



Quest 2K8

Life as a Pilgrimage

April 11-13, 2008
Frontier Ranch, Buena Vista, CO

Dear Youth Leaders,

The office of Faith Formation for the Episcopal Diocese of Colorado offers two wonderful weekends each year for you and your youth to support the development of your program and your relationship with Jesus. The first is the seeker friendly event, called Genesis, that takes place in the fall, and the second is our spring event, Quest. If you have not already done so, please consider joining us in this pilgrimage event where youth from around the state gather and create a holy and fun-filled community that transforms their lives in positive ways

For those who are not familiar with Quest, it is a youth weekend for the teens, grades 6 – 12, in your church. It is geared to those who wish to grow deeper in their faith journey with God. It includes plenty of worship, small group time, seminars, ministry experiences and plain old fun! This year's theme is *Life as Pilgrimage: Holy Places, Holy Spaces, Holy Faces*, with guest speaker, Christian George, author of *Sacred Travels: Recovering the Ancient Practice of Pilgrimage*.

This year's Quest will be an opportunity to learn what it means to:

Live out a commitment to Jesus
Seek and recognize the holy in our daily lives and how we walk the walk, not just talk the talk
Be the beloved of God and spread God's love in the world.

Location Quest will once again be held at Frontier Ranch, near Buena Vista, CO



Speaker

We are very excited to have Christian George, author of *Sacred Travels: Recovering the Ancient Practice of Pilgrimage*, as our keynote speaker this year. He is a 27 year-old graduate student who has been making pilgrimages to historically sacred sites since he was a young boy, and he has come to understand that life itself is a holy journey. Christian will share with us his pilgrimage experiences and ways in which we might discover the holy places, spaces and faces in our lives.



Saturday Seminars. One of the wonderful opportunities your young people will be able to partake of is the Saturday Seminars. These are a series of workshops dealing with different topics that the participants choose to attend. There will be plenty of choices and you are encouraged to help your students choose which one would be best for them. A list of these seminars will be sent to you when your group registers.





****Ministry Treks!**** Back by popular demand are the Quest weekend "*Ministry Treks*". We have created some opportunities for young people to go deeper into a particular ministry within the church. During the weekend these small groups will be spending extra time (foregoing some other activities such as the Saturday Seminars and some free time) to learn and experience a part of the ministry of the weekend. They will work as a team to help produce dramas, music, sacred art, etc. that will be used throughout the Quest weekend.

We are trusting youth leaders at the local parishes to help discern which teens would benefit the most from such an experience. These are meant for young people who are moving into leadership roles in their churches and youth groups. The hope is to learn skills to do such ministries back in their home church communities



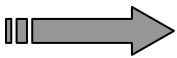
The following Ministry Treks will be available. Remember that these will require extra time during the weekend and some time **prior** to the event. Each Trek is limited to **only 12 participants**. **The deadline to register for a trek is March 7, 2008.**

*** We are asking all Trek participants to attend a mandatory pre-gathering Trek Day on **March 15th** from 10 am to 2pm, at Christ Episcopal Church in Denver. This will be a time for leaders and youth to get to know one another, and for leaders to share some preparatory work the youth can start on before Quest. **This is a mandatory meeting for all trek participants!!!**

-  **Drama Trek.** This group will seek to find ways to draw their peers closer to Jesus through drama. They will develop techniques and drama pieces to help share the Gospel during the weekend.
-  **Peer Ministry Trek.** Participants will be taught ministry skills that will enable them to assist their peers' in dealing with life issues, pray for peers, and how to help others look to Christ for answers. The skills learned in this trek are required for serving as a Junior Counselor at diocesan summer camps and those wishing to do so are highly encouraged to register for this trek. (*High School participants only*)
-  **Music Trek.** The participants in this trek will grow in their ability to minister to others through music, including preparing some pieces for the weekend. Experience and confidence in a musical instrument or vocals is essential.
-  **Sacred Space Trek.** Those participating in this trek will experience how to deepen their love of worship. Through interaction in the liturgy and sacred art this weekend, they will receive the tools to participate actively in their own churches, and create sacred space for our worship at Quest and in their own lives, at home and at church. This trek is being especially created for those with an artistic drive.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING....

