

SYF – SNOCAMP 2010!

January 15 - 17, 2010 @ Pine Trail Camp in Saugatuck, MI

October 24, 2009

Dear Youth Pastors, Pastors, Directors, Leaders & Volunteers,

The weather is getting colder, and soon the snow will start to fall, which can only mean that **SnoCamp 2010 is right around the corner!** I hope you are planning to join us for another weekend that may have life changing impact on your teens! This packet contains all the info you need to be a part of SnoCamp 2010! Enclosed you should find:

1. **THIS LETTER:** which contains A TON of important details – please be sure to read as some key details may have changed!
2. **SNOCAMP FLIERS:** including registration forms and info for students. Before distributing the fliers, be sure to read the section below entitled “SNOCAMP FLIERS”.
3. **DRIVING DIRECTIONS:** to Pine Trail Camp.

KEY RETREAT DETAILS – OVERVIEW

Cost: **\$90 per person.** (See below “COST & REGISTRATION”)
Deposit: **\$25 per person.** (See below “COST & REGISTRATION”)
Due to Andy with Final Numbers **by December 31, 2009.**
Payable to: **“NCCBA – State Youth Fellowship”**

Key Dates & Deadlines:

By December 13, 2009

Notify SnoCamp Director Andy Polheber that your group is coming and give him **approximate numbers.**

By December 31, 2009

\$25 Deposit is due.

Notify SnoCamp Director of **final numbers.**

By January 10, 2010

Notify SnoCamp Director of any changes to your final count.

January 15 - 17, 2010 = SNOCAMP

Check-In: 7:30 - 9:30 PM **EST**, Friday, January 15.

Check-Out: Noon - 1:00 PM **EST**, Sunday, January 17.

SnoCamp 2010

SnoCamp is a **Spiritual Growth retreat** for High School Students. This means we gear it to feed believing students and challenge them in their walk with the Lord. Over the years we have heard numerous reports of students being saved at SnoCamp, so please don't exclude any students because you are unsure of their salvation. The Lord may use SnoCamp to bring them to faith. Please join our director, speaker, worship leaders, and support staff in praying that God will make this a life-changing weekend for the students that attend.

Our theme this year: **"Trial by Fire"**. In the book of Daniel three men met God in a furnace. They got to meet God because they took a stand for their faith when there was great pressure not to. We often face huge pressures against standing up for our faith, but what would happen if we began to look at these challenges as opportunities to meet God? Are there things we can do to prepare for facing these challenges? And what happens if we fail? These are the themes that will challenge our students this weekend.

Our speaker this year is **Dr. Mike Severe** from Toccoa Falls College in Georgia. Many of you know or will remember Mike as a former SnoCamp Director, as well as Youth Minister at First Presbyterian Church in Ottawa for many years.

Nate Miller and a worship team from the Dekalb - Sycamore area will be leading us in worship this year. Nate has been a part of SnoCamp in the past as a youth leader with First Baptist Church of Sycamore. We are looking forward to having him lead us as we worship the Lord together.

A highlight of each year's retreat is the **Concert of Prayer**. Once again this year **Dave Pikel of Come to Life Ministries** will be leading us in an interactive time with the Lord. We look forward to seeing how God will use this time as we humble ourselves before him.

COST & REGISTRATION

This year's cost is **\$90 per person** (students and adults) & includes:

Three Days (Fri - Sun) & two night's **lodging** at PTC

(including **Tube Hill, Karaoke**, and more!)

Three **meals** on Saturday, Breakfast on Sunday

(plus Friday Night Pizza & Saturday Night snack)

Four Sessions including **Worship, Speaker**, and Group Time

All checks should be made payable to: **NCCBA - State Youth Fellowship**.

A **\$25 non-refundable Deposit** is due to Andy **by December 31**.

This deposit will guarantee your reservation and is applied toward the \$90 total cost. We recommend that you require a deposit from your students in order to get a commitment from them. If for some reason you are unable to make a deposit of \$25 per person, please contact Andy to make other arrangements.

The full balance is due in full upon check-in at PTC. If possible, please bring one check from your church for the full balance due.

Knowing that your group is coming and the approximate numbers GREATLY helps us in planning the event. **Please contact the SnoCamp Director ASAP to let him know you are coming** and what you think your numbers may be. Please let us know your approximate numbers of boys, girls, male leaders, and female leaders **by December 13**.

Final numbers and deposits are due by December 31. We recognize that circumstances may cause a change in these numbers; if this occurs please let us know right away. We can always make small last minute changes, but it is helpful if we know about these **before you arrive at camp**. While we will do our best to accommodate changes to your group, we may not be able to meet requests made after January 10. Requests for changes after this time will be handled on a case by case basis.

