



Alright folks, retreat is here and we are very excited. THIS WEEKEND SHOULD BE AWESOME!! I wanted to send this info to make sure everyone has all the information they need. Here are some things to be aware of.

FOOD – Please eat dinner before departure. We will have a snack late that night, but no dinner will be served on Friday.

TRAVEL

- We are leaving the church property at 5:30 on Friday (please be here by 5:15 so we can pack and load before then)
- We will be back somewhere around 2:00 pm on Sunday.
 - o We will have students call their rides as we get closer.
- We are traveling by means of a caravan of leader driven vehicles.

PACKING LIST – If possible, please pack in a duffel bag or some other soft bag instead of a hard suit case. This will make storage of the bags easier for transport.

- Bible, pen, and notepad
- Clothing – all clothing should be modest (This should include some active wear for running around.)
- It is January. That means snow, slush and mud are all possible. Please pack accordingly. Snow boots, extra changes of clothes and socks, etc...
- Sleeping Bag & Pillow
- Towel
- Shower Shoes (flip flops that don't get worn outside are a good idea when sharing a shower with a larger crowd)
- Personal items and toiletries you may want (please include deodorant, we are staying in close quarters)
- Water bottle – hydration is important
- You can bring money for snacks and souvenirs, but is not necessary. Extra money as desired for Zip line (\$8), horseback riding (\$14), leather shop (\$2 and up), extra snacks (general snacks provided).

OTHER THINGS TO KNOW

- Please bring any remaining payments that you may owe.
- While students may bring a cell phone, they will be expected to be used responsibly. By that, we mean that students should not be texting, Facebooking or communicating with their friends back home during retreat. We want to be present and attentive with each other while away. Phones also should not be out during our sessions. We realize that phones these days have cameras and other features that students might want to utilize during retreat. We are alright with this. If phones become a temptation during the retreat, leaders may hold the phones until needed to communicate with parents.
- We ask that students DO NOT bring headphones though. Headphones isolate us from the community around us. We are going on this retreat to connect with each other and headphones are counterproductive to that end.
- Also, students may bring snacks as long as they are bringing with the intent to share with the community. It can be fun to munch on some late-night snacks while visiting in the cabin, but it is not fun to watch others do it while you sit watching hungrily.

Please contact me with any questions. 214-274-9830 - pastorgreg@hefc.net