

Memorandum



POTOMAC CONFERENCE

To: Everyone
From: Denny Grady, Department of Youth Ministries
Date: 11/30/11
Re: Youthfest 2012

Greetings and Happy Holidays!

As we look into the new year of 2012, the first event sponsored by the Potomac Conference Youth Department is Youthfest '12. Youthfest is a D.C./Metropolitan area youth rally where youth are invited to unite together with others of common faith and values for worship and inspiration. Youthfest is designed to serve as an event where our Christian teens and young adults feel comfortable inviting their non-Christian friends. While all are welcome to attend, this event will be targeting students of high school and college age, and their adult leaders/youth workers. The Youthfest line-up includes general sessions (praise & worship service), breakout sessions (classes for adult youth leaders), outreach activities, crazy game night, and a new feature called the "Young Artist Showcase. Look for the highlighted "New!" next to headings of new elements.

THEME

The theme for Youthfest '12 is "ARISE". Answering the call to worship and figuring out who to worship is the greatest spiritual challenge for this generation of young people. The reality is that we worship those things that we value most. The question we want to help answer is this; does Jesus occupy the place of greatest value in our life? He is greater than our education. He is greater than our friends. He is greater than our entertainment. So He is worthy of our worship.

LOCATION & TIME

Youthfest will be held on the campus (gymnasium) of Takoma Academy February 3 & 4, 2012. The event will kick off Friday evening from 7 to 9 p.m., and continue Sabbath from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Location address and schedule are included with this memo.

OPTIONAL MEAL

Youthfest is provided free of charge to those who choose to attend the Youth Leader's Breakout Sessions, the Praise & Worship Service, the Young Artist Showcase, the Outreach Activities and the Saturday night Crazy Games. To help defray the cost of Youthfest '12, we will be collecting a love offering during the services. We appreciate the generous support of the participants.

An optional light Sabbath lunch will be catered on-site for the pre-paid amount of \$7 per person. And food booths (read food booth section of this document) will be available Saturday night to purchase snacks and supper.

Prepayment for the Sabbath lunch can be sent to: Youth Ministries Dept., Potomac Conference, 606 Greenville Ave, Staunton, VA 24401. Please make your check payable to: Potomac Conference.

YOUTHFEST 2012

Payments must be sent no later than January 27. If you are coming from a Potomac Conference church or school, arrangements can be made to invoice your institution after the event, if you would prefer, but you must still submit the meal order form by the deadline. Please use the enclosed meal order form. If you opt to pay by invoice, you can email your form to youth@pcsda.org or fax it to 540-886-5734.

YOUTH LEADER'S BREAKOUT SESSION (Friday Evening)

Youthfest '12 will continue on with the idea of combining the youth rally with a youth leader's conference (those who work with youth in some capacity, either as a SS teacher/leader, AY leader, Youth leader or Young Adult leader, etc). The idea being that since most of the teens coming will be accompanied by a youth leader/worker of some sort, we might as well provide those individuals with training that will equip them and inspire them in their ministry. The Youth Leader's Breakout Sessions will run concurrently with the Young Artist Showcase on Friday evening, from 7-9 p.m. This will be the only time slot for the breakout sessions. This year our breakout sessions will feature presenters from the Center for Youth Evangelism at Andrews University. The breakout sessions will provide training for leaders of "middle school" youth, "public high school" youth and young adults. See the Youthfest Weekend Schedule below for an outline of breakout sessions.

There will be no charge to those attending the Youth Leader's Breakout Sessions, but we still need to know who is planning to attend (so that we can be prepared with the appropriate amount of supplies and handouts). A drawing for a \$200 gift prize will be made from all those who pre-register. So don't forget to send in your registration.

Forms can be sent to: The Department of Youth Ministries, 606 Greenville Ave, Staunton, VA 24401. Forms can also be sent by email to youth@pcsda.org, or faxed to 540-886-5734. The pre-registration deadline is January 27. Please use the form included in this packet.

YOUNG ARTIST SHOWCASE (Friday Evening) (New!)

Our normal Musicfest portion of this event is being upgraded and given a new name and time slot. It will now be called the "Young Artist Showcase" (YAS) and it will serve as the main feature for the Friday evening program. YAS is a time when we would like to feature the Christian performances of various praise bands, soloists, musicians, artists of various kinds, and choirs from our schools and churches.

This time around, however, the format of the program will take on a different flavor:

First, the artists must be able to verbalize (by way of a video recorded interview) how they have used their particular talent in worship to God and to glorify His name. (See the included event schedule for the time designated for participants to be recorded). Artists must pre-register to enter the Young Artist Showcase. Please use the form included in this packet.

