Home

We are currently working toward a couple of **communication** streams. We have already created a special **Facebook Group** and an **Instagram** account to share posts and photos from the trip. This will be a great way to keep up with what your youth are doing while they are away!

I am so excited to be leading this trip again and want to answer any questions you may have. You should also be able to find a tentative schedule and suggested packing list on the dak youth website. **My cell number is 701-840-7294**, and my email is pastordayne@gmail.com.

Blessings and prayers on behalf of our trip leadership team,



Pastor Dayne Zachrison "the guy in the red shirt"