

Central Plains Youth Ministry

News Flash

Pastors and church secretaries, please give this message and attachments to the youth sponsors AND youth Sunday School teachers.

Be Inspired! Read a book.

Read a book that inspires and equips you as a youth leader! Attached is a short list of books that every Central Plains youth leader and pastor should know about. I recently started reading **Beyond Me**...it's so good I wish I could give you each a copy! **Building Together** and **41 Ways to Build a Youth Group** are very practical guides for youth sponsors.

Did you know that the main faith development task of a teen is to collect and understand the basic tenets of their faith? **Beliefs** explains what Mennonites believe and why. **Through Fire and Water** is a very readable history of Anabaptists. It's the text for Church History courses in Mennonite high schools, so if your kids don't go to Mennonite high school, read the book with them at church!

Convention 2009 Update

Any day now you will receive (at church) the third and final edition of the newsletter, **Convention Chronicle**. This edition will focus on worship details with speaker bios and introductions to the worship leaders and worship band.

The **Sponsor Handbook** should arrive in early April, so be watching for that as well!

Remember, the registration deadline is **April 22**, so be sure you have everyone registered, any corrections made, and everyone's meal plans ordered.

If you have questions about registration, call 1-866-866-2872 and ask for Scott Hartman. If you are experiencing any difficulty in your convention planning, please contact me. I am here to help!

Is one of your youth an outstanding peacemaker?

Nominate him or her to receive “A Different Drummer” peacemaking award at Convention 2009.

The Peace & Justice Support Network of Mennonite Church USA is encouraging young people to begin the work of a lifelong commitment to peace. They want to recognize and affirm youth who “march to the beat of a different drummer,” and move to the “rhythms of peace” in their lives, congregations, communities, and world. “A Different Drummer” drum will be awarded at the Mennonite Church USA Convention in Columbus in recognition of a youth with these values and practices.

The award will be presented during a youth worship service. PJSN plans to present “A Different Drummer” recognition at each national assembly.

To nominate a youth you know, fill out the attached form and mail it so PJSN receives it by April 15.

Need a free overnight stay for your group on your way to or from Convention?

Youth groups traveling to MC USA Convention 2009 in Columbus are invited to take a time of retreat just before or after Convention and visit the Bluffton University campus.

The college is offering free overnight housing, activities, an evening pizza meal and a campus tour if desired. **Bonus:** At Bluffton you are within a short trip to 2 of the highest-rated amusement parks in the world.

To check out the details and to reserve your visit use this link:

<http://www.bluffton.edu/chrelations/youth/>. Contact Jeff Boehr with questions at 419-358-3388 or e-mail boehrj@bluffton.edu

As spring approaches and the busyness of Holy Week, planting and school activities heats up, remember to take time to pause, take a deep breath, and be aware of the Holy Spirit at work in your life. Rest in the awareness that God is

present, God delights in you and God is blessed when you take time to just be with God.

Blessings,

Shana

Shana Peachey Boshart

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