Second, the event will take on a bit of a competitive flavor, similar to the NBC program called the "Sing Off" (which, by the way, for the last two years has given the winning award to Adventist artists). While the performance will be given friendly feedback from three judges, the audience that evening will select the three best performances, and those artists will return on Sabbath afternoon for the final sing-off (also voted on by the audience). **Each participating artist should come to Youthfest prepared with two musical performances.** One for Friday evening, and one for Sabbath afternoon in case they become a finalist.

Finally, the artist who receives the most votes, will be awarded...(drum role please). Awards yet to be determined.

Registration forms can be sent to: Youth Ministries Dept., Potomac Conference, 606 Greenville Ave, Staunton, VA 24401. Forms can also be sent by email to youth@pcsd.org, or faxed to 540-886-5734. The pre-registration deadline is January 27. Please use the form included in this packet.

PRAISE & WORSHIP SERVICE (Sabbath Morning)

General session at Youthfest will feature a praise time (led by the accomplished praise band from the Washington Adventist University), special features and motivational presentations by the inspirational youth speaker, Pastor James Black, the North American Division Youth Director.

YOUTH BAPTISM (New!)

Another new feature that we are adding to Youthfest, for the Praise & Worship Service is a youth baptism. This is an opportunity for those young people who have made their decisions for Christ and who have been preparing for baptism to celebrate this wonderful occasion publically with the Youthfest family. Of course, we would want their immediate and church family to share this special moment, so they are more than welcome to join us. If you know of any teens that wish to make their baptism day a powerful testimony to hundreds of other youth, please have them contact us here at the Potomac Conference Youth Department and we will help make this special day unforgettable. We would also ask that the Youth Baptism Form be filled out and returned to us so that we can be sure that we have all the details right.

The Youth Baptism Registration Form can be sent to: Youth Ministries Dept., Potomac Conference, 606 Greenville Ave, Staunton, VA 24401. Forms can also be sent by email to youth@pcsd.org, or faxed to 540-886-5734. The registration deadline is January 27. Please use the form included in this packet.

OUTREACH (Sabbath Mid-Afternoon) (New!)

Sabbath afternoon at Youthfest will offer a variety of choices for ministry opportunities, both on-site and off-site. The off-site choices may include a trip to feed the homeless, strip-mall ministry, visitation of the elderly, etc. The on-site options may include the creation of Valentine boxes for the Children's hospital, Valentine cards for the elderly, the creation of a mural for military servicemen & women, etc. To participate in one of the off-site outreach options (on one of the designated outreach transportation vehicles), those under the age of 18 must bring with them a signed Permission Slip/Release Form. A copy of this form is included in this packet.

YOUNG ARTIST SHOWCASE FINALE (Sabbath Late-Afternoon) (New!)

Our desire is to close out the Sabbath with the finale for the Young Artist Showcase, and celebrate the gifts God has given to our young people. The finale will consist of the top three artist performances, as voted on by the Friday evening audience.

CRAZY GAMES (Saturday Night) (New!)

On Saturday night, instead of organizing a sports tournament, this time we want to offer a night of crazy games (team group games) to encourage more interaction and friendship development. Crazy Games is being organized by our Crazy Game Specialists (members of the Potomac Conference Youth Council). They know how to do crazy, so you won't want to miss out on this part of Youthfest. You will want to dress down, change your Sabbath shoes in for some sneakers, and put your Crazy Game face on. And tell your friends to come too.

LEADING UP TO YOUTHFEST (New!)

Because we see the Youthfest event as an opportunity to introduce/lead young people to Jesus Christ we want to do all that we can to create the greatest impact for the Kingdom of God. For that reason, we want to ask our churches to plan a week of spiritual emphasis in the days leading up to Youthfest. This can take the form of **Small Group Bible Studies** get-togethers, nightly **Week of Prayer** meetings, or whatever serves within your context as a way to focus the thoughts and attention of your

youth on Jesus. If you need extra funding or resources to pull this off, let us know. We will be glad to partner with you in setting the stage locally for your youth to make that life changing decision. Send me an email describing what your plans are, how many youth you anticipate participating, what your projected expenses are and how much help you are asking for and expect to get from your local church. Be creative, but don't make it complicated. Step out in faith and watch how God will bless your effort.

FOOD BOOTHS (New!)

