



**Middle School
Jterm 2026
Experiences**

Welcome to Middle School Jterm 2026!

Our January term sessions increase opportunities for learning and exploration that challenge students in areas of interest and encourage deeper faculty-student relationships through enrichment electives, educational travel, service, and mission trips. Middle School Jterm takes place January 6, 7, and 8.

Over the past few years, we've seen the Lord's provision poured out in remarkable ways within the middle school. With record-breaking enrollment and continued growth, we've added new faculty, staff, and programming each year to better serve our students.

This year's Jterm will reflect that same spirit of growth and adaptation. As our student body expands, organizing large-scale, whole-class trips has become increasingly challenging to execute with the excellence we strive for—especially as we remain committed to educating and cultivating each student.

To that end, we're excited to introduce a new Jterm model that offers students greater choice in their experience. This includes a variety of options: on-campus activities, local outings, and domestic trips. We believe this flexible approach will not only better accommodate our diverse middle school community but also foster deeper engagement and enthusiasm for each activity.

Middle School Jterm Overview

Registration for Middle School Jterm begins on Sunday, October 5, 2025.

Participation in Jterm 2026 (January 6, 7, 8) is an academic expectation for all middle school students. Students who are not registered for Jterm should not report to school and will receive unexcused absences for the week.

Grade 6 students must enroll for their grade-specific Jterm. Sixth graders will participate in three excursion days of enrichment activities, hands-on experiences, and meaningful service opportunities as a class.

Grade 7 and Grade 8

Students may choose from the following options:

- All-day class
- Morning (AM) **and** afternoon (PM) class session - creating a full day experience
- Trip
- Student Independent Study (parent proposal required)

As a family, we encourage you to review the course offerings and thoughtfully discuss which options would be most beneficial and financially feasible for your child. Detailed information, including costs for each opportunity, is provided in this document.

Important note: CVCA reserves the right to cancel classes that do not meet the minimum enrollment. Please make your Jterm selections carefully. **Registrations cannot be switched.**

Middle School Jterm Experiences Overview - Grades 7 & 8

January 6, 7, & 8, 2026

Students in grades 7 & 8 choose one of the following: an AM and PM class, or an All-day Local/On-campus session, or a Trip experience, or a Flexible option		
AM – Morning Sessions 7:50 - 10:50 a.m. Lunch - 11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	PM – Afternoon Sessions 11:50 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.	ALL-DAY – Local/On-Campus Sessions 7:50 a.m. – 2:50 p.m. daily with a break for lunch
7th Grade Girls Gathering	Christianity in <i>The Lord of the Rings</i>	Community & Connection: Giving Back Together
Creativity and Worship	Colors of the Creator	Overcomer (Girls only grades 7 & 8)
Games Galore - AM	Creative Writing Workshop	Trip Experiences (dates may vary)
History of Sports We Love	Games Galore - PM	Camp Restore Missions Trip (8th grade)
iLab Experience	Jesus Movies Beyond the Chosen	Know, Grow, Go! (8th grade girls retreat)
Upcycle Crafts and Decor	Read, Relax, Repeat	Prepare to Believe (8th grade)
Sci-Fi Survey	Winter Wonder Lab	Slope Days Skiing or Snowboarding
		Flexible Options
		Student Independent Study (Proposal and Approval Required)

6th Grade Class Experience - All Day

Students meet on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday (January 6, 7, 8) from 7:50 am - 2:50 pm

Leader: 6th Grade Team

Miss B Jones, Mrs. K Shelford, Miss J Barbieri, Mrs. T Willison, Miss H Shedden, Mrs. E Sims

Before beginning their second semester, our 6th-grade students will participate in three exciting days of enrichment activities, hands-on experiences, and meaningful service opportunities as a class.

Planned events include engaging day trips to the **Cleveland Science Center** and the **Cleveland History Museum**, as well as a special **service project** that will allow students to give back to the community. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to connect with their peers, explore new ideas, and grow together as learners and citizens.

We're looking forward to a memorable and enriching week!

