

Show Me
Christian Youth Home
RESCUE AND RESTORE

ISSUE 4 FALL 2026

What We Inherit–What We Leave Behind

A trip to discover America's past and their place in its future

Every fall, Show-Me Christian Youth Home looks for an opportunity to challenge its high school students beyond the classroom. Often, that has meant a mission trip—an experience designed to develop character, deepen faith and show students the difference one caring person can make. But as mission opportunities have become more limited since COVID, this fall presented another opportunity. With America celebrating its 250th anniversary, our leadership team believed it was the perfect time to take a journey to our nation's capital.

The purpose was much bigger than sightseeing. Show-Me wants to prepare young people to become impactful members of the communities they will one day call home: to build those communities up, to be a light in dark places, and to realize that freedom comes with responsibility.

Washington, D.C. offered a chance to explore the faith and convictions that sustained generations through hardship. It helped students understand the sacrifices others made to give future generations greater opportunities. It challenged them to recognize the civic responsibilities that come with freedom. It helped them see that they are part of a larger story—one built by those who came before them and one they will help carry forward.

Seven students crammed into minivans for a packed week in the nation's capital. Their itinerary included Mount Vernon, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Museum of the Bible, the National Archives, the U.S. Capitol, Arlington National Cemetery, national monuments and Smithsonian museums. Yet, the most important part wasn't how many places they saw. It was what happened when things they had encountered only in books came to life.



► *As America celebrates 250 years, seven of our high school students traveled to Washington, D.C. to experience the history, sacrifice and faith behind the freedoms they have inherited.*



Prayer Requests

We Praise God for...

... Mary and Eli joining the Show-Me family

... Mama D and her two littles joining the Family Care Ministry

... Mama R and her children successfully completed the Family Care program

Please Pray for...

... 2027 Seniors preparing for their futures: Kiya, Makayla, and Landon

... Family Life Coach to join the team at our Galt home

Join our Prayer Partner List to receive prayer requests.
Call 660-347-5982
or sign up online at

www.ShowMeHelpingKids.com







◄ *Washington, D.C. gave our young people a chance to see history up close—and gain a deeper appreciation for the faith, sacrifice and freedom woven into our nation's story.*

When History Becomes Real

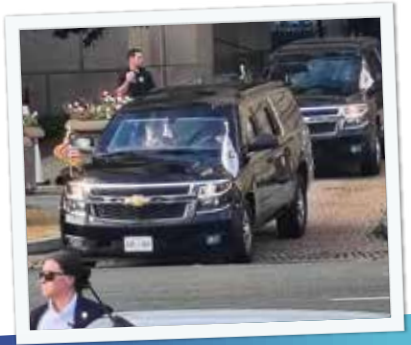
At Mount Vernon, students walked through George Washington's home and experienced history as more than names and dates. For Makayla, walking the same ground as those who had helped blaze a path for the nation brought pieces of history together and helped her see the past through their eyes. "George Washington might have been stepping in the same place I'm stepping right now," she said.

"It just hits harder. This is different from just reading about it or your parents telling you about it."
– Makayla

That feeling followed them throughout the trip. At the National Archives, they stood before the original Declaration of Independence, Constitution and Bill of Rights. At the Smithsonian museums, artifacts made real the news and world-changing events they had previously only heard about. "It just hits harder," Makayla said. "This is different from just reading about it or your parents telling you about it." As Mya stated, "I definitely will look at my social studies differently now."

A Faith That Shaped Generations

Faith also became more tangible. At the Museum of the Bible, immersive exhibits brought them into stories they had known for years. Walking through a first-century recreation of Nazareth helped them see, smell, and touch the world in which Jesus lived. They encountered ancient manuscripts, translations and centuries of biblical history. "It gave us a picture to the words (of Scripture)," Landon explained.



But Christianity was not limited to the museum walls. They noticed references to God and faith in the foundational documents of our country. They saw Scripture etched into national monuments and reverence for our Heavenly Father in the words of our nation's Founding Fathers. "It definitely changed my perspective," Makayla said. Those discoveries prompted deeper questions about the biblical principles she believes influenced the nation, how the country has changed over the decades, and the role faith should play in her own life.

◄ *History unfolded before our teens' eyes as they watched the presidential motorcade pass in front of them.*

Land of the Free Because of the Brave

Other experiences confronted students with harder parts of history and the cost of freedom. At the Holocaust Museum, individual stories put human faces on an unimaginable tragedy. For Joseph, what he saw became more than a lesson about the past. "It made me want to treat people better," he said, "so that people can have a better life and not go through what they had to go through."

At Arlington National Cemetery, seemingly endless rows of white headstones offered another reminder of sacrifice. Students saw the Eternal Flame at President Kennedy's grave, watched the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and visited memorials honoring those who served in Vietnam, Korea and World War II. The experience even sparked thoughts for one young man about someday serving in the Air Force.

The Responsibility of Freedom

The students saw firsthand the institutions that carry on the work of American government. Places they had seen in photographs became real during a U.S. Capitol tour arranged through Missouri Congressman Mark Alford's office. They gained a new appreciation for the responsibility carried by those elected to serve there.

An unexpected moment connected history with the present. As they left the Smithsonian museums, students noticed an unusual police and security presence. They learned President Trump was giving a speech nearby as part of a summit on artificial intelligence. Shortly afterward, they watched the presidential motorcade pass in front of them.

