

AFFIRM REGISTRATION PACKET



WELCOME TO AFFIRM 2012 June 17-22 at Berry College in Rome, GA

Grounded in Word and Sacrament, Affirm 2012 develops discipleship skills, leadership skills, and teaches Lutheran theology. We follow Christ, we live in a Christian community, and we teach how to be His hands in the world.

AFFIRM 2012 will be held at Berry College in Rome, Georgia, beginning on Sunday, June 17 at 3 pm, and concluding on Friday, June 22 at 12 pm.

The cost includes lodging, all meals from Sunday supper through Friday breakfast, an event T-shirt, and all program costs. This year the cost is **\$375.00**. If you register after May 1, the cost goes up to \$425. After June 1, please contact the registrar to see if there is space available.

Things to remember:

- Each unit has a maximum number of participants, and the units will fill quickly - Go to www.sesyouth.org and register online!
- Use the forms attached if you do not have access to a computer.
- ALL registrations MUST be postmarked by June 1, 2012. Please contact the registrar after this date to see if there is space available.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

(Please read carefully to insure your registration will be processed at the earliest date)

1. Review the Unit descriptions and decide which one you would like to participate in this year. Make a first and second choice (do NOT leave this blank and do NOT write the same unit twice). **You cannot repeat a unit.**
2. Fill out the registration form COMPLETELY. Make sure you review all information about the event with your pastor and **have her/him sign your form.**
3. Complete, with your parent(s), the medical treatment form and event community guidelines - **MAKE SURE THEY ARE SIGNED. We can NOT process a registration until ALL FORMS are filled out completely and signed.**
4. Return the form with a **\$200.00** deposit to the address on the registration form, payable to "ELCA Southeastern Synod." (You can also pay the deposit online if you register online.) **\$50** of this fee is a NON-REFUNDABLE processing fee. **\$150.00** can be refunded if you withdraw your registration BEFORE **May 1, 2012**. After June 1st, NONE of the deposit is refundable if you cancel.
5. You will receive a letter of confirmation. The confirmation letter, any updated information (change in medical history, insurance, etc.), and the remaining fee **SHOULD BE SENT IN BY MAY 1, 2012** or **PRESENTED AT REGISTRATION AT THE EVENT ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON.**
6. **IF YOUR CONGREGATION IS PAYING PART OR ALL OF YOUR REMAINING BALANCE THE CHURCH CHECK MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE REGISTRAR BY MAY 1, 2012.** Please check with your pastor or youth advisor regarding this matter.
7. Check with your church youth advisor for congregational scholarships and/or transportation planning for this event. Some limited scholarship assistance is available from AFFIRM. If you are interested in this assistance please fill out the scholarship form attached or can be downloaded at www.sesyouth.org or www.elca-ses.org

UNIT DESCRIPTIONS 2012

GENESIS - for youth who have completed 6th-7th grade and are new to the event

Genesis (a new creation) is a high energy, fun, "feel good" unit, designed to help 6th and 7th graders see that they are special and unique children of God who can have fun being Christians. They will be able to see how fellow Christians can work together to share the Good News. They will see themselves as God's work of art, created to live the Good Life through Jesus Christ and the Church. LIMIT-72 youth

MISSIONARIES - for youth who have completed 7th grade AND Genesis & 8th grade

Missionaries will provide youth the opportunity to explore issues of Christian living as they relate to service and witness. Youth will be invited to see themselves as an integral part of God's family and to see every person as someone whom God loves. We hope youth will grow in their understanding of God's call to be missionaries in their daily lives. Youth will be participating in off-campus service projects in the local Rome community. LIMIT-60 youth

JOURNEYS - for youth who have completed 8th - 9th grade

Journeys will provide youth with the opportunity to be led to the intersections where their lives will meet Christ's in a radical new way. The Gospel story will come alive as youth engage in creative communication and small group activities. Youth will leave with a better knowledge of Jesus' journey and what meaning it has for their lives. LIMIT - 36 youth

SHEPHERDS – for youth who have completed 8th – 10th grades

Shepherds is an introduction to Christian Leadership. The Shepherd is the one who tends to and cares for the group. This unit will help individuals identify leadership styles and skills, enabling them to develop a greater understanding and confidence in their role as leaders. LIMIT – 48 youth

BRIDGES - for youth who have completed 11th - 12th grades

Bridges will provide an opportunity for high school youth to learn and experience the history and culture of all Americans - their music, spirituality, and struggle - as a gift. Bridges explores how barriers separate cultural groups from one another. Drawing on multi-media--MTV, popular movies, and cutting-edge music--participants will also learn creative ways to "build bridges," seeking to discover that which unites, rather than divides. LIMIT - 24 youth

EXODUS - for youth who have completed 11th - 12th grade

Exodus is "A Journey from Sin and Death to Resurrection and Everlasting Life." Participants will see and experience the abundance of God's love and grace given to us through the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The Exodus journey will help the participants grow spiritually and be equipped to daily live the journey of living the faith and the grace God gives to us. LIMIT-36 youth

