

August 23, 2016

To: Educators, Pastors, Clerks of Session, others who work with youth
From: Susan Sharp Campbell, Associate for Educational Ministry
Re: Registration information for the OLDER YOUTH RETREAT, November 18-20, 2016, at Bluestone Camp and Retreat: **It's All About That grace: Vocation and Hope**

PLEASE READ the information below and SHARE the enclosed information with youth and those who work with youth. You will find a description of the retreat's focus and presenter on the enclosed brochure.

Registration and Cost

- Registrations will be accepted by mail, fax, or on our Web Page
Fax: 304-744-7649 Web Page: www.wvpresbytery.org
Mail: Presbytery of West Virginia, 520 Second Avenue, S. Charleston, WV 25303
- **Registrations must be received in the Presbytery Office no later than Thursday, November 3.** Use the enclosed "Church Registration Form" to register youth.
- The cost per person (youth and adults) is \$70, due prior to the retreat. In the event registration fees are not received in advance, or other arrangements made, there will be a \$10 late fee per participant. Refunds are available for cancellations made prior to noon, Thursday, November 17.

Responsible Adults

- Each church must register a responsible adult with their youth.
- There must be 1 responsible adult for each 1-7 youth. If your group includes both male and female, you are asked to have at least one male and one female adult.
- If your church has two or less youth planning to attend and needs to combine with another group for a responsible adult, names of that have already registered to will to contact about pairing up; however, you must contact the other churches. If your responsible adult at the retreat is from another church, he or she should have agreed in advance to be responsible.
- Responsible adults must be at least 23 years of age.
- **Each adult attending the retreat must fill out a Reference Check form and Background Check Consent Form (a master copy is enclosed in this packet). These must be returned to the presbytery office with the church registration form no later than THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3. This enables us to do the necessary background checks prior to the retreat. Please share the enclosed Presbytery's Child Protection Policy with your adults in advance of the retreat, along with the form indicating that they have read this.**

Mission Project

Our Mission Project this year is **making BIRTHDAY BAGS for local food pantries**. These will be given to food pantries in our presbytery to distribute. **Each participant** is asked to bring: cake mix, 1 can of frosting, birthday cake candles, and a package of birthday napkins.

Open Mike

On Saturday night, there will be an OPEN MIKE time for individuals and groups to share their talents and skills. Please remind those coming from your church of this event and encourage them to consider being part of it. You may want to get your group to put a skit or song together in advance. Sign-ups will be Saturday afternoon; no food will be allowed in acts.

Covenant

It is very important that your youth and their parents read and understand the covenant. The covenant enables us to live together in community. We suggest that you discuss this covenant with your group before registering and, perhaps, as you travel to the retreat. Infractions are cause for disciplinary action that may include contacting parents to pick their youth up.

Medical Forms

Medical forms for all participants should be filled out in advance and brought to the retreat, NOT mailed in. Please note that there is a separate form for youth and adults. Youth forms require the signature of a parent. Please do not assume that we have past forms on file (they are shredded after the retreat).

Special Needs

If you have youth with special needs, please contact Susan Sharp Campbell to consider ways that we might be able to accommodate and include them.

Please copy and distribute the following enclosures to youth and those who work with youth:

- Retreat brochure
- 2 Medical Release Forms and Insurance Information (to be brought to the retreat). Please note there is a different form for youth and adults.
- **The Volunteer Information Form and Background Check Consent Form to be completed by all participating adults (to be returned by November 3)**
- Retreat flyer to post on your bulletin board
- Registration Form to register your church group (to be returned by November 3)
- Covenant form for youth and adults (to be brought to the retreat)

Questions? Need more information? Contact Susan Sharp Campbell, 304-667-9428 or susan_sharp_campbell@hotmail.com.

The Youth Council of the Presbytery of West Virginia presents:

The 2016 Older Youth Retreat November 11-20, 2016

It's All About That grace: Vocation and Hope

with

Dana Sutton

at

**Bluestone Camp and Retreat Center
Hinton, WV**

FOCUS: How much pressure do you feel to figure out "what you should DO with your life?" (Think job, career, etc...) What would it be like to take some of that pressure off by putting the focus on how you want to BE in the world? [A new way to look at vocation!](#)

KEYNOTE LEADER: Dana Sutton is a certified life coach and Presbyterian minister. He served as a campus minister at Marshall University and now enjoys coaching individuals and groups toward their goals of self-care, greater success, and overcoming ADHD challenges. He and his wife Jean have two sons. He loves sports and remembers playing soccer at a Sr. High retreat one year when the temperature dropped 20 degrees during the game, rain turning to freezing rain and then snow. Best soccer game ever. Yes, he's that crazy.

For more information, or if you have questions, please contact Susan Sharp Campbell,
susan_sharp_campbell@hotmail.com or 304-645-4568.