Trips

Camp Restore Missions Trip; with Historical Flair - TRIP

Leader: Mrs. S Sondej

Cost: \$295

Grades: 8 only

Trip dates: January 5-8

On this trip, students will get to serve the people of Detroit through the non-profit organization, Camp Restore. We will be helping to complete a variety of service projects that are needed in the community. We will also get the opportunity to experience some historical aspects of Detroit, visiting the African American History Museum, the Henry Ford Museum, and experience how Fords are built. We will begin in our own backyard in Hudson, learning how the city played an important role in the Underground Railroad.

Know, Grow, Go! (8th Grade Girls Retreat) - TRIP

Leader: Mrs. E Hoffman

Cost: \$250

Grades: 8 (Girls Only)

Trip dates: January 5-8

Know, Grow, Go! Learn about faithful women of the past, grow in who you are now, and practice changing the future in the 3.5-day adventure! You will enjoy times of fellowship, fun, Bible study, worship, cooking, and local service projects at women's ministries while staying overnight at a beautiful lodge in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. CVCA Alumni and staff will join us to encourage students in their faith and womanhood. Plus, we'll visit a local coffee shop, Kalahari, and much more!

Prepare to Believe - TRIP

Leader: Mr. Z Davis, Mrs. K Brown

Cost: \$360

Grades: 8 only

Trip dates: January 6-8

Eighth graders will be taken on a trip of a lifetime where they will walk through history as described by God in the Bible and have a blast exploring science and creation together.

On Day 1, we will stop in Dayton, OH, on our way down to Kentucky for a jaw-dropping experience as our students see the science that God created played out in both air and space at the National Air Force Museum. Then, after some evening bowling and a Chipotle dinner on day 1, we will be hitting the hotels and enjoying some fellowship together and a good night's rest.

Day 2 will land us aboard a life-sized replica of Noah's Ark as described in Genesis, over one and a half football fields in length! Inside the ark they will visit exhibits showing artists renderings of what animals may have looked like back then and how they could have all fit easily inside the ark. Challenges of food, water, waste, and survival will all be embraced and explored, all from a biblical perspective. One of the best parts of this day is our 1-hour Q and A session with creation science expert Brian Osborne, where we get to ask him questions, big or small, and he points us to the scriptures and creation around us for answers. Then, after some Go Kart and Laser Tag fun, we head back to our hotels for the night.

Day 3 will take us to the Creation Museum, where there are over 140 state-of-the-art exhibits portraying the 7 C's of history from a biblical worldview perspective: Creation, Corruption, Catastrophe, Confusion, Christ, Cross, and Consummation. Students are brought up close for an insider's view of the creation of the universe! This is one of my favorite places on the planet as it answers so many big questions about our world, the bible, and how it all fits together. We will be challenged to stand on the authority of the Word of God as we navigate life and the questions we encounter along the way.

This Jterm trip will be a fun and memorable experience for eighth graders as the pages of scripture are brought to life, showing overwhelming evidence that supports the biblical account of history.

Prepare to Believe in 2026!

Slope Days: Skiing or Snowboarding at Boston Mills and Snowtrails – ALL

Leader: Mrs. L Neumann

Cost: \$155- have Epic pass and equipment

\$285 - have equipment NO Epic pass,

\$505 - NO Epic pass NO Equipment

Grades: 7, 8

Hey everyone! Get ready for an exciting winter adventure (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)—come join us for a fun-filled day on the slopes! Ideal for those who can already ski or snowboard, this is the perfect chance to enjoy the snow, spend time with friends, and make unforgettable memories. Don't miss out on the fresh winter air, cozy lodge vibes, and of course, the thrill of skiing or snowboarding down beautiful winter trails. Grab your gear and let's hit the slopes together this winter!

Note: Families are responsible for drop off (10:30 am) and pick up (3:00 pm) on Wednesday and Thursday. Students will meet at CVCA on Friday, at 7:50 am to ride bus to Snow Trails Ski Resort. Estimated return time 5 pm.