WORSHIPTIVITY- for youth who have completed 9th - 12th grade

Worshiptivity =Worship and Creativity. This unit is designed to help individuals faithfully combine their gifts of music, drama, and art to create the worship experience for the AFFIRM community. Through planning and leading worship during the week, individuals will grow in their own spirituality and gifts. LIMIT - 24 youth

REVELATIONS - for youth who have completed 10th - 11th grade

Revelations is an experiential lab in daily living. We seek to discover revelations and creative insights to help Senior High youth identify the many forces -- both good and bad-- which influence their lives. The primary objective of this unit is to help the participants experience spiritual and emotional growth in a positive and affirming community of grace. LIMIT- 36 youth

YAYMI – Young Adult Youth Ministry Institute who have completed their freshman or sophomore year of college

YAYMI is a small group experience for young adults who are called to be youth leaders. This unit uses an internship model whereby youth will work with mentors and units at Affirm to develop their skills in small group leadership, peer ministry, leading games, Lutheran perspectives, creative Bible Study and discussion, and much more. Limit-12 young adults

AFFIRM 2012 REGISTRATION

Cost - \$375.00 if received by May 1 - \$425.00 After May 1
\$200 deposit due with Registration

PLEASE NOTE: To avoid the disappointment of not getting your first choice of the Unit you want to attend, register early and make sure all 3 forms are completely filled out or they will have to be returned to you for completion and re-submission.

PARTICIPANTS INFORMATION

PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____ Male _____ Female

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Cell phone: (____) _____

Your email: _____

Birth date: _____ Age: _____ Grade completed by 6/15/11: _____

Home congregation: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Pastor: _____

Check Units you have attended:

____ NONE

____ GENESIS (GR. 6-7)

____ MISSIONARIES (GR. 7-8)

____ JOURNEYS (GR. 8-9)

____ SHEPHERDS (GR. 8-10)

____ BRIDGES (GR. 11-12)

____ EXODUS (GR. 10-12)

____ WORSHIPTIVITY (GR. 10-12)

____ REVELATIONS (GR.11-12)

____ YAYMI (College Freshmen & Sophomores)

Your selection for this year:

First Choice: _____ Second Choice: _____

T-shirt size: (Circle one) S M L XL XXL

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date received: _____ Payment Rec'd: \$ _____ Check _____ Paypal

Check #: _____ Name on check: _____ Dep. Slip # _____

AFFIRM COMMUNITY GUIDELINES

As a Christian Community, grounded in Scripture, striving to give and receive affirmation, each member of the community will:

Assume Full Responsibility for Your Own Behavior by:

- 1) being present for the entire event and participating in ALL activities with unit and AFFIRM community and remaining within the boundaries of the AFFIRM community
- 2) being inside your dorm, on your hall, at evening devotion time
- 3) wearing an I.D. at all times
- 4) not bringing alcoholic beverages, drugs, cigarettes, firearms, fireworks, knives, or other inappropriate items (i.e. skateboards, bikes, roller blades, hair clippers, walkie-talkies, etc.) There is a 100% no-smoking policy for this event!
- 5) giving a deposit for your room key and name tag --- this deposit will be refunded when you return your key and meal card
- 6) keeping your room locked at all times (AFFIRM cannot be responsible for lost or stolen items)
- 7) demonstrating maturity by wearing clothing that is appropriate for the Christ-centered event at all times, including shirts and shoes at all times except when at the pool or in your room
- 8) Computers and cell phones should be kept locked in dorm rooms and ONLY used during FREE time.

Be Respectful TO and OF Others by:

- 1) being in your room, music off, quiet, and lights out at midnight
- 2) boys not going onto the girls' dormitory floors and girls not going onto the boys' dormitory floors
- 3) taking care of property and equipment not belonging to you and reporting any damaged items to the AFFIRM staff immediately (you will be charged for damages you cause)
- 4) not inviting outside guests or leaving the campus without permission from the AFFIRM Director

Be Supportive of All AFFIRM Staff, Participants, and Campus Personnel by:

- 1) modeling our Christian beliefs through your behavior
- 2) arriving on time
- 3) not switching rooms - as a matter of safety
- 4) reporting all sickness or injury to unit leaders or the Director
- 5) staying for the entire event

To provide clear boundaries to promote a SUCCESSFUL event, one or more of the following responses will be enacted for violations of the established rules:

- 1) warning to participant - clarification and review of the guidelines (a form will be signed and dated at this meeting) with Unit Director, Small Group Leader, and Director of Youth Ministries.
- 2) take fair and appropriate steps to rectify the problem
- 3) participant sent home - to be picked up by parent or sent home at parent's expense

OBSERVING THE AFFIRM GUIDELINES will help our time together to be more effective and safe, allowing each of us to receive maximum benefit from this event. By signing below, we signify that we have read and understand the AFFIRM GUIDELINES and agree to observe them while attending AFFIRM.