If your group would like to set up a food booth to sell snacks and other food items Saturday evening, please submit the enclosed Food Booth Form. The form requests, among other things, information as to the product(s) you will be offering. All food products must be vegetarian. All drinks must be caffeine free and non-alcoholic (needless to say). To protect the investment of those providing meals, duplication of menu (food) items will not be allowed by multiple food booths. Therefore, we will be accepting/approving the Food Booth Forms on a first come, first served basis. Drinks are not included in this rule. There is a \$10 registration fee for each food booth. This is a great fundraising opportunity for youth groups and Pathfinder clubs. More guidelines will be outlined on the Food Booth Form that's included in this packet. The final deadline for submitting the Food Booth Form is January 27, 2012. But don't wait until then to decide as your preferred menu items may be taken by another group.

Forms can be sent to: Youth Ministries Dept., Potomac Conference, 606 Greenville Ave, Staunton, VA 24401. Forms can also be sent by email to youth@pcsda.org, or faxed to 540-886-5734. The pre-registration deadline is January 27. Please use the form included in this packet.

HOUSING

Those traveling from outside the D.C./Metropolitan area may wish to make lodging arrangements either with a local sister school, hotel, or at Washington Adventist University. Listed below is the contact information of our sister schools in the area. No previous arrangements have been made with them.

Sligo Elementary School

8300 Carroll Avenue 301-434-1417
Takoma Park, MD 20912 301-434-4680 Fax

John Nevins Andrews School

117 Elm Avenue 301-270-1400
Takoma Park, MD 20912 301-270-1403 Fax

Beltsville Adventist Elementary School

4230 Ammendale Road 301-937-2933
Beltsville, MD 20705 301-595-2431 Fax

Washington Adventist University

7600 Flower Avenue 301-891-4000
Takoma Park, MD 20912

Finally, I need your help with two things:

1. **Advertising**

Included with this memo is a poster for Youthfest 2012. Every church will receive a hard copy. Several people in your congregation will receive a digital copy, including Pastors, Youth Leaders, Pathfinder Leaders, Head Elders, etc. Copy it! Distribute it! Pin it to your bulletin board! Ask your youth to make plans to attend Youthfest 2012. It's the place where they will want to be Friday night & Sabbath, February 3 & 4. Last year we had nearly 800

participants. Our faith goal for this year is for God to send us over 1,000 participants. The doors will open at 6:30 p.m. Friday evening, and 9:00 a.m. on Sabbath morning. Please help us get the word out about this event.

2. **Motivation & Transportation**

Many youth may want to attend but have no way of getting there. Or they simply may not display an interest because it's unknown to them. Be a leader and an advocate. Be the one to make the plans and the arrangements on their behalf. Be proactive in helping them get there. You won't regret the effort!

The address for Youthfest 2012 (Takoma Academy) is 8120 Carroll Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912.

For more information, please call 540-886-0771 or send email to youth@pcsd.org. Use this contact information prior to the event. **On the days of the event, feel free to call my cell phone number at 540-290-1670.**

Thanks for helping to get the word out.

See you at Youthfest 2012!



YOUTHFEST 2012
February 3 & 4

Tentative Schedule

FRIDAY

- 5:00pm Young Artist Video Interviews Begin
Young Artist Participant Sound Checks
- 6:00pm Registration Opens
- 6:30pm Praise & Worship Band Set-up and Sound Check
- 7:00pm Youth Leader's Workshop Begins **Tentative Workshop Titles**
- 7 - 7:55pm
Track A: Public High School Ministry
Track B: How To Be A Young Adult Friendly Church
- 8 - 8:55pm
Track A: Ministry to Middle School Students
Track B: Future of Youth Ministries
- 7:00pm Young Artist Showcase Begins

SABBATH

- 10:00am Praise & Worship Service Begins
- 12:00pm Lunch Break
- 1:15pm Off-Site Outreach Teams Depart
- 1:30pm On-Site Outreach Activities Begin
- 3:30pm Outreach Activities Conclude
Young Artist Sound Check
- 4:00pm Young Artist Finale & Outreach Team Reports
- 5:30pm Supper Break & Gym Tear-down
- 7:00pm Crazy Games
- 9:00pm Games Conclude
Gym Clean-Up



YOUTHFEST 2012

Young Artist Showcase Registration Form

Artist Name(s): _____ Age: _____

If a group, what's the groups name: _____

Group Member Names:

_____ Age: _____

_____ Age: _____

_____ Age: _____

_____ Age: _____

School/Church _____

Primary Contact Information

Email: _____ @ _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

- **Artist must be 25 years of age or younger**
- **Artists must arrive at Takoma Academy by 5 pm on Friday, for video interview and sound checks**
- **Performances must be done with Christian music**
- **All artists must come prepared for two performances**

