



GENESIS 2008

JESUS, MAN OF MYSTERY: SEARCH + ENJOY!

October 17-19, 2008

Frontier Ranch

Buena Vista, Colorado

Confirmation of reservation

Dear Youth Leader,

Thank you for your group's reservation at Genesis 2008! You will be participating in a mystery theatre full of adventure as we search for and discover the joy of God. A terrific staff has puzzled together a great event, where every clue leads to more fun! With all that has gone on in the planning and preparation we know that God has some big plans for all!

As you probably already know, Genesis will be taking place from October 17-19 at Frontier Ranch near Buena Vista. If you have never been there before, you are in for a treat. Our search for clues into the mystery of God will take us from the fun of the general sessions, to the excitement of games and activities, to the challenge of the ropes course and screamer. Our Saturday night mystery dinner will not only be a fun and tasty treat, but also lead us one step closer in understanding the mystery of which we are a part.

As adult sponsors, you will have many important responsibilities. The success of a weekend such as Genesis depends much on your leadership. We offer a unique utensil of ministry for your church (the weekend retreat). In addition, we have scheduled time in the weekend and provided some suggested tools for you and your group to gather and continue to build community. How you use it for your youth ministry is truly up to you. Success will depend on your application of the weekend to enhance the faith-building process of those students you bring.

A very important responsibility is to **fully participate!** Genesis is not a spectator event. You will be expected to participate in *all* activities with your youth. Not only will this help us with crowd control, but the more your youth see you getting involved in the weekend, the more enthusiastic they will be to plunge into the event, as well.

In addition, you will need to make sure that there is one appropriately certified adult sponsor per 6 youth per gender (e.g. one male per every 6 male youth, etc.). Youth sponsors are responsible for their youth at all times. Please try to keep track of where your kids are and what they are doing. We are creating this weekend as an opportunity for you to develop relationships with your young people and by doing so, share the love of Jesus.

To assist you and your youth to prepare for the weekend and to get the most from it, we have prepared the following:

1. a confirmation list of those you have made a reservation for
2. a check list showing what we have received and what may still need to be received
3. a map to Frontier Ranch
4. a directions regarding the "rules of engagement" (rules and regulations for the weekend) along with a "to bring or not to bring" list
5. a mystery theatre program for youth leaders to peruse
6. suggested discussion questions for youth group time
7. a copy of the Youth Leader's Handbook**

(Please read through this and make sure every leader gets one!)**

All Genesis forms and information is available on the Faith Formation section of the diocesan website – www.coloradodiocese.org under “youth”. Please look over the enclosed materials and let us know if you have any questions or comments. Besides the awesome program that we have planned for the retreat, there will be all kinds of activities to do during free time – some may even lead to clues! There is a swimming pool, basketball courts, sand volleyball, Frisbee golf, hot springs fed hot tub, the Screamer and indoor recreation activities. Please feel free to bring along cards, board games, Frisbees etc. (there are never enough Frisbees for 300 participants)

REMEMBER: you are there with, and for your young people! Hang with them during free time. Remember to bring weather appropriate clothing. Good ‘ole Colorado weather insures surprises every year!

Note: If your group would like to book a room or location during “free time” for your group to gather and do some activity just for your group, please contact us.

We look forward to seeing you all. If you have questions regarding the weekend, please feel free to call Catie Greene or Meg Stern (303-837-1173 or 800-446-3081).

Medical notes:

1. Please encourage your group to drink lots of water before and during the event. Any adverse effects of Frontier Ranch’s 8000 foot location can be dramatically reduced through water consumption. Feel free to bring water bottles!
2. Please make sure your students have their medications with them before you leave for Frontier Ranch. The medic will check in with you about the medical administration throughout the weekend.

Reservation Notes:

1. Check in is on Friday night from 6:00pm – 8:00pm. Please be there to **complete** check in by **8:00pm**. There is an important sponsor meeting which all leaders **must** attend at 8:15pm (we will have a crew to supervise the teens). If traveling from Denver, give yourself 3.0 hours of *driving* time.
2. All sponsors **must** have completed a Registration form with the bottom portion of the form signed by their rector and returned to us **before** the weekend. (Last year’s form or one from Quest will not do.)
3. Upon your arrival, the ushers will check you in at the top parking lot. Valet attendants and ushers will be waiting outside of the parking area to assist you in parking your car and directing you in the check in process. A shuttle will be provided to help get luggage and those who have a difficult time walking down the hill.
4. Please note that we will be having a dress up dinner on Saturday evening. Please see the leader’s guidebook for more info. **REMEMBER, SHOES, SHIRTS, AND APPROPRIATE CLOTHING ARE REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES.**
5. We ask that no one leave before lunch on Sunday! This only disrupts the program and disturbs others.
6. *******Work crew!** All churches are responsible to provide one work crew person to assist in the preparation, serving, and clean up of the meals.
7. Genesis t-shirts and hoodies needed to be ordered and paid for by September 29th - there may be a small number of shirts available for purchase (cash only) at the event.
8. All Genesis forms and information is available on the Faith Formation section of the diocesan website – www.coloradodiocese.org under “youth”. Please keep watching as we add new stuff to the web site.