

SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST WOMEN'S SOCIETY SCSC PROGRAM

Summer Christian Service Corps--"Service for a Season, Leadership for a Lifetime"

The goal of SCSC is to develop servant leaders for Seventh Day Baptist churches, the SDB denomination and the Christian community of the world. Churches will develop a project based on a variety of foci, depending on their individual church vision and needs.

What does this mean for potential projects? **Think outside the box.** We encourage you to be creative. If your church, community or association has a need, develop a project around that specific need.

If you have a strong program in a particular type of ministry and you would like to mentor students for the summer, we would also encourage you to develop a project around your strengths.

If you have questions about the application process or the appropriateness of a project, please contact the SCSC Committee.

PROJECT IDEAS

- Missions: At this time travel between countries is too uncertain. There will not be an SCSC mission team in 2024. Mission projects are developed in coordination with the SDB Missionary Society.
- Worship Leading: Projects will have an emphasis on developing gifts in worship leading through music in a church, within an association, or in a community setting. It is designed to help SDB churches by training worship leaders.
- Christian Education/Community Outreach/Evangelism: There are many creative ways that churches are reaching out and witnessing to their communities. These include activities like serving in soup kitchens, street evangelism, fair booths, concerts in the park, backyard VBS, Christian camping, etc. Making connections in the church and community would be the primary focus of these projects.
- There is potential for development of specific gifts (talents) as students practice servant-leadership in missions, worship leading, and community outreach/evangelism.
- Offering a variety of foci is dependent on project applications and student availability.
- What this means for **students**: On your application, it is important that you mark ministry preferences that you have. It is also important that you indicate your willingness to participate in SCSC if your preferred ministry focus is not available. All projects are designed to develop servant-leadership skills that will strengthen/revitalize our churches while developing/strengthening leadership skills. Students are encouraged to explore and discover how God has gifted them. Developing the heart attitude of a servant will be emphasized.

- Some churches assign SCSC students a Sabbath service to plan and lead. This has resulted in a very positive reaction from the congregations (and students). Therefore, we on the SCSC Committee, along with the Training Director strongly encourage churches and Project Directors to have an “SCSC Sabbath” in which the students would plan and lead the worship service. (THIS IS A SUGGESTION, NOT A REQUIREMENT.)
- Past experience has shown that counseling at camp for three **full** weeks is extremely tiring for the team, as well as somewhat limiting in allowing them the opportunity to develop a wide range of their potential leadership skills. Therefore, the SCSC Committee and Training Director have limited the weeks of camp counseling any SCSC student can do on the project to the ***equivalent*** of ***two full weeks of overnight camp***. NOTE: partial weeks of overnights may see students counseling at 3 different camps....and still not going over the two **full** weeks of overnights.

The remainder of the project should consist of other activities such as VBS, community service, physical work projects, etc. This would ensure that students would:

- a) work with and be in contact with a significant number of church and community members
- b) have opportunity to practice their servant-leadership training and skills in a variety of ways, and
- c) allow the program itself to be evident to many outside the core of the church camp program.

- The SCSC Committee requests that all Students, Project Churches, and Project Directors join us in prayer for the program in general and for each student, church project and project director specifically. Project Directors and their local church SCSC Support Committee are strongly encouraged to seek out the “prayer warriors” of their congregation and ask that they commit to regular prayer for the Church Project, students assigned to that project, and the Project Director.

Church Project Application Guidelines

- The church should vote at a business meeting (prior to the application deadline) whether or not the body will support having an SCSC team and project.
- A Project Director (PD) (who must be 25 years old or older) should be named. Some churches vote them into this position.
- A small *Church SCSC Core Committee* should be organized and given direction by the church body and/or pastor as to what the project will entail.
- Applications and additional information may be secured from the Women’s Board SCSC Committee at <http://www.sdbwomen.org> .

Applications must be postmarked by **February 15th or received electronically by February 18th** for consideration by the SCSC Committee. If there is a problem meeting the deadline, churches should contact the chairman of the SCSC Committee to discuss their intent and alternative deadlines.

- The **Church SCSC Committee** should:
 - o Plan a 40-50 hour per week project for the SCSC team.
 - o Create a weekly schedule - required as part of the application.
 - o Organize the specifics of the SCSC project
 - The details of the SCSC project must be formulated and documented prior to On-site Training to ensure proper communication.
 - At On-site Training, a staff member will be assigned to assist PDs, if needed with final details.

A **Sample Project** might include **GOALS** such as these:

- To promote the gospel of Christ and the causes of His church as understood by SDB's.
- To assist in the camping programs of the church
- To enhance the visibility of SDB's in our area through a fair booth, neighborhood backyard Bible Club, visitations, and/or tract distribution.
- To lead worship (including music) with local church musicians...praise time/hymns

(The plan would also include a detailed calendar grid - see the Church Project Application.)