Beyond Their Corner of the World

Not every lesson happened inside a museum or monument. Students navigated crowded Metro trains, encountered people and experiences different from those in their own communities, and spent hours together on the road. There were Mad Libs, Disney songs, sore feet, snacks and even some "terrible opera singing" from one of the boys. By the time they returned home, they knew not only more about Washington, D.C., but about themselves and about each other.



▲ *Our students were inspired by a hand-painted 9/11 memorial at the fire station across from their lodging.*

Even the fire station across from their lodging became an unexpected lesson in service. After repeatedly waving to the firefighters as the trucks came and went, the students were offered a tour of the station. There, they were inspired by a firefighter's hand-painted 9/11 memorial and an actual twisted beam of wreckage from the Pentagon attack. The station itself was part of the emergency response that day. It reinforced how history is not limited to famous names in books—it is made by ordinary people stepping forward in service.

Carrying It Forward

The students returned to Missouri with more than photographs and memories. They had walked through places where history was made, encountered inspiring and painful chapters of the past, and saw how faith, courage, sacrifice and service can shape generations.

They began to understand that the story isn't finished. They are beneficiaries of what others built and sacrificed before them. Someday, another generation will inherit what they leave behind.

"This trip should be mandatory for all high schoolers," said Mya. "The experience gives you a different perspective on the world, and it makes you more grateful that you live in this country." For Landon, the impact came down to a simple desire: "I just want to give back to what everybody's given to us."

"I just want to give back to what everybody's given to us."
– Landon

Thanks to the donors, prayer partners and friends of Show-Me who made the trip possible, seven young people had the opportunity not only to discover what previous generations left for them, but also to begin considering what they will leave for the next.



▲ *The students shared digital cameras to capture the trip through their own eyes.*

Show-Me Needs List

Help stock our shelves and fill our homes. Below is a list of items needed.



Need more ideas?

Take a peek at our "Show Me Christian Youth Home" wish list at Amazon.com

wishlist by amazon

Main Campus

La Monte

- Cereal
- Mac & Cheese
- Beef Ramen noodles
- Baby wipes *(Fragrance-free)*
- Free and clear detergent *(Tide or Downy)*
- Dishwasher pods
- Women's deodorant *(Secret or Dove)*
- Trash bags *(33-gallon)*
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Paper plates
- Pillows
- Electric can opener

Drysdale Campus

- Protein bars
- Paper plates
- Toilet paper
- Lysol wipes
- Shower/bath cleaner
- Laundry soap *(please no Xtra or OxiClean)*
- Huggies Nighttime Pull-ups *(Size 4T/5T)*
- AA batteries
- Deck of cards *(2 or 3)*
- Side-by-side UTV or ATV

Judd Home

- Blue Dawn dish soap
- Paper towels
- Dishwasher pods
- Tide pods

Family Care

- 100% juices *(tomato, apple, grape)*
- Pasta shells and rice
- Canned goods *(corn, cut green beans, chili beans)*
- Chicken and beef broths
- Snacks *(crackers, Go-Gurt, fruit snacks, kettle corn, peanuts)*
- Cleaners *(glass, toilet bowl and all-purpose, liquid dishwasher detergent)*
- Paper products *(paper towels, toilet paper, Kleenex)*
- Batteries *(AA & AAA)*
- Reliable car or minivan for a mom

Medical

- Menthol cough drops
- Mucinex tabs
- DayQuil & NyQuil caps
- Delsym cough syrup
- Alka-Seltzer *(Dissolvable: Plus, Cold/Flu)*

Show-Me School

- Magic Tree House *(Box sets 1–4)*

Leadership U

- Diamond high-energy dog food
- Small square alfalfa bales
- Small square brome bales
- Seresto flea and tick collars
- New hoof rasps

4-H & Art

- Speedball 4131 Linoleum Cutter Set
- 18" clay wire cutter
- Heavy-duty stapler w/ staples
- Adult scissors

Path to Purpose

- Gas gift cards
- Reliable "starter vehicles" for our graduates

P.E. & Sports

- 12 segmented jump ropes
- 18" outdoor rubber cones
- Adult-size team set of pinnies







◄ *In August, one of our teen girls, now a senior in high school, received her "starter car" through the Path to Purpose program. She has already put it to good use driving to her part-time job.*

► *From the rides to the exhibits, our kids had a lot to smile about at the 2026 Missouri State Fair. A big thank-you to the Sedalia Optimist Club for donating tickets that helped our families make such sweet memories.*



























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Memorial & Living Honor gifts recognize and remember loved ones while giving hope and the best chance for success to children who desperately need it.

To honor your friend or loved one, contact us at:
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www.ShowMeHelpingKids.com

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For the latest volunteer opportunities, contact us at 660-347-5982.

EVERY CHILD DESERVES A HOME AND A FAMILY

Show-Me Christian Youth Home is Compelled by Christ to Rescue and Restore Young Lives. We believe that every child deserves a home and a family, an opportunity for a better future and an excellent eternity.

FAMILY. FAITH. FUTURE.

Out-of-home placement services are available to children of any age at no cost to the parent or guardian. We are funded solely by contributions from individuals, churches and groups that are willing to put their faith into action to help children.



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Ken Parton, Assistant Director
Rachel Reynolds, Children's Services Director

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Ronnie & Krystal Snider
Brad & Jessica Stilfield
Rich & Erin Thomas
Matt & Emily Tyler

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Bobbie Novak, Manager

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