

Service Week FAQs

What is Service Week?

Service week is a week set aside every spring in late April for DeMotte Christian High school students to give their time locally or in another state/country to learn to serve others and serve God. Students along with parent and grandparent volunteers and teachers go on these different trips each of their four years they are in High School. It is a wonderful addition to our school's curriculum and counts as a regular school week.

DeMotte Christian Schools seeks to guide, shape, direct, and train young people in all aspects of living the Christ-like life in this world. A significant aspect of living the Christ-like life is serving our fellow man as an expression of our love for our God. (DMCS Handbook Section III:J)

Is Service Week free?

Service week is currently at no cost to the students but funds are raised every year from donations from 2 events; our Fall Jog a Thon and our Spring Service Dinner. In these two fundraisers our goal is to raise \$70,000 each year.

Where do the classes go to serve?

Freshmen: Serve locally in the surrounding DeMotte community for 2-3 days and at Camp Connect in Crown Point for 1-2 nights. They may also serve at Restoration Ministries in Illinois for an overnight. (Covid Restrictions Pending)

Sophomores: Serve in Walkerville, Michigan at Camp Tall Turf as well as spend a day away at a community center called True North. 5 nights.

Juniors: Serve in Bear Branch, Kentucky and stay at Big Creek to serve in the community for 5 nights.

Seniors: Serve in El Salvador, Guatemala at Casa Bernabe ministries at the Orphanage for 7 Nights (Covid Restrictions Pending)

How can I help?

1. You can help by volunteering to be on the service committee to represent your child's class. The committee meets once a month with a break in the summertime. Once approved by the board, service committee members plan the trips with excellent guidance from the binder of notes given from the previous year's trips as well as help from the committee itself which have been to the past grade's trips.
2. Volunteer to help or chair the fall Jog a Thon or the Spring Service Committee dinner fundraisers.
3. Volunteer to either help with pre-planning or Chaperone the week of Service Week. We need many volunteers to make that week a success. If you work in the trades, are handy with household projects, or good with yard work, or love to lead devotions, we would love to have you a long. We build houses, fix electrical, HVAC, Plumbing, paint, organize, clean etc. We also need chaperones that love to cook and organize meals. Especially for the Freshman class (1-2 Days/ Nights) and Sophomore class (5 Days/Nights).
4. Volunteer to help planning/organizing the trips in the weeks leading up to service week.
5. Pray for our students and Volunteers all year long and especially the weeks leading up to Service week as well as while we are gone.

How do I get more information?

Contact our Chair Mel Schaafsma at melschaafsma@gmail.com or 219.689.6950 for any additional questions or to volunteer to help. We will be sending out a signup sheet during school registration. Please don't hesitate to reach out to Mel or any of the current service committee members with questions, or talk to any parent that has a student that has been on a trip. **Service week is a blessing to our school, but it takes many volunteers to make it a success.**

Current members: Seniors- Kevin & Wendy Frump, Juniors- Ryan & Melissa Schaafsma and Dan & Laura Walstra, Sophomores- Dana VanderMolen, Incoming Freshman- TBD (Need Volunteers)