Registration for FALL 2016 OLDER YOUTH RETREAT

Church _____ Phone _____

Contact Person _____

Contact Person's email _____

Email of Adult who will be attending _____

Name	Grade(for youth)/A(for adult)	M/F
1 _____		
2 _____		
3 _____		
4 _____		
5 _____		
6 _____		
7 _____		
8 _____		

Additional names may be placed on the back of this form.

Responsible Adult(s): (You must have at least 1 adult for each 1-7 youth.) If your group has both male and female youth, you are requested to have at least one male and one female adult.

Special Needs: If you have participants with special needs, please note below. These should also be noted on the medical forms participants (youth and adults bring with them.

Mail this form with a registration fee of \$70 per person to:

Fall Retreat
Presbytery of West Virginia
520 Second Avenue
South Charleston WV 25303

Forms should be received by noon on Thursday, November 3, 2016.

Please make check payable to Presbytery of West Virginia

Volunteer Information Forms and Release Authorizations for all registered adults must be returned with registration so that they can be completed BEFORE the retreat.

Questions? Susan Sharp Campbell, Associate for Educational Ministry, (304) 645-4568 or
susan_sharp_campbell@hotmail.com

9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____

SCHEDULE

Friday, November 18

7:00 -9:00 pm. Registration; settle into cabins; gathering activities
9:00 pm Beginnings: Energizers, music, introductions
9:30 pm Small Group Beginnings.
10:30 pm Snacks in lodge; adult orientation
11:00 pm Worship
11:30 pm Cabin devotions; all in cabins for the night
midnight Lights Out

Saturday, November 19

8:00 am Breakfast
9:00 am Energizers, Music
9:30 am Keynote and Small Groups
noon Lunch
1:00 pm Energizers, music, announcements/commercials
1:15 pm Mission Experience followed by
Recreation Options
4:30 Free Time
5:30 pm Dinner
6:30 pm Energizers
6:45 pm Keynote and Small Groups
8:30 pm Open Mike
Board and Card Games
Smores
11:00 pm Worship, then to cabins
11:30 pm Cabin Devotions; all in cabins for the night
midnight Lights Out

Sunday, November 20

8:00 am Breakfast, clean cabins and pack cars
9:15 am Energizers, Music
9:30 am Keynote and Small Groups
11:15 am Worship with Communion

The Youth Council of the Presbytery of West Virginia presents:

The 2016 Older Youth Retreat **November 18-20, 2016**

**It's All About That
grace:**

Vocation and Hope

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Dana Sutton

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A new way to look at vocation!

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degrees during the game, rain turning to freezing rain and then snow. Best soccer game ever. Yes, he's that crazy.

Important Registration Information FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS

This retreat is for youth in grades 9-12 and their adult advisors. There must be one adult for every 7 youth registered.

The retreat will begin with registration from 7-9 pm on Friday, November 18 and end with worship around noon on Sunday morning. The first meal served will be Saturday breakfast; the last meal will be Sunday breakfast.

The cost for each participants, youth or adult, is \$70. Registrations will not be accepted without the name of the adult who will be responsible for youth at the retreat.

Registrations can be made online, by mail or by fax (304-744-7649); no phone registrations will be taken. The final registration deadline for registrations to be received in the Presbytery Office is Thursday, November 3. If you have questions about registering youth with special needs or potential conflicts with athletics/band, please contact Susan Sharp Campbell at 304-645-4568 prior to the 3rdst.

Cabin assignments are made as registrations are received. If someone needs to register someone late and there is room, late registrations will be accepted; contact Susan Sharp Campbell.

ADULT ADVISORS - PLEASE NOTE

Each adult attending the retreat must return a completed Volunteer and Information Form and a Background Check Authorization no later than **Thursday, November 3**, or have completed and returned one in the last 24 months. Adults are asked to read the Presbytery's Child Protection Policy that can be found at <http://www.wvpresbytery.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/Child-Protection-Policy.pdf> prior to arrival; there will be an adult orientation

on Friday evening at which time adult participants will be asked to sign that they have read this.

WHAT TO BRING - Each participant

- ✓ A Bible
- ✓ Warm clothes
- ✓ Sleeping bag, or twin bed sheets, and a pillow
- ✓ Towels
- ✓ Flashlight
- ✓ Completed Covenant Form and Medical Release Form
- ✓ mission project supplies
 - cake mix
 - can of frosting
 - birthday candles
 - birthday napkins

Mission Project:

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Each group is asked to bring – SNACKS TO SHARE

CELL PHONE POLICY

Retreats are an opportunity to get away from the normal routines of life. Therefore, you are encouraged to leave your cell phone at home in order to facilitate building a new community in a limited amount of time. Cell phones shall not be used during scheduled activities (including but not limited to: keynote, small groups, recreation, meals, energizers, music and worship). This includes all cell phone use – calls, texts, games, listening to messages, etc. Misused cell phones are subject to confiscation. If someone needs to reach a retreat participant during the Older Youth Retreat at Bluestone, and a cell phone does not work, please call the Bluestone office at 304-466-0660.

Please **DO NOT BRING** electronic items and/or valuable jewelry.
We cannot be responsible for lost items.