

# Winter Retreat at Great Wolf Lodge January 10<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> 2014

## Parents and Students,

**I am so excited for this winter retreat! We will be spending the weekend at Great Wolf Lodge in Centralia, WA. We will be van pooling down to Great Wolf Lodge in cars driven by our leaders. Our Speaker Is Zane Black and He is very excited to share Jesus with our students during the weekend. Packing lists and FAQ's are below! Feel free to contact either Brookes or myself if you have any further Questions!**

**- Wilson McSwain**

## Packing list for winter retreat.

Bring:

- Clothes for three days
- Warm clothes, pants and sweatshirt or jacket, for an outside event
- Pajamas or something comfortable to sleep in
- Swimsuit (one piece or tankini that covers entire midriff and soffe-type shorts over the bottom for girls)
- All necessary toiletries for two nights
- Bible
- Day-pack or small backpack to carry around things when you can't go back to the room
- All necessary medications for the weekend

Do not bring:

- PSP, Nintendo DS, tablets, or other handheld electronics
- Cell phone (students won't need it as an alarm, leaders will wake you up)
- Dangerous or illegal items (including knives, alcohol, other drugs)
- Llama's

## Details about trip

- January 10<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> at Great Wolf Lodge in Grand Mound WA, about an hour south of Seattle.
- **Check-in** at Northview Church at 12:30 on Friday.
- **Return to** Northview Church at 3:30 on Sunday.
- *We're leaving Northview Church at 1:30 on Friday, which means that parents need to get students out of school early.*
- If you can't get your student out of school early, you can still come on the retreat, however, *Northview is not providing or arranging alternative transportation.* You can either bring your student down later in the evening or arrange your own carpool with other parents.
- Students will be riding in vans. All drivers will be registered with Northview.
- Everything (water park, food, lodging, transportation) is included on the retreat. You don't need to send your child with any extra money for food or

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any other activity. There is a gift store at Great Wolf Lodge where your student could buy a souvenir.

## **Sleeping arrangements**

- There will be five students and one adult leader (21yrs and older) in a room and all rooms will be divided by grade and gender.
- Students will be asked to share a queen-sized bed with another student. If students are uncomfortable sharing a bed, they can bring a sleeping bag and sleep on the floor in the hotel room, but there is no reduction in cost.
- Because there are 6 people in a room (5 students and one adult leader) and three queen sized beds, the leader will sleep on the floor and not share a bed with any students.
- Students won't have a key to their room, the adult leader will have the room key.
- All rooms will be grouped together so that no group is on a hotel floor by themselves.

## **Medications**

- If your child takes medications he or she will be responsible for carrying the medications throughout the weekend.
- Indicate on your registration form or with Wilson about your child's medications and his or her leader will make sure that your child takes the meds at the proper time. For legal reasons leaders cannot hold or distribute the medications.

## **FAQs about the winter retreat**

*If my student can't get out of school early on Friday, can he/she still go on the retreat?*

- Yes of course! You'll have to arrange your own transportation though.

*Why Great Wolf Lodge?*

- We're going to Great Wolf Lodge because we get a great deal for an entire weekend of fun in the water park and the hotel provides a large banquet hall where we can do worship sessions and hear the message preached.

*Will it just be Northview at Great Wolf Lodge for the weekend?*

- No. Northview helps put on this retreat weekend with two other churches and we invite other youth groups to join us for the weekend. Between multiple churches, we try to fill up as many rooms as we can but there will undoubtedly be other people at the water park that aren't a part of our group. The youth leaders and students stay in groups throughout the whole weekend though.

*Where else are you going besides Great Wolf Lodge?*

- We have dinner Friday evening on the way down to Centralia and then check into Great Wolf Lodge. On Saturday we have breakout sessions at a local church near Great Wolf Lodge. On Sunday we will have lunch at the outlet mall in Centralia before we head back to Northview.

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Wilson, Brookes, and other leaders, will have their cell phones with them on the trip, if you need to get a hold of your child, the easiest way will be to contact Wilson or another leader. Leaders cell numbers will be given upon request. Feel free to ask. Please do not call the hotel asking for your child.

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