

All Church Retreat in Montreat, NC

September 24-26, 2010



Why an all-church retreat?

It takes time to pack; the work – yard work, housework, homework, office work – will pile up while you are away; all that *and* it costs money. Is going on a retreat really worth the effort? The unequivocal answer is YES! It takes a ton of effort from the church's end too, but we wholeheartedly believe that the retreat is an annual event that God has called us to invest in for His glory. There are two main purposes of the retreat—to connect with God and to connect with the church family. While this can happen outside of a retreat, there's something special about pulling away from our normal routines to spend time with God and others. The space and time allows us to connect with people of different ages and stages that we normally wouldn't spend time with, and it allows us to connect with new and old friends more deeply. You'll likely come away from the retreat with life-long friendships! The space and time also allows us to listen more intentionally to God, opening our lives up to His transforming work. You'll likely come away from the retreat with a word from God that will impact the rest of your life. So come and connect with God and your church family. It will be worth all the effort!

Why THIS retreat: Extreme Makeover?

Right about now, you may be asking yourself "Aren't retreats for rest? 'Extreme Makeover' sounds like a lot of work." Don't let the theme of this year's retreat fool you. There will be plenty of rest, renewal, and FUN. And this isn't a retreat that's meant to make you feel guilty or send you home with a long list of spiritual "to-do's." Our goal is the exact opposite. Together, we're going to explore the ways that Christ's image grows within us. The good news about growing in discipleship is that it's a work that God does in and through us over a lifetime—not one that we do on our own or do all at once. God is the one who makes us over as we rest in His grace. God asks us to pick up the "hammer" to participate in the remodel, but we'll get to those "nuts and bolts" in September.

Me on Retreat? Yes you!

Whether you just started visiting First Pres, have been a member for years but haven't been on the retreat, or are a "Montreat veteran," this retreat is for YOU! There are buddies for first-timers, all kinds of activities and learning for preschool and elementary kids, childcare for infants and toddlers during group time, and a special retreat for middle and high school youth (see back panel for details). Whether you are 8 months, 8 years, 8th grade, 88 plus a couple of years; whether you are single, married, divorced, widowed, have kids, don't have kids, or are a kid ... we are all God's children and we are all family. This retreat is for YOU!

MORE DETAILS ON NEXT PAGE

The Speaker

Pastor Allan Poole

Blacknall Memorial Presbyterian Church; Durham, NC

In a sense, we are welcoming back this year's retreat speaker, Allan Poole. As a student at Wake Forest, Allan came to faith in Jesus Christ and became a member here at First Pres, where he was ordained at in 1979 and served as youth pastor for 6 years. In 1985, he became pastor at Blacknall Memorial Pres in Durham, where he still serves. Allan is married to Betsy and has three children, two in college and one in high school. Allan brings a deep devotion to the Lord, over 30 years of ministry experience, a rich appreciation for God's work, and a passion to help people grow in the image of Christ. You can expect God to bless us through Allan!

Why Montreat?

Montreat is a retreat center in the North Carolina mountains, near Black Mountain. It's beloved by many for good reasons. We'll let the website speak for itself. www.montreat.org

How do I sign up?

Adult/family registration ends Aug 1
Youth registration ends Sept 12

To register, fill out the registration form and return it with your deposit to one of the Info Centers, the church office, or you may mail it in. No registrations accepted without this form and deposit. All registrants will receive an info pack via e-mail approximately two weeks prior to the retreat.

When is my balance due? please pay your balance by 9/12. Payment plans are available by request.

Want to come, but concerned by the cost?

Please don't let money be the reason to keep you from coming. Scholarship and payment plans are available and confidential. Contact Amy Holloway at x228 for more information.

Want to help someone else attend?

To contribute to the scholarship fund, indicate your desire on the registration form.

ADULT/FAMILY REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 1. Balance is due 9/12; scholarship and payment plans are available and confidential.

Montreat Youth

What is it?

The Youth do their own retreat within the bigger family retreat! The Youth Ministry has its own program with a speaker, worship time, and activities that are designed for you to grow in your faith and build community with each other.

Who's Speaking?

Jason Soucinek is an Associate Staff Member of the Center for Parent/Youth Understanding and will be flying all the way from Spokane, WA to join us. He graduated from Whitworth University in 2000 and JUST got married in June! You can learn more about him at cpyu.org. He is VERY excited to be here and will be talking about how we're Made In the Image of God. **PLEASE NOTE: there will be references to God's plan for us and sex within the context of being Made in the Image of God.**

Can I come?

Yes, if you are in 6th -12th grade whether your family is going or not!

How Do I Get There?

Option 1: Ride with your family & meet us there by 7 pm.

Option 2: Indicate you are planning to ride with us (in vans or bus) on the Registration Form. **Cost is \$35, non refundable, and payable at registration.** Meet in the church parking lot by 4 pm on Friday, Sept 24. We'll return to the same parking lot at 3 pm on Sunday, Sept 26.

***Bus/ van reservations must be made and paid for by Sept. 12.**

How Do I Sign Up?

Use this registration form to sign up alone or with your family (you still stay in the youth housing). Price includes pizza dinner served @ Montreat Friday night.

PLEASE NOTE: registration is on a 1st come, 1st served basis (space is limited!) and MUST be received with deposit by Sept 12. ** The entire retreat fee is due on Sept 12 and is non-refundable as of this date.

Please return the 2010-2011 Med Form (see 1stpres.com/youth) along with your registration form and check if we don't already have on file

What Should I Bring?

Great question! You will definitely want a sleeping bag, pillow, clothes for 3 days to play and relax in (and one nice, or at least clean, outfit for church on Sunday morning), toiletries, towel, Bible, flashlight, maybe an extra pair of shoes, and money for lunch on the way back (dinner on Friday is included in price) and any snacks you want. You'll receive more info about the retreat before we leave that will include any updates about what to bring.

YOUTH REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS SEPT 12

****The entire retreat fee is due on Sept 12 and is non-refundable as of this date.**