7th and 8th grade Experiences

AM/PM Local On-Campus

Students select **one AM** and **one PM** class, creating a daily experience for Jterm

AM - MORNING OFFERINGS

7th Grade Girls Gathering - AM

Leader: Mrs. N Studer, Miss I Chaplin

Cost: \$35

Grades: 7 (Girls Only)

Welcoming 7th-grade girls to gather for a week of breakfast, morning devotionals, group discussions, crafts, games, and services. Each day, we will come together for a time of community with each other as well as community with God. We will end the week by serving at the Akron-Canton Food Bank.

Creativity and Worship - AM

Leader: Mr. Z Churchill

Cost: \$45

Grades: 7,8

"Creativity and Worship" is an opportunity to do something creative, like painting or drawing, while listening to inspiring worship music and taking in the beauty of God's creation. All supplies to be creative will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own as well.

Games Galore - AM

Leader: Faculty Fellows

Cost: \$25

Grades: 7,8

Note: *students must select only the AM or PM option*

If you get excited about the idea of playing games such as Scattergories, Mad Gab, or Apples to Apples, come spend some time with other students to strategize, compete, and win! Games may include card games, dice games, puzzles, and more. All competitors are welcome, but you must be a "team player" to succeed.

History of Sports We Love - AM

Leader: Mr. J Knab

Cost: \$10

Grades: 7, 8

Have you ever wondered how your favorite sports came to be—or how athletes use their talents to glorify God? In this course, we'll dive into the fascinating history of sports and games from around the world, while also exploring the inspiring stories of Christian athletes who boldly lived out their faith through competition.

Each day, we'll spotlight a different sport, watch an inspirational sports film that connects with the day's theme, and wrap things up by hitting the field or court to play it ourselves. Whether you're an athlete or simply a fan of great stories, this course will challenge and encourage you to see sports as not just a game—but as a powerful platform for faith in action.

iLAB Experience - AM

Leader: Mr. B Weber, Mr. N Su

Cost: \$85

Grades: 7, 8

Have you been waiting for an opportunity to come to the iLAB? Now is your chance! We will offer training on lots of equipment in the lab, offering a variety of projects for students to choose from. Whether you want to make a t-shirt, 3D print, laser engrave or more, the iLAB is the place to be for Jterm.

Sci-Fi Survey - AM

Leader: Miss J Bowers

Cost: \$10

Grades: 7,8

This class is for the person who enjoys the craft and art of storytelling through the medium of film. Film style and the way movies are made have changed over the decades, but it remains a powerful art form in which stories are told visually. We will be viewing films ranging in time frames from the 1950s through the current decade, examining what makes the selected movies notable or remarkable in their place in film history. (films will be rated G, PG, PG-13)

Upcycle Crafts and Decor - AM

Leader: Mrs. B Tepley

Cost: \$50

Grades: 7,8

Transform your old, well-loved t-shirts, fabric scraps, and sports balls into unique and stylish decor. In this hands-on, beginner-friendly upcycling class, you will learn a variety of techniques to give new life to materials that would otherwise end up in a landfill. Rediscover the potential in your closet and unlock your creativity in this sustainable and fun class.

PM - AFTERNOON OFFERINGS

Christianity in The Lord of the Rings - PM

Leader: Mr. C Canonico

Cost: \$10

Grades: 7, 8

What do hobbits, wizards, and wandering kings have to do with the Gospel? In this course, we will journey through Tolkien's epic to uncover how faith, hope, sacrifice, providence, and redemption shape the story. Together, we will explore questions like: How does Frodo's burden mirror the Christian understanding of sin? What do Aragorn, Gandalf, and Sam teach us about servant leadership and Christlike love? Where does Tolkien's Faith worldview subtly guide the tale of Middle-earth?