A **Sample of Team Responsibilities** *might* include:

- Prepare for and teach the Bible Lesson time for one week of VBS
- Plan and lead Children's Church for the 4 Sabbaths of the project
- Spend 5 hours in door-to-door visitation to promote VBS in the church neighborhood
- Lead a Bible study for teens/youth
- Give their personal salvation (or other type) testimony on a designated Sabbath morning
- Participate or lead in the music ministry of the church if they have musical talent to share
- Plan and deliver the Children's Message one designated Sabbath
- Assist with administrative duties and/or and technology needs within the church
- Work on the landscaping of the parsonage/church
- Spend 5 hours visiting seniors from the congregation
- Prepare and serve a meal to the homeless
- Lead music for worship services, VBS, camp, and/or Youth Fellowship

Host Church Responsibilities include:

- Food, housing, personal privacy, bedding, towels, pillow, transportation, laundry and showering facilities for the SCSC team during project. Other project

supplies and materials, including some financial assistance might be provided as well.

- Selecting a Project Director (PD) to supervise the project, working directly with the team and training staff.
 - o The PD will be a committed member of the church who is at least **25** years old. (Contact the committee if you have questions.)
 - o The PD will be someone who can meet with the team during the day - every day - of project, to lead in devotions and to give opportunity for feedback on how the members of the SCSC team are doing spiritually, emotionally, mentally and physically.
 - o The church will provide the funds for the Project Director to travel to and attend training.
- Informing the SCSC committee of any additional young adults/adults who will be overseeing or working directly with the SCSC Team on project. (i.e. pastor, intern or student pastor, camp directors, etc.) and preparing for project duties.
- Scheduling the equivalent of **one** full day per week for the team to rest, do laundry, communicate with family and friends, personal bible study, devotions, prayer, etc. This time would be 'free' time. Any activities or outings offered should be a free choice for the SCSCers to attend or decline.
 - o In addition, students should have some "down" time each day -wherein they are able to rest, recreate and attend to personal needs.
- Providing intentional and purposeful time for the team to connect and build relationships with the church members.
- Welcoming and introducing the team to the church and/or community as appropriate upon their arrival.
- At the end of the project it is recommended that the church provide a financial love gift of appreciation for the team's service. Many churches have a "send-off" gathering for the team.

Project Director Expectations:

- Attend the SCSC Training sessions in June - **required** (Pack for a camp setting. On sabbath, the training participants generally attend a local church. Linens & pillow will be provided for your use while at training.)
- Be committed to the project for its entire duration. (Preparation, Training, and through the end of on-site project.)
- Work closely with the SCSC Committee - giving details regarding the project prior to On-site Training, so that placement of students can be effective and training can be geared to meet specific project needs.
- Enforce guidelines, policies and requirements of SCSC and be an advocate for your team.
- Spend time on study materials provided by the Training Staff.

- Have a daily study/prayer time with the team. (This may be delegated to another person if needed.)
- Send scheduled mid-project and final evaluations.
- The completed final evaluation will be sent electronically, **a minimum of 3 days prior** to the team's departure for evaluation (or sent with the students to evaluation in a sealed envelope).
The PD is encouraged to discuss the assessment with the team to help prepare them for their formal session with the Training Director and staff at evaluation. Any concerns you have will be held in confidence, but the heart of the matter will be discussed with the individuals in an effort to help them grow in their leadership skills.
- If attending Conference be available to talk with students, staff or committee to continue developed relationships and communication.

Project Director Training Program:

- Bible study & personal testimony
- Project preparation, i.e. planned project and calendar grid schedule of project
- Team devotions; counseling; discipline as needed; care and encouragement for students;
advocacy and/or support for team if issues arise
- Overview of student training classes – Christian Education, music, communication skills, team building, etc.
- SCSC guidelines and expectations
- Close communication with the SCSC Committee and Training Director

SCSC Organization and Sponsorship

Summer Christian Service Corps is sponsored by the SDB Women's Society through their Board of officers. This agency is part of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference USA and Canada, LTD.

An SCSC Committee is appointed by the Women's Board. All policies regarding applications, training, projects, and teams are established by this committee and approved by the Women's Society Board of Officers. The SCSC Committee reserves the right to turn down a project plan and/or request a different Project Director before approval.

The SCSC Committee appoints a Training Director who subsequently gathers a Training Staff. These two groups work closely together to train and support the SCSC students and PDs throughout their pre-training, on-site training and project at their assigned church. In addition to regularly scheduled evaluations during the projects, an evaluation of projects is held with the students prior to SDB General Conference meetings. An informal discussion of projects may be held with available PDs, at the Director's discretion, during the Conference week.

The SCSC Committee recommends students to the Memorial Fund for their leadership training grant, with the amount to be awarded based on years served. Only those students who have satisfactorily completed their Pre-Training Assignments, Training, and Project requirements will be recommended for this scholarship.

The SCSC Committee **MUST BE NOTIFIED** of any substantive change in project or PD **immediately** and reserves the right to cancel a project if the requirements are not met. The proposed PD **must** attend training and serve as acting PD. **If a substitute is sent to training without prior communication with, and approval of the committee, the project may be canceled.**

We are excited to work with you in this venture as we train young adult leaders for the churches, denomination, and their world, wherever God leads them!

SCSC Committee, Seventh Day Baptist Women's Board of the SDB Women's Society and General Conference U.S.A. and Canada

11/23