

*Come and join us*

## **Rendez-vous 2024: Audacious Hope WILL BE A PLACE**

Where brave hope will come alive.  
Where we learn to discover beauty amid the brokenness.  
Where we will become inspired towards bold acts of faith.

Come and join in an amazing journey to new perspectives and new friends, refreshed hope, greater awareness, and fun!



### **ADULT LEADERS**

This stream is specially designed to consider all types of congregational leaders. If you are clergy, lay, paid, volunteer, full-time, contract or part-time leadership, there will be something for you.

Theme Time Speaker: Dr. Jim Cain is a marvel at community through play, dance, and adventure. Jim will offer a way forward as we rebuild our communities with Audacious Hope.

### **YOUTH**

High school students, celebrate your unique place as youth in our church and be part of a landmark event in your faith journey as you explore what it means to have Audacious Hope. Rendez-vous 2024: Audacious Hope will be fun, challenging, relaxing, exciting, exhilarating and exhausting!

Theme Time Speakers: A collection of individuals sharing stories of Audacious Hope during times of difficulty and the everyday circumstances of life.

### **YOUNG ADULTS**

Rendez-vous 2024: Audacious Hope is an opportunity for young adults to be truly yourself, to think deeply about your gifts, and to be empowered to be an authentic leader in your churches, workplace, relationships, and beyond.

Theme Time Speakers: Andrew Hyde & Spencer Edwards will reflect on vocation and how it intersects with the Audacious Hope of one's life.



## WHAT DOES IT COST?

The registration fee of \$425.00 pays for three nights of housing, meals, facility, and programming costs. This fee does not include your travel costs.



## WHEN TO ARRIVE?

Audacious Hope begins at 1:15p.m. on Wednesday, July 3 at Brock University in St. Catharines, ON. The conference will end on Saturday, July 6, immediately following worship at approximately 11:30 am. A bag lunch will be provided for your journey home.

## TRAVEL TO THE EVENT (HOW TO GET THERE)

Many congregations and regional councils coordinate the travel of Rendez-vous 2024 participants as a delegation. Contact your minister or the regional council staff for more information. The registration fee does not include any travel costs.

## WHO ARE OUR PARTNERS?

We've embarked on a fresh relationship with the Presbyterian Church in Canada's uplift youth event under the thematic umbrella of Audacious Hope. This partnership will allow the sharing of resources, programming, leadership, and increased fun.

## WHO CAN I CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION?

Please contact [rendezvous@united-church.ca](mailto:rendezvous@united-church.ca) with your questions or ideas.





# Rendez-vous 2024 Information for Parents

## WHEN AND WHERE IS RENDEZ-VOUS 2024: AUDACIOUS HOPE?

Audacious Hope takes place at Brock University in St. Catharines, ON, beginning on Wednesday, July 3, to Saturday, July 6, 2024. St. Catharines is in the heart of the Niagara region and Brock University is uniquely placed atop the city on the Niagara Escarpment. Brock is a small campus with great facilities and beautiful scenery.

### WHAT ABOUT DISABILITY NEEDS FOR PARTICIPANTS?

Most of the residences at Brock University and all the classrooms and meeting spaces that uplift uses are accessible to persons with varying abilities. Please indicate on the registration form the needs of participants and we will do all that we can to accommodate everyone.

Brock's dining hall is excellent at providing alternative meal options for folks. All we need to do is give them preparation time. Please indicate your dietary needs on the registration form. Brock Chefs are always willing to meet with participants to ensure the best menu options are available.

### WHAT ABOUT HOUSING?

Participants will be housed in Brock residence buildings and will be assigned rooms by age group with consideration options on the registration form. All the rooms in the residence halls are singles with a shared bathroom between two.

### WHAT DOES THE REGISTRATION FEE COVER?

The registration fee of \$425.00 pays for 3 nights of housing (linens provided), meals, facility and programming costs.

The registration fee does not include travel costs.

### WHAT ABOUT TRANSPORTATION COSTS?

Transportation costs are NOT included in the registration fee. There is a travel pool available for those who need assistance. Many regional councils will help with funding or coordinating travel for participants as a delegation.

Contact your minister or youth leader or regional council staff for more info.



# All about Rendez-vous 2024

## FACTS AND FICTIONS

### WHAT WILL BE PROVIDED-LINENS, TOWELS, MEAL CARDS, ETC.

Brock provides all the necessities for a week away. You are provided with sheets for your bed and towels in your washroom. You'll receive a meal card for all meals, and a key to lock your residence room; Brock Residence Services staff are available 24/7 should you have a concern. All residence rooms are singles with one bathroom between two rooms.

### I AM A LITTLE NERVOUS.

You might be the only one from your congregation attending but you are going to meet other young people really quickly. Plus, you'll be introduced to your Guide as soon as you arrive and they will be able to help you get acquainted and settled into the Audacious Hope community. You will be part of a small discussion group (Daring Disciples) with other folx from across the country and will meet with them every day. You'll worship with hundreds of new friends and have lots of opportunities for fun recreation events and interesting workshops.

### MY FRIEND CAN'T COME BECAUSE SHE DOESN'T GO TO CHURCH.

As a ministry of The Presbyterian Church in Canada and United Church of Canada, most participants will be from congregations of the PCC and UCC. We have some guests from other churches who participate in shared youth groups or who are in partner ministries. Occasionally, participants invite friends or family from other traditions and that's good with us. God welcomes all and so do we!