- General Registration Deadline is March 21, 2008! Trek Registrations must be in our hands on March 7st to allow us time to get materials back to participants with information about the pre-gathering Trek Day. These are true deadlines! We need the time to prepare an awesome weekend for your group and others. Get your registrations in early! If the event fills up prior to the deadline we will end registration early. Registrations must be complete (including all forms and full payment).**
- Register as a Group.** We do not take individual registrations. Every teen must come with an adult sponsor from their church. Please send in registrations for those doing treks ahead of the others, to get them on the list. Treks fill up quickly and are assigned based upon team formation and date of application, the earliest applicants are considered first.
- Payment.** The cost for youth and adult sponsors is \$100.00.
- Adult to Teen Ratio (1:6).** We require that for every 6 (or less) teens your church sends you must supply an adult of the same sex. For example: if you have 4 boys and 9 girls you will need 1 male and 2 female leaders. If it is 2 boys and 3 girls then you will need one male and one female leader. We require this ratio for two reasons. (1) It is the responsibility of your church to nurture your teens in their faith and follow up with them after the weekend. This ratio allows you to minister to your kids using the weekend as a tool to disciple them in their faith. (2) It allows us to have an adequate amount of supervision and safety.
- Work Crew.** These people are the servants behind the ministry. Without them the weekend could not be successful. Frontier Ranch requires that we have the adequate number of people to run the work crew properly. To ensure that we have enough work crew, **every church must provide at least one person for work crew, preferably one work crew for every 10 participants.** **Work crew can be borrowed from other churches.** Work crew are primarily responsible for setting up, serving, and cleaning up after meals. Some work crew may have other duties depending on willingness. Please contact us if you have any questions.



6. **T-Shirts** T-shirts orders must be sent in with your final registrations due March 21st. Order your shirts early as there will be a limited number of extra shirts for purchase at the event!

Any questions? If you have any questions feel free to contact our office! 303.837.1173 or 1.800.446.3081.

We have included a number of things in this mailing to help you get started in the registration and publicity process. After your group is registered you will receive other information that will help you and your group; including maps, leader guides, housing information, schedules, etc.



INCLUDED IN THIS PACK... any of the following is available on the diocesan website at www.coloradodiocese.org, go to Faith Formation, Quest.

- ✓ Brochures. We have included a few brochures for you to use. It includes pertinent information. If you do not have enough, feel free to contact us for more or simply copy or print out more (we can email you a PDF version of it).
- ✓ Poster. We have included a small poster for your youth bulletin board (with room to put your name and contact information on it).
- ✓ Registration Form. **There are separate registration forms for adult sponsors, work crew and youth participants.** Please make sure to have all completed, including the community covenant, when returning your registrations.
- ✓ The Checklist. This checklist will give you a list of things that must be done before the weekend to help prepare your group for an awesome retreat.



- ✓ **Registration Checklist. Please use this form to consolidate all your groups' information and send back to us before the deadline: March 21, 2008.**



The following resources are **not** included in this pack but can be sent to you upon request:

- Electronic versions of anything in this pack.** Rather than prepare and send a floppy disc with all the stuff, we will email to you a pdf or "Word" version of anything you see in this pack. This will allow you to print more copies or alter any of it to meet your needs. Just call or email us at cgreene@coloradodiocese.org, mstern@coloradodiocese.org, or even better, go to www.coloradodiocese.org/03_faithformation/youth.html

Ideas or a visit to get your group interested? Give a call to our office to help you with ideas and resources to prepare your group for the weekend. We can also set up a time to visit your group and answer any questions they may have.

Please contact Catie Greene or Meg Stern at the Diocesan Office, 303-837-1173 or 800-446-3081. We would be glad to supply you with further information or resources.

We look forward to serving you and your group at **Quest 2K8!**

Sponsored by:
Episcopal Diocese of Colorado