We require that you bring **one adult for every seven (7) students** of the same gender. If you are unable to do so, please let us know and we can make arrangements for you to "share" a leader with another church. Each leader is expected to help us enforce camp rules. This includes lights out, quiet time, no cabin raiding, being on time for sessions & meals, appropriate behavior, etc.

Housing: Students will be housed with their church group and leaders. Cabin assignments will be given to you at check-in.

Please collect the Medical and Liability Release Forms and verify that they are fully completed and signed **prior to leaving for camp**. Please make copies for yourself, and turn in the originals at check-in.

Check-In Process:

When you arrive at camp on Friday, please report to the **Dining Hall**. Please have students wait outside and have one leader come to check-in your group. We will collect your Release Forms and final payment at this time, as well as giving you your group's cabin assignments, booklets, and any further instructions. If you will be arriving **later than 9:30 PM EST**, **please call** Andy's cell phone and let him know what your approximate time of arrival will be.

For those traveling from the Chicago area we recommend allowing a minimum of four hours of travel time to allow for traffic and weather conditions. Please remember that **Michigan is EST**, which is one hour AHEAD of most of us!

SnoCamp Flier

The Blanks on the back of the SnoCamp Flier are for **YOU to fill out** with your specific information. The Cost of \$90 per person is what we need from you, but you may choose to charge your students a different amount. Some groups subsidize part of the cost, reducing the cost to their students; others increase the cost to cover their adult leaders or travel expenses.

Final numbers and deposits are due to Andy by December 31, so we recommend having a due date for students sometime ahead of that. Load/Leave & Return Times and locations can be added based on your specific group's needs. Please keep in mind that PTC is **Eastern Time**, as well as accounting for Friday evening **traffic and weather conditions** in determining what time you need to leave.

Please **include YOUR contact information** on the back of the SnoCamp Flier, as we want your students to contact you for questions and info.

If you are receiving this packet in the mail, enclosed are one white copy and one copy on colored paper (orange). Feel free to copy the form on **any color paper**; I used orange because it fit the theme of fire.

PDF and MS Publisher versions of the flier are available – email me and I would be happy to get them out to you! If you use MS Publisher you can add in your church’s info directly onto the flier. OR, if you would prefer, you can email me the info you want added to the flier (costs, dates, meeting places, “bring extra \$\$ for food on the way”, etc.), and I would be happy to add it for you and get it to you in a format that you can use.

Pine Trail Camp

Many of you have joined us in the past and know all about it. For info about the camp (and pictures) you can visit www.pinetrailcamp.org.

One of the highlights of PTC is its **AWESOME TUBING HILL!** Tubing requires **SNOW**, so start praying now that the Lord will send it (but not too hard – travel to and from camp can get “interesting” when the snow hits too hard during the weekend). There is also a large field for **football** and **tubicide!** There is a **pool table**, several **ping-pong** tables, **foosball**, torpedo ball (carpet ball), and a number of places to hang out or play cards or board games. The **Canteen** will be open during certain hours and sells a variety of candy, drinks, camp t-shirts, etc. (Cost for Canteen items is not included)

Contacts

For more information about the State Youth Fellowship or any of our other events, you can check out our website at www.syfil.org.

Info & Questions Contact:

Andy Polheber
SnoCamp 2010 Director
Cell: 815-579-9065*
Email: a_polheber@yahoo.com

* Feel free to leave me a message if I am unavailable when you call.

Send Deposit To:

NCCBA – State Youth Fellowship
Andy Polheber
C/O Oglesby Union Church
100 E. Walnut St.
Oglesby, IL 61348

* Please make all checks payable to NCCBA – State Youth Fellowship. If possible, please send one check per church group.

Pine Trail Camp

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Add a Day at Camp!

One of the great things about SnoCamp is that it happens on Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend, which means that many schools have Monday off. In the past we have had groups stay an extra day at camp - and this is an option for you too!

But there is nothing programmed, how can I use this time effectively?

Sometimes the best times with your students are the “un-programmed” times. Some of the most common statements we see on our evaluation forms are: “The highlight of camp is the time that I got to spend with my students” and “I wish we had MORE Small Group time”. Because of comments like this we do our best to maximize that time in our schedule. What better way to expand that time than by adding a night at camp.

If there is snow, there is plenty to do at the tubing hill or games in the field. There are also a number of near-camp options that people have made use of in previous years - Hike to Lake Michigan or go to town for Lazer Tag or an indoor water park.

The cost for these will be dependant on what your plans are and whether or not you would want to have meals at the camp, or go into town.

If you are interested in getting more information about staying an additional night, you can contact the camp directly (info on the previous page) and talk with Layne and the Camp Staff about pricing and meal options!

PS - If you do decide you are going to spend the extra day and would like some ideas or help preparing some follow-up materials please let me know - I'd be happy to help with this in any way I can.