**Serve Day 2021: Vision and FAQ**

Communication:
Exec 2/22

Leadership Team email 2/22
Exec Summary 2/24

**Vision:**

Serve Day is a one-day event on July 17 that closes out the Summer Group Semester and provides an opportunity for our church to show the love of Jesus in real and tangible ways.

Every Group for summer semester is encouraged to choose a serve project of their own and be the hands and feet of Jesus on Serve Day. In addition, Campuses will offer projects to those who are not in a Group to provide the opportunity to serve, experience Group life, and be invited to join in a Group for fall.

**Who:**

* Every Group registered for the Summer semester is invited to be a part of Serve Day
* Every Guest of CedarCreek is invited to participate on Serve Day through Campus Projects or by joining one of the Groups in their project.

**When:**

* Saturday, July 17 (Project times will vary)

**Where:**

* Serve Day will take place is NW Ohio/SE Michigan
* Groups and Campus Serve Day projects will serve in neighborhoods helping those that have a need, at businesses or organizations in our community where we have influence, and/or in areas that we our passionate about.

**Goals:**

* To end the summer Groups semester by showing the love of Christ in a real and tangible way.
* For Groups to identify opportunities where they can serve their community and plan a project for July 17th.
* To give everyone at CedarCreek, whether they are part of a Group or not, an opportunity to step into a serve project with a Group or Campus.
* For participants who are not in a Group to be inspired to join a Group next semester.
* For participants who have a passion for serving to consider starting an outreach Group next semester.
* To see our staff champion serving others on Serve Day by participating in a project or leading a project.

**Project Types:**

* Group Projects – A Group Project is a project that a Group leader has identified, planned and registered. Group Leaders and Members will serve together on their project on July 17th.
* Campus Projects – Campus Projects are large projects planned by the Serve Day Lead at each campus to be completed on July 17th.
	+ - DIY Opportunities – Recognizing that we are still dealing with COVID -19, we want to offer opportunities for guest to participate outside of a gathering of people. Campuses can choose to include serve opportunities that can be completed by a guest on their own. These opportunities will be part of collective effort to make a difference in the community. They will have campus oversight and a leader who would offer connection, support, encouragement and care and then cheer for them when the project is complete.

FAQ:

**What is Serve Day?**Serve Day is a one-day outreach event that closes out our Summer Group semester. It’s an amazing opportunity to make a difference by serving outside of the church – and bonus, we typically grow personally when we do!

**Who participates in Serve Day?**

We encourage every Group to choose a serve project of their own and be the hands and feet of Jesus on SERVE Day. Groups can choose to be open for Serve Day, adding new people to their Group for the day to serve with them. In addition, about 2 weeks before Serve Day, we will open up campus projects for people to join if they have not found a Group project that fits.

**I have a guest who wants to participate in Serve Day but is not in a Group. How do they find a Group or project to participate in?**Most Groups are open to new members throughout the semester. Our Groups Directory can help guests find a Group that fits their interest, location and time preference at CedarCreek.tv/Groups.

If it’s just a project they want to do, they can also check out the serve projects that Groups are doing at CedarCreek.tv/ServeDay. There they will find a directory of projects to search, similar to the directory of Groups, that have room for others to help. Guests can search the projects to find one they like and contact the leader listed.

**What should guests bring on Serve Day?**They should plan on bringing any personal items they may need, like the serve Day T-shirt, sunscreen, drinking water, tennis shoes, a hat, etc., along with any items pertaining to the serve project such as rakes, gloves, lawnmowers, tarps, work tools, etc. For serve opportunities requiring physical labor, work clothes are a good idea. We recommend not wearing jewelry. We would also recommend guests check with their leader for what they may need, and that the leader provides updates to those who have signed up to participate.

**How does a guest get a Serve Day t-shirt?**

For guests who are Group members, t-shirts will be distributed to Group leaders at their campus the two weekends leading up to the 17th. Group leaders can then distribute them to their Group members at their last Group time or at Serve Day. For those that are not in a Group and participating in a campus project, they will receive their shirt when they show up to the campus project.

**Will there be Serve Projects available for those NOT in a Group?**Yes, the directory of projects that have room for others to help out on ServeDay will be available at CedarCreek.tv/ServeDay. Many of the Groups are open for guests to join them on their serve project.

**What time do projects start? What kind of timing should I expect?**Projects can start anytime on Saturday the 17th. Our recommendation is that they be finished by the start of the 5:15 service if possible. Projects do not have required length of time.

**GROUP LEADER FAQ:**

**I’m a Group leader and I don’t have a Serve opportunity selected, but my Group wants to serve. What should I do? How do I plan it?**First, get creative! Talk to your Group. We have found the best ideas come from their suggestions and they will enjoy it more too. Assess people and their needs in your neighborhood and around your community. Perhaps there is a widow, single mother, or elderly person that could be assisted by painting their house, cutting grass, or cleaning up the yard. City staff, firefighters, police officers, school resource officers, nursing home residents, assisted living homes, and local business owners are all great people to reach out to and find a way to serve. We also have a list of ideas posted on CedarCreek.tv/ServeDay.

**Should I communicate to the Church which Serve Day project our group is planning?**Yes, we definitely would like know about what your group is participating in. You can register your group’s Serve project online at CedarCreek.tv/ServeDay. That’s also where you can let us know if you have room to add people to your Group for the project you have selected. In this way, it’s helping connect people who aren’t connected as well as serving those in our community. We also want to avoid overlap in projects and get you and your Group members a t-shirt.

**Who pays the costs associated with our Group’s Serve Project (supplies, travel expenses, etc.)?**Each Group is responsible for all of the supplies and costs associated with their serve project. Spend time determining the scope, and plan work based on your group size and commitment level.

**How do I get a Serve Day t-shirt?**

T-shirts will be distributed to group leaders at their campus. Leaders will distribute them to their Group at their last group or at Serve Day. For those that are not in a Group, they will receive their shirt when they arrive at the Campus Project.

**Will the church be communicating additional details about Serve Day?**Weekly emails will be sent to all Group leaders and co-leaders, and general information will be communicated at CedarCreek.tv/ServeDay. More info may be presented during weekend services prior to Serve Day too.

**What if it rains?**If you have an outside serve project, make plans to have an inclement weather option in mind. Some suggestions are to visit a nursing home, serve at a local service organization, or clean classrooms at a local school.

**What will each campus do to celebrate?**When it comes to celebrating, campuses have a number of different options to choose from. One way to celebrate is to come together at the beginning of ServeDay to share a light breakfast, pray over the day and celebrate what God is going to do through them and ServeDay. Campus can also choose to celebrate before or after the 5:15 service on Saturday, July 17th. No matter the time of day chosen, there will be food of some kind. (e.g donuts, pancakes, hot dogs, walking tacos, ice cream etc.) The size and scale of the celebration will be decided by the campus team. The vision for the celebration is to create an opportunity for participants to come together and share in how God is using them to make a difference.

**STAFF FAQ:**

**What is the role of staff on Serve Day?**

The recommendation is that full-time staff who are not in a Group would make great leads for “Campus Projects”; part-time would be welcome to participate at direct report discretion. If full-time staff members are leading a Group, the recommendation is to identify a leader in their Group who can lead the Group on Serve Day so it frees you to lead a Campus Project. Serve Day leads may also lead a Campus Project.