PARTICIPANT'S SIGNATURE _____

PARENT'S SIGNATURE _____

DOES THIS YOUTH HAVE SPECIAL NEEDS WE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT? We want to make sure your youth gets put in the best unit and small group that will strengthen their faith and grow as a disciple. You may also email gailp@knology.net.

By signing below, I signify that the above youth would be an appropriate participant for this event and the unit which he/she has chosen.

PASTOR'S SIGNATURE _____

MEDICAL RELEASE FORM

Affirm 2012

Please Print Clearly

Name of Participant _____ Age _____ Date of Birth _____

Parent/Guardian/Emergency Contact Names and Numbers who can be reached in the event of an emergency:

1. Allergies:

2. Restrictions on diet or exercise:

3. Special needs or problems? If so, please list:

4. Is the participant on regular medication? If so, please list the drugs, dosages, frequency and any instructions:

RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS

In consideration of being accepted by the Southeastern Synod, ELCA for participation in youth ministry events, I (we) do for myself (ourselves) an on behalf of my child/participant do hereby release, forever discharge, and agree to forever hold harmless the Southeastern Synod, ELCA, the employees, and agents thereof, from any and all liability, claims and demands for personal injury, sickness and death, as well as property damage and expenses of any nature whatsoever which may be incurred by me or my child/participant resulting from said child's participation in the synod sponsored youth events, including travel, recreation and all associated activities. Further, I (we) (and on behalf of our child/participant under 18 years of age) hereby assume all risk of said personal injury, sickness, death, damage and expenses as a result of participation as above set forth. I also understand that staff and volunteers are not responsible for the administration of prescribed medication and I (we) have made private arrangements for any medication taken on a daily schedule by my child/participant. I (we) am (are) the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of this participant, and hereby grant my (our) permission for him/her to participate fully in said youth events, and give my (our) permission to take said to a doctor or hospital, share the above medical information and authorize medical treatment, including, but not limited to emergency surgery or medical treatment, and assume responsibility of all medical bills incurred by my child. I (we) give permission for my child to receive over the counter medication such as Tylenol, ibuprofen, antidiarrheal medication, antibacterial ointment, throat lozenges, eye wash solution, and the like. I (we) also release the participant's name as part of an information database for the Southeastern Synod and ELCA related entities, and grant the Southeastern Synod and ELCA unrestricted rights to use, alter, and reproduce any images (still and video) from the event, in any medium without compensation.

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Adult / Participant's signature (if over 18): _____ Date: _____

Insurance company _____ Policy Number _____

Insurance company phone # _____ Policy Holder Name: _____

Member #: _____ Group #: _____

If available, please attach a copy of both sides of the insurance card to this form

Affirm Scholarship Process



Time Line:

- Applications available from January 1 –March 1, 2012
- Applications must be postmarked by March 1 to be considered for a scholarship.
- Scholarships awarded by March 15, 2012

Please mail application to: Affirm Registrar c/o Gail Pittman, P.O.Box 1687, Madison, AL 35758

Factors that will be considered in granting scholarship (Please address these in your application):

- All applications must be filled out and signed by participant, and signed by parent/guardian, and pastor serving their home parish.
- First priority will be given to those with financial needs, especially those who participation is dependent on receiving a scholarship
- Consideration will also be given to: diversity, extra cost to participant (such as travel to the event), family size, and first time participants

2012 AFFIRM SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Postmarked by March 1

Name _____ Email _____ Date _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Home Phone Number _____ Cell Phone Number _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____ Parent/Guardian Email _____

Home Congregation _____ City, State _____

Pastor _____

1) Please help us understand your reason for wanting to attend AFFIRM 2012.

2) Please explain the financial needs or other circumstances that support your request for scholarship support:

3) What amount of financial support will you receive from your congregation? _____

4) What amount are you requesting from AFFIRM 2012? _____

Participant Signature: _____

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____

Pastor Signature: _____

AFFIRM 2012

June 17 - 22

Young Adult Youth Ministry Institute

INTERN APPLICATION

Postmarked by May 1, 2012

Please complete this application prayerfully and thoroughly.

Please include a letter of reference with your registration fee of \$200. Participants accepted into the Young Adult Youth Ministry Institute will receive a \$150 scholarship for the balance of the registration fee. Please complete a medical form and a covenant form.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (W) _____ (C) _____

T-Shirt Size: _____ Birthdate: _____

E-mail address: _____

Summer Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Congregation and City: _____

Pastor's Endorsement signature: _____

What gifts and talents would you bring to the Young Adult Youth Ministry Institute? If you know your spiritual gifts please include them.

Describe your youth ministry experience:

What attracted you to the Young Adult Youth Ministry Institute and what do you hope to gain from this experience?

With what age youth do you prefer to work? Why? (i.e. Middle School/ High School)

How will you share this experience with others upon your return?

Young Adult Youth Ministry Institute at Affirm

Participants accepted into the Young Adult Youth Ministry Institute will receive a \$150 scholarship to be applied to their balance.

