

## **Hello Parents!**

Thank you so much for signing up your teen for our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade CONFIRMATION Retreat!

**It is going to be an awesome weekend!** We have a lot planned for your child and the schedule provides free time for them to enjoy the many activities this retreat facility has to offer. We are positive that they will have a great time and we are very glad they are going!

**They will need to check-in Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> in the parking lot at the Seton Faith Formation Center (3100 W. Spring Creek) at 5:30 PM**

**Please have them eat dinner beforehand or bring a sandwich to eat on the bus ride.**

We did our very best to make sure they got their roommate request (*which means that person would be in the same cabin and hopefully the same bus as them*).

### **BUS Check-in for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade CONFIRMATION Retreat - Friday 5:30pm:**

- They will **CHECK IN** with their Bus Captain, **LOAD** their luggage and stay **ON THEIR BUS!**
- **Bus assignments** don't have anything to do with **small group assignments**.
- YOUTH will keep their **medication** with them and administer it to themselves.
  - *IF youth are NOT capable of this responsibility, then see Seton Staff member at check in and they will determine which of the leadership team will help administer medication to your child.*
- **EMERGENCY #** The PINES Camp 1-903-845-5834 or 877-408-6393
- **Seton Staff on Trip** Jeri Phillips 214-695-2214 Chris Johnson 832-331-2497  
(Leave message if no answer right away)
- **Return ETA (Estimated Time of Arrival) on Sunday Mar. 31<sup>st</sup> ...about 4:00pm**

**A reminder that there will be no 8<sup>th</sup> grade Faith Formation on that Sunday evening (*if your child normally session on Sundays*). Once they get home from the retreat, they can stay home that night...**

**to visit with family and/or catch up on homework.**

**Contact Seton Youth Ministry Staff for more information 972-596-5505**

# ***Weekend Rules***

## ***The Ten Commandments of 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Retreat***

- I. THOU SHALT NOT USE CELL PHONES DURING ORGANIZED ACTIVITIES.
- II. THY BODY SHALT NOT LEAVE THE CAMP GROUNDS.
- III. THOU ART TO STAY IN THY CABINS AFTER LIGHTS OUT.
- IV. THOU SHALT NOT PUFF A CIGARETTE OR WEED OF ANY KIND, NOR SPACE OUT ON ANY PILLS OR DRINK ALCOHOL DURING THE WEEKEND.
- V. THOU SHALT REPORT ANY INJURY IMMEDIATELY TO YOUR SMALL GROUP LEADER.
- VI. THOU SHALT NOT TRESPASS ON THY NEIGHBOR'S BODY OR SELF-ESTEEM.
- VII. NO FIREWORKS SHALT THY BURN
- VIII. THOU SHALT BE AT ALL SCHEDULED EVENTS ON TIME!
- IX. THOU SHALT OBSERVE ALL RETREAT & CAMP RULES.
- X. THOU SHALT HAVE A GOOD ATTITUDE AND HAVE FUN!!!

*If a retreat participant fails to follow these rules,  
Seton Youth Staff has the option to call a participant's parents  
to have them come pick up that participant from camp, and take them home!*

# **Stuff To Bring – LABEL EVERYTHING!**

## **Sleep Stuff**

- 1 Sleeping bag or set of sheets. (*accommodations are cabins with bunks, showers, outlets*)
- 1 Pillow
- Plastic trash bag – to put all your stuff in, if it should rain  
(*make sure it is marked with your name if you do this, as all black trash bags all look the same*).

## **Clothing Stuff**

- Bring clothes for a weekend (2 nights & 2 days) that are casual (jeans and t-shirts) and suitable for a church retreat. **Plan on being outside a lot**. Watch the weather. If they say it might rain, bring a poncho or raincoat and extra shoes (old ones). It can be cool out at camp so make sure you **bring warm enough clothing – layers are a good thing!**
- On Sunday you will be receiving a **white** retreat t-shirt to wear that day. Girls may want to keep this in mind when packing certain color undergarments (given that the t-shirt is white).

## **Bathroom Stuff**

- Toiletries - soap, toothbrush/paste, deodorant, shampoo...
- 1 - Bath towel (**not Mom's best one**)
- Flip flops to use as shower shoes!

## **Misc.**

- **A “refillable” Water bottle**
  - **YOU get thirsty and there are very few water fountains around**
- **Snacks, if desired...** be sure to have a way to close them up – to keep bugs out.
- **Flashlight, in backpack on the bus with you – not in your luggage!**
- **A WATCH** (we want you to be on time for the activities...and not be tempted to look at your phone)
- Some extra cash for the camp store, *if desired*
- **Bible and/or journal for personal reflection (optional)**
- **A great attitude and willingness to be touched by God!**

*Do not bring any valuables like electronics – we are not responsible for lost or stolen items and neither is the camp. By the way, cell phone reception can be a little spotty out there. Ideally, it might be best if you leave your phone at home (and enjoy the retreat experience). You are not allowed to use your phones during any of our organized activities anyway and it really helps you to focus when you are not continually tempted to call or text others. It is your choice, but just know you can survive without it 😊!*

**Eat dinner before you come to departure!!!** (or you can bring a sandwich to eat on the bus ride out)

*You are allowed to bring 3 items...(Please label your items)*

1. Suitcase or Duffel Bag - All clothes must fit into one suitcase or duffel bag.
2. Sleeping Bag and Pillow
3. Backpack - with your flashlight in it - *bring this on the bus with you!!*

Dear Parents,

Shhhhh!!! One of our retreat traditions is “love letters.” We ask that you write and submit at least one love letter for your child. ***We are trying to surprise them so please do not let them know.***

Your letter, of course, can be about anything. The main thing is let them know **how much you love them, support them, are praying for them,** etc. *It touches the kids to receive so much encouragement on this journey toward Confirmation.*

Please feel free to invite siblings, aunts, uncles, Confirmation sponsors, friends, coaches, etc. to write and submit a letter as well. The more, the merrier. Oftentimes, kids may only receive one or two letters, but it never hurts to have more 😊.

**Put your letter(s) in a sealed envelope with your child’s full name on the outside** (*that way we know which “Ava” to give it to*). We will bring all letters to camp with us and deliver them to your child on Saturday night.

You can drop the letters off at the Seton Youth Office (*this is where the youth room is located in the Seton Faith Formation Ctr*). You can do so any time before the retreat or you can hand it to us at check-in for the retreat - *when you drop them off to board the bus.*

**Please let us know if you have any questions.  
Thanks so much and God Bless!**

-Seton Youth Ministry Staff