### WILL I BE WELCOME? I AM NON-BINARY, TRANSGENDER OR EXPLORING.

Yes indeed, you will be welcome at the event! Each participant can identify any special considerations on the registration form for Leading with Care and housing purposes. We will reach out to you with information and for conversation and will work with the Community Life Mentors to make the appropriate housing assignment.

### WORSHIP IS BORING. WORSHIP IS A ROCK CONCERT.

Worship is a dynamic response to God's love and goodness. Worship is interactive and engages all the senses. Worship is diverse and uses all kinds of different music. Worship at **Audacious Hope** is filled with moments of enthusiasm as well as moments of contemplation and reflection. All the elements of worship experienced can be used in any home congregation.

### IS IT OKAY FOR ME TO LEAVE DURING THE WEEK TO...

Visit a friend in St. Catharines... visit Niagara Falls... shop at the outlet malls in Buffalo... to catch an early flight home. Audacious Hope is the full-meal-deal. It has a beginning, a middle and an end that are all important. Should you need to leave site during the event, please contact your Guide or a Community Life Mentor.

### ONLY MY YOUTH LEADER WILL BE WATCHING OUT FOR ME.

A skilled Community Life team is recruited and will be available throughout the event. This team is responsible for the safety and well-being of all participants and includes Guides, Event Mentors, and Health Centre staff. Each team member has fulfilled Duty of Care requirements and will be trained prior to Audacious Hope.



# Fundraising Ideas

Looking for creative ways to raise funds? Check out these ideas:

## Kilometres of Hope

Figure out how much your trip will cost and divide that by the number of kilometres it takes to get you to Brock University. You now have your cost per kilometer. Invite people to fund a stretch of your trip according to their budget. They can fund 1 kilometre or 100!

## After Church Take Out

With others in your group, prepare a take-out menu that is easy and lots of people will enjoy. Take the orders, prep the food, and pack it all up for pick-up after worship. Whether it's chili or cheesecake, folks will appreciate not having to cook!

## Candy Jar

Place several small and inexpensive items in a glass jar: jellybeans, hair ties, bouncy balls, etc. Ask people to donate a loonie or a toonie and guess how many objects are in the jar. Whoever guesses closest to the correct number without going over, wins the items in the jar and you keep the cash.

## KISS

And the simplest option of all is just to ask! Often people in your congregation are keen to help young people so, Keep It Simple Silly and ask for donations. Promise a report back with photos and stories.

## SOME DEFINITIONS

### DARING DISCIPLES

A special time set aside for youth to make connections with others from across the country. The groups provide a safe space for youth to express who they are, what they are experiencing in their life and faith, and to be comfortable asking questions and voicing doubts.

### HOME HUDDLES

Housing groups (regionally based) that check-in and unpack their day together. All this while meeting new people from your neighbourhood!

### RECREATION

Recreation events are featured each days and include everything from big games and group building activities to dance parties and crafts. Energizers are a much-loved daily **uplift** tradition, blending popular music and fun simple movements that everyone can enjoy.



# A Guide Gets to Do It All!

## CALLING ALL ADULT BOLD LEADERS WITH ENERGY!

- Are you strong in your Christian faith, enthusiastic, and someone with well-developed inter-personal skills?
- Are you a team player who can ask for & offer help, and at least 25 years of age?
- Do you demonstrate patience and tolerance, exhibit common sense and flexibility, and love working with youth?
- Do you have relevant experience interacting with young people (youth group leader, teacher of youth, parent, coach, etc.)?

If you answered with a resounding YES to the questions above, it sounds like you're a great fit for the vital role of Guide at Rendez-vous 2024: Audacious Hope!

Guides are the foundation of the ministry that we carry out at Rendez-vous 2024; they serve God by serving youth participants. Guides are called to act as role models, teacher, mentor, and shepherd, and to include and engage youth in the Christian Community of Audacious Hope. They do it all!

The required ratio for Guides to Youth Participants is 1:9. For those traveling as congregational/regional council delegations, the role expands to include supervision and care while traveling to and from Rendez-vous 2024. Guides and/or their sponsoring congregation/regional council are responsible for the \$425 registration fee and any applicable travel costs.

## THE ROLE OF GUIDES INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

- to provide supervision and care during the youth participant's travel to and from the event (if assigned)
- to model and encourage all participants to live out the Audacious Hope Community Life Guidelines
- to provide supervision, care and advocacy for youth participants, ensuring their safety and well-being, and inspiring them to care for themselves well with sleep, food, & good hygiene
- to participate fully in all the activities of Audacious Hope including worship, small groups, and recreation activities as scheduled, inspiring all other participants to do the same
- to meet daily with Community Life staff (Mentors and Health staff) and function as liaison regarding any medical or pastoral care concerns
- to be a source of humour, patience, hospitality, faithfulness, and resolve
- to provide daily leadership for Home Huddle residence groups (manual will be provided)
- to pray for all participants and the event

## NOT SURE IF YOU FIT THE BILL?

Wondering what you've gotten yourself into? Don't worry! Every leader is unique and brings their own special gifts to the table. Some Guides prefer to be present with their youth at all times. Some Guides enjoy spending their downtime in quiet reflection. Some lead with humor and silliness, others lead with a quieter energy. Some sing, some dance, some knit, some read. Regardless of your particular gifts or strengths. God can use you to help engage the youth of Rendez-vous 2024: Audacious Hope in a fulfilling and meaningful experience.

Please contact the staff lead, Amy Crawford, at [rendezvous@united-church.ca](mailto:rendezvous@united-church.ca) for more information.