

Trail to Nails

The Ashland District Youth's 2010 Winter Retreat INFORMATION PACKET

The 2010 Ashland District Youth Retreat will be held **February 12-14, 2010** at **Eagle Eyrie Retreat and Conference Center** in Lynchburg, Virginia. Youth in grades 6 through 12 are invited to come and be a part of this exciting time of worship, fellowship, and learning.

Cost:

The cost of the retreat is **\$100** per person, which should be paid with registration. Checks should be made payable to **Ashland District**. You may also want to bring money for pizza orders Saturday night, for youth t-shirts, and for items the band will be selling (CDs etc.)

Registration:

Enclosed in this information packet, you will find registration forms for your church, in addition to reproducible medical and covenant forms. Please complete the registration forms and return them, along with your check, to the address below by February, 1, 2010.

**Ashland District Youth
Attn: Jen Oliver
9101 Mystic Lane
Spotsylvania, VA 22551**

ADYC Staff:

If you have students participating in the Ashland District Youth Council they will leave for the retreat Thursday, Feb. 11 and will return later in the day Sunday than the other youth. This allows them time to set up and to clean up after the retreat. These students are expected to pay the full registration cost. It would be wonderful if your church or other sponsor paid these costs since ADYC youth are working and serving during the event.

Medications:

Please bring a parental consent form for each youth with you on the retreat. A nurse will be at Camp for emergencies, but the nurse will not be responsible for medications. Administering medications will be the responsibility of each youth group leader and its adults.

Schedule:

Registration will begin at **8 PM Friday** evening. The retreat program will begin at 9:30 PM on Friday evening, but will be structured to allow for your arrival, registration and settling in being the primary focus. Sunday morning, there will be breakfast, with the retreat concluding with closing worship. Departure time is approximately 11:30AM. There will be no lunch served on Sunday.

Lodging & Meals:

Each youth group will be assigned a cabin on the campus of Eagle Eyrie. Smaller youth groups will be assigned a cabin with other smaller youth groups. Really good meals are included in the retreat cost. You are welcome to bring snacks, drinks etc. Your cabin (really a house) has a refrigerator, stove, oven, coffee pot, microwave etc.

Saturday Age Level Groups

Saturday workshops, lunch, and small group times have been revised. It is our hope to provide a deeper time of study and reflection, an adequate time for meeting those of similar ages from across the District and a high quality Bible study and mission experience. Rather than running up and down the hills of Eagle Eyrie to have group time in the houses you will be meeting for an extended time Saturday, on the lower campus, with your entire age-level group. During this time you will have smaller group break-out times, lunch, a mission experience, and a large group time for learning.

MISSION PROJECT – NEW THIS YEAR!

Each and every participant is going to contribute to a great mission project. We're going to take 400 people, 800 hands and 800 feet and do something really amazing. You are going to need to bring items for this project, rally support from your church and community and then it will be amazing what God can do through a bunch of teen-agers! All the details will be coming soon. **BE WATCHFUL! STAY AWAKE! GET READY!**

Large Age Level Group Leaders

Leaders for these groups will be selected before hand and they will receive detailed lesson plans and materials. These leaders will ensure small group leaders have all the information they need to feel comfortable and prepared as they work with participants.

Small Group Leaders

Every adult chaperone is expected to attend the age-level groups to provide support for the large group leader and participants. Each adult should also come prepared to lead a small group if asked to do so. You will receive a detailed lesson and instructions about what to do. We expect to host 400 students at this retreat and need everyone's help in making this a meaningful, transformative experience for each one.

Campfire Talent Sharing

On Saturday evening we will have our annual talent show, "Singing Around the Campfire" since our theme is being on a hiking trail. Feel free to share a variety of talents: song, dance, skits, etc. If your youth band or a youth from your church would like to be a part of this event, please fill out the attached "Campfire" form and **return it with your registration form by February 1**, this deadline is to ensure that we have the correct equipment, set up and other materials ready and on hand, as well as taking less time away from Free Time on Saturday afternoon. **If you do not return the form by Feb. 1 you will not be allowed to participate in the talent show. All performances should be well prepared and appropriate.**

YSF:

The Youth Service Fund unites youth around the globe in supporting the needs of others. Please take some time, learn about YSF and bring an offering from your local church. We will collect this offering Sunday morning during worship. The entire offering will go to YSF. Our retreat is fully funded by your registration costs and through your church's Ashland District apportionments.

Featured Guests: Worship Sessions:

Our musical worship is being lead by "This Is Luke". This is a new band for our retreat with a great sound and deep hearts for worship. Check out <http://www.thisislake.net/> or <http://www.myspace.com/tilmusic> to hear more. The band's interests are Chipotle, Disc Golf, The Office, Volleyball. They love God and love people and try to stick close to just that.

Our keynote speaker is Chris Bennett. Chris is currently serving as Associate Pastor at Ebenezer UMC in Stafford. He has preached at Annual Conference and is a dynamic voice for Christ. As a young man who believes in, struggles with, and lives out Christianity in life today he will be sure to relate to youth and adults alike as he shares fuel, tools, and stories for the journey. Chris graduated from Union PSCE in Richmond and was Ordained Elder in 2008. He is married and has one absolutely adorable little boy!

For Directions to Eagle Eyrie: <http://www.eagleeyrie.org>