



Festival of Faith 2020

February 15-16, 2020

INFORMATION PACKET

PARTICIPATION

Youth: Festival of Faith is for youth currently in grades 6-8 and their adult chaperones.

Chaperones: Adults, age 21 and older. A **minimum** of 1 adult chaperone is required for each 7 or fewer youth participants. Churches are also asked to provide male and female chaperones in proportion to the male/female break-down of their group (i.e. 2 male and 6 female youth = one male and one female chaperone.) This requirement is related to supervision in sleeping areas. Churches are encouraged to team up with other churches in their area to make this work. If you are having a problem with this, please contact Julie Riechmann at jriechmanniscucc.org or 618-357-1809.

DATES & LOCATION

Saturday, February 15, 2020 through Sunday, February 16, 2020
DuBois Center • 2651 Quarry Road • DuBois, Illinois 62831

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE

The event begins with check-in from 2:00 to 2:30 pm on Saturday afternoon. The program will begin promptly at 2:45 pm, so plan to arrive in time to get settled. Dinner will be provided on Saturday. Breakfast and lunch will be provided on Sunday, and the event will end at 2:00 pm.

CONTACTS & IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

BEFORE the Event

Program: Craig Bielke at bielkecraig@gmail.com or (210) 383-0385
Registrar: Julie Riechmann at jriechmanniscucc.org or (618) 357-1809

DURING the Event

Leadership: Craig Bielke at (210) 383-0385
DuBois Center: On-Call Pager at (618) 791-6545

Please use these "during the event" numbers only in case of an emergency. Participants and leaders will be out and about involved in the program during most of the day and evening.

\$ EVENT FEE \$

\$60 per person, limited to first 80 youth and chaperones that have sent a space reservation form and postmarked by January 17, 2020, and have paid the balance and sent in the registration and required paperwork postmarked by February 4, 2020. After this date, the cost will be \$65 per registration.

The event fee for each youth and adult participant includes one night's lodging. Dinner will be provided on Saturday. Breakfast and lunch will be provided on Sunday.

REFUNDS

Payments for the balance of the event fees are refundable ONLY if cancellation is received by Monday, February 4, 2020.

EXPECTATIONS OF CHAPERONES AND YOUTH

Youth Participant Covenant and *Adult Participant Covenant*. These forms will be made available at the retreat and reviewed together and signed by the individual attending.

HOUSING

Housing will be assigned according to gender (males together, females together). Local church groups will be assigned together for overnight lodging when possible. Smaller groups may be combined within cottages. Chaperones should work in advance with neighboring churches to ensure adequate supervision in male and female sleeping areas. If you are having problems with this coverage, check with Julie Riechmann as soon as possible at 618-357-1809 or jriechmann@iscucc.org. Notes regarding arrangements for male-female sleeping area coverage should be sent with the Group Reservation Form, so housing can be correctly assigned.

HEALTH CONCERNS - VERY IMPORTANT!!

Local church chaperones are responsible for first aid & health issues for their participants. Chaperones should carry *Permission to Treat* authorizations for each adult and youth attendee and come prepared with basic first aid supplies. NOTE: The authorizations included on the "Permission and Authorization" form include this authorization. Be sure chaperones keep a copy for their use. In an emergency, the event coordinator will provide back-up supplies and support. We recommend that medications be kept by the church chaperones. ***It is the responsibility of the family and/or each local church to provide health and accident coverage for their participants.***

ADULT LEADERSHIP - SAFE CHURCH/CONDUCT VERIFICATION

The Illinois South Conference and many of our churches have adopted "Safe Conduct" policies as tools to help us provide the safest environment possible for those we serve. Implementation of these policies is ongoing. We have instituted procedures for adult chaperones and other adult leaders involved in Conference-sponsored youth programs with an overnight component. Even though youth attend these events with chaperones from their own church, they are often involved with adults from other churches in small group settings and, sometimes, in the sleeping areas.

In addition to the *Registration & Health Information* form and *Permission and Authorization Form*, adult attendees need to submit the following:

1. Disclosure Statement dated within the past 12 months
2. State of Illinois, Department of Children and Family Services AUTHORIZATION FOR BACKGROUND CHECK, or a completed background check that has been returned from the State, dated within the past 12 months. **If your church already utilizes the DCFS system**, a copy of a current report signed by the pastor, dated within the past 12 months, may be submitted, and an AUTHORIZATION FOR BACKGROUND CHECK WILL NOT BE NEEDED.

START NOW to ensure that you have a report in hand by the February 4, 2020 deadline for forms. If you have questions about this procedure, contact the Festival of Faith Registrar.

POLICY ON TOBACCO PRODUCTS

The possession and/or use of tobacco products is not allowed by persons under the age of 18 and/or **ANY YOUTH PARTICIPANTS**, even those who are 18 years of age or older, at any ISC sponsored youth event. The use of tobacco products by adult chaperones is allowed only at designated times and in designated places. There is no smoking in any building at DuBois Center, within 15 feet of any building, in the woods, or near flammable materials, such as dried leaves.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE

The possession and/or use of alcohol and/or illegal drugs or controlled substances will not be allowed at any Conference-sponsored youth event or retreat. The one exception might be the provision of wine as an option during communion. This includes every participant and leader, youth and adult. Such activity is destructive to the spirit of Christian community we hope to build at all our youth events. The possession and/or use of alcohol and/or illegal drugs or controlled substances will result in the offending parties being sent home **AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE**.

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THINGS NOT TO BRING

Please **DO NOT** bring expensive or valuable items or lots of money or any of the items listed below:

Illegal drugs or controlled substances • alcohol or tobacco products • skate boards • fireworks • weapons (including knives & hand guns) • food for the bunk room (Bugs love it!) • clothing that promotes sex, violence, alcohol, drugs, etc. (e.g., NO Co-ed Naked, Budweiser, etc.) • inappropriate clothing - too tight, too short, too revealing • items that will detract from the event

The Illinois South Conference and DuBois Center and their staff/representatives are not responsible for the loss, damage or theft of property.

CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT LIST (Do Bring)

- _____ Pre-packaged Snacks to SHARE with entire group in Oak Lodge (*Youth group leaders, consider bringing a reasonable amount of snacks to share from your group—rather than each youth bringing snacks--so we do not have an overabundance of calorie/sugar-laden food.*)
- _____ Water bottle
- _____ Comfortable, warm clothes for two days
- _____ Two pairs of shoes and two pairs of dry socks
- _____ PJ's
- _____ Rain gear, Sweaters, Gloves and a Jacket (Weather permitting, some activities will be outside.)
- _____ Sleeping bag with twin fitted sheet or twin sheets, blanket, and pillow
- _____ Wash Kit (soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, etc.)
- _____ Towel and Wash Cloth
- _____ Bible
- _____ Paper & Pens or Pencils
- _____ Any extra \$\$ needed for the trip to and from the event
- _____ Any Necessary Medication (*Please be sure that the home church advisor is aware of any medications to be taken and any special medical considerations.*)
- _____ Any Necessary Forms, if not already turned in
- _____ Camera (optional)
- _____ Positive attitude ☺