Dear Pastor ***Name*** & Church Council,

I want to thank you for letting me take part in the spiritual formation of ***church name’s*** youth. I am excited about the opportunity to continue investing in our students’ faith formation through a Youth Unlimited *Serve* experience next summer in ***Location & Date***.

*Serve* is a one-week mission trip that introduces high school students to spreading the gospel through service. This experience will emphasize the following areas to our students:

* Worship
* Pursuing a deeper walk with God
* Serving others
* Showing a broken world in need
* Strengthening adult and student relationships
* Revealing God-given strengths

There are people in every community praying that God would meet their needs. Some of those needs are tangible, work-related projects that have a significant bearing on a person’s financial, social and emotional well-being. Meeting that need and sharing the gospel will have a powerful impact on the person in need as well as on the student.

The typical day will include five to six hours of work. At a *Serve Site,* students will be put into work teams that double as their small group for discussion after the evening worship sessions. At a *Serve Project*, students will be with their youth group for work teams and small groups.

Students will get up around 7:00 AM, eat breakfast, have personal devotions and go off to work, where they will work alongside of and learn from the person or organization they are serving. Groups may be assigned to rake a lawn for an elderly woman who has lost her husband. They will get to meet her and hear her story. Other groups may build a wheelchair ramp that is used by a young man who was in an accident. They will hear his story and be able to encourage him. It could be that they sort groceries or clothes for several hours, then spend time with people who live on the street or are underemployed and in need of a meal or something to wear.

I want this to be more than just a short trip. I want this to become a significant part of students’ life journeys by helping them connect their Christian faith to actual transformation, both personally and in the community. The environment will be set for our students to grow in thankfulness, generosity, prayer, justice thinking, investigating their strengths and wrestling with their current life issues.

It is my hope that when we return home, you’ll see young people who have been changed by the power of Jesus Christ and convicted to live a life of obedience to Jesus and his Kingdom.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me. I’m excited to invest in the life of ***church name’s*** youth through this week of *Serve*. For more information about *Serve*, visit [www.youthunlimited.org/Serve](http://www.youthunlimited.org/Serve).

Youth Unlimited requires that all Adult Leaders have a current Background Check on file at the church office. If we need information on how to acquire Background Checks we can inquire with the Safe Church Office. They are glad to help regardless of your denominational affiliation. [www.crcna.org/safechurch](http://www.crcna.org/safechurch" \t "_blank)

Ready to serve,

***Your Name***