SEND REGISTRATION FORM TO:

Youth Ministries
 Potomac Conference of SDA
 606 Greenville Ave
 Staunton, VA 24401
 540-886-5734 (fax) or youth@pcsda.org (email)

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JANUARY 27



YOUTHFEST 2012

Youth Leader's Breakout Session Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

School/Church _____

Email: _____ @ _____

Phone: _____

Please indicate the breakout session class you plan to attend (pick one from each breakout session)

FRIDAY NIGHT YOUTH LEADER'S BREAKOUT SESSIONS **(Tentative)**

- 7 p.m.** Public High School Ministry
 How To Be A Young Adult Friendly Church, Part 1
- 8 p.m.** Ministry to Middle School Students
 The Future of Youth Ministries

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REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JANUARY 27



YOUTHFEST 2012

Sabbath Lunch Pre-Purchase Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

School/Church _____

Email: _____@_____

Phone: _____

Number Of Meal Tickets Requesting: _____

_____ x \$7.00

TOTAL: \$

- I have permission from my church Pastor/Treasurer to have the meal fees invoiced to my church.
- Our meal fees are enclosed.

SEND REGISTRATION FORM & PAYMENT TO:

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606 Greenville Ave
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REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JANUARY 27



YOUTHFEST 2012

Event Outreach Emergency Treatment/Liability Release/Parental Permission Form

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN FOR TEENS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE WHO WISH TO RIDE ON "YOUTHFEST 2012" TRANSPORTATION TO OFF-SITE OUTREACH ACTIVITIES. **THIS FORM MUST BE BROUGHT TO THE EVENT** BY THE PERSON WHOSE NAME IS LISTED.

Contact person in case of emergency

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

Home phone: _____

Work: _____

I give permission for my child (Name) _____ to attend the Youthfest 2012 Off-Site Outreach Activities, sponsored by the Potomac Conference Youth Department on February 4, 2012. Should my child require medical treatment, every effort will be made to contact me. However, if I cannot be reached, I give my permission to the staff or sponsor to secure the services of a licensed physician to provide the care necessary, including anesthesia, for my child's well-being. I also will not hold the Potomac Conference, Takoma Academy, Youthfest facility or the event leaders & sponsors responsible for any accident which might occur.

Signed: _____
(Signatures of Parent/Guardian)

Date: _____

Please attach a list with any medical problems, allergies or medications.



YOUTHFEST 2012

Food Booth Pre-Registration Form

Name of Primary Contact Person: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____@_____

Phone: _____ School/Church/Club: _____

Primary Menu Items (not including drinks):

1st Choice

2nd Choice

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

- Enclosed is my Food Booth registration fee of \$10.00**
(The \$10 registration fee must be included in order to reserve your space)

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 Potomac Conference of SDA
 606 Greenville Ave
 Staunton, VA 24401
 540-886-5734 (fax) or youth@pcsda.org (email)

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JANUARY 27



November 30, 2011

YOUTHFEST 2012

Food Booth Guidelines

1. Groups must pre-register their intent to set up a food booth in order to sell food.
2. All menu items must be vegetarian and all drinks must be alcohol and caffeine free.
3. Groups must indicate their first & second choices for their primary menu items.
4. Primary menu items will be approved on a first come, first served basis.
5. Each food booth will be allotted an area 8 feet x 8 feet.
6. Each booth must provide it's own tables, chairs, power cords and trash cans.
7. Each group must thoroughly clean up its food booth space.
8. Individuals handling unpackaged foods must wear gloves.
9. Set-up for food booth begins at 5:45 pm Saturday evening in the Takoma Academy Cafeteria.
10. A \$10 non-refundable registration fee is charged for each food booth space. This fee must be submitted with the Food Booth Pre-Registration Form.



YOUTHFEST 2012

Youth Baptism Registration Form

Name of Baptismal Candidate: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____@_____

Name of Home Church: _____

Name of Home Church Pastor: _____

Church/Pastor Phone: _____

- It is my desire to publically affirm my decision to accept Christ as my Savior and be baptized during the Youth Baptism at Youthfest 2012.
- I would like to be baptized by one of the Youthfest staff pastors

OR

- I have made arrangements for another pastor to baptize me.
Name of officiating pastor: _____
Phone number of officiating pastor: _____

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Potomac Conference of SDA
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Staunton, VA 24401
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REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JANUARY 27