Colors of the Creator - PM

Leader: Mrs. Ki Brown

Cost: \$30

Grades: 7, 8

This Jterm course will be a creative space for students to produce meaningful artwork while exploring the rich diversity of the Church, both locally and globally. Students will study various communities in Northeast Ohio and learn about Urban Vision, a nonprofit organization that serves the refugee and international population in Akron. The primary goal of the course is to create portraits of current and former students involved with Urban Vision while also celebrating the beauty of diversity within the body of Christ. As part of the experience, students will visit the Cleveland Museum of Art to gain inspiration from professional artists, which they will incorporate into their own work. The completed portraits will be displayed at both Urban Vision and CVCA.

Creative Writing Workshop - PM

Leader: Miss J Bowers

Cost: \$10

Grades: 7, 8

This workshop will explore skills within creative writing, such as constructing a short story, utilizing poetry for self-expression, and reflecting on pre-existing written work for inspiration. Students will learn about the elements of creating fictional pieces and apply them to their own short stories or written work. Students will have a portfolio of written work by the end of the Jterm that pairs their creative writing skills with their unique perspectives and interests.

Games Galore - PM

Leader: Faculty Fellows

Cost: \$25

Grades: 7,8

Note: *students must select only the AM or PM option*

If you get excited about the idea of playing games such as Scattergories, Mad Gab, or Apples to Apples, come spend some time with other students to strategize, compete, and win! Games may include card games, dice games, puzzles, and more. All competitors are welcome, but you must be a "team player" to succeed.

Jesus Movies Beyond the Chosen - PM

Leader: Mr. Z Churchill

Cost: \$30

Grades: 7, 8

"The Chosen" is a powerful portrayal of the life of Jesus that has taken the world by storm and has had a huge impact. But you may not be aware that there are other powerful movies that have come out that are worth seeing as well. In this Jterm, we will watch and discuss some of these incredible movies and enjoy snacks and sweets in a casual environment. If you love Jesus and love watching movies, this is the Jterm experience for you!

Read, Relax, Repeat - PM

Leader: Miss M Neufeld, Mrs. R Pykare

Cost: \$160

Grades: 7, 8

If reading for hours and chatting about what you've read describes your perfect day, join our group of reading enthusiasts! You will have many opportunities to read books of your choice while enjoying snacks in a cozy, relaxing environment. We will also visit independent book vendors and offer our services to a local community bookseller. We'll end the week with an exciting book challenge to kickstart a new year of reading!

Winter Wonder Lab - PM

Leader: Mrs. T Smith

Cost: \$45

Grades: 7, 8

Our Winter Wonder Lab blends hands-on experiments, fun challenges, and hot cocoa! We will explore the amazing world of winter phenomena, but from the cozy comfort of our lab. We will dive into a new theme each day, creating instant ice, building and racing mini-ski lifts, growing crystal snowflakes, creating a "snow" volcano, and exploring kitchen chemistry with snow candy and homemade ice cream! Students will also have time to connect over a different style of hot cocoa each day.

All-Day Local On-Campus

Community & Connection: Giving Back Together – ALL

Leader: Mrs. N Kautzman, Mr. D Reed, Mrs. B Rissmiller

Cost: \$70

Grades: 8 only

Join us for a meaningful and fun-filled week as we spend three days giving back through local service projects that make a real impact in our community. Together, we'll work hard, build friendships, and learn the value of teamwork and compassion. To celebrate our efforts, we'll wrap up the week with an exciting group activity and a memorable overnight experience (lock-in). Come ready to serve, connect, and have fun!

Overcomer – ALL

Leader: Mrs. L Spodnik, Mrs. J Davies

Cost: \$160

Grades: 7, 8 (Girls only)

Become an overcomer! This intensive experience combines diverse activities with dedicated study and journaling to explore your God-given identity. Through rock wall climbing, pottery making, and Skyzone adventures, you'll discover new perspectives on His nature and how you reflect His image. Each activity will delve into a different aspect of Priscilla Shirer's 'Radiant' study. The week culminates with a viewing of the movie Overcomer and a reflective art project celebrating God's miracle in making you an overcomer. You'll take home pottery, a devotional book/journal, and lasting friendships.