

Catherine Anderson

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Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2018 7:22 PM
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Attach: SJ8 Wednesday Activity Guide.pdf
Subject: Re: SJ Bus Captain Updates

Hi Bus Captains!

Several updates for you tonight! And I know 3 of you are having bus meetings in the next couple weeks...so be sure to read this before those happen!

Bus Meeting Dates

I still haven't heard from a few of you on when those are scheduled. **Please let me know when those are as soon as possible!** If you haven't set them yet, you'll want to get on that...schedules are busy! It's also helpful for me to know dates so I can be sure to get you any updates or announcements that might be helpful for you to share with leaders. Also a reminder that you each have \$500 to spend between your two meetings. All I need are receipts in order to reimburse you.

Wednesday Activity Guide

One of the things I need you to do at your bus meetings, is to choose as a group what your bus wants to do for your activity on Wednesday, June 27. This is the day we leave Galveston and head to Houston for the start of the Gathering, and is the only "free" day to see/do things on your own. I have attached a guide to help you think through that process and offer some suggestions. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask me! **The deadline for choosing your activity is March 28.**

Also – you'll see on the document that my preference is that bus captains make the arrangements. If setting stuff like that up isn't your thing, please see if you might delegate that to another leader on the bus. I'm not trying to get out of work – the reality is, you will be the ones going to that activity and I'll be nowhere near you...so it's best if the person at the activity is the one making the arrangements. That said, I'm happy to assist you, or help you think through what needs to happen. It's also helpful if you keep me in the loop – in some cases I have some info that will help you get a better deal...and it may be that if several of you are thinking of doing the same thing, we may get a better deal if we book as a larger group.

Bus Captain Webpage!

Tired of searching for that info I emailed you? Yeah, me too. So I set up a secret webpage that has all the info I have given you in one place...and important dates for bus captains. **This is the url:** www.nemnsynod.org/BusCaptains. Be sure to bookmark that - the page is hidden, which means it's not part of the dropdown menu. It's not that our info is secret – but it could be confusing for some adult leaders if they accidentally wander onto the bus captain page and think that info is meant for them.

Latest Updates to Share at Your Meetings

- All of the Story Kit Sessions are posted on the SJ Resource page! Please encourage the groups on your bus to use at least some of these. The framework from the Story Kits will be part of worship in Galveston and family time...it will be helpful for youth to be familiar with the pattern and rituals before they get there!
- Remind adult leaders that we have the Synod Journey Online Directory. Info on how to access that is on the adult leader info page.
- I found out from Texas A&M that they also require a release form. I am hoping we can adjust our synod release form to include their info so there is one less form to fill out. Please ask leaders to hold off on giving that to parents to fill out until I hear back from Texas A&M (I've removed the link from the website...when the link is live again, they're good to use the form.) Please share my apologies!
- People have been asking about the book drive for the Gathering. I love that people want to give books, and

encourage this! But for space sake, I also encourage them to purchase books on Amazon, and have them sent directly to the address listed on the Gathering website. =)

- We have our hotel assignment: Hyatt Regency Galleria. The good news – there will be lots of food options in our area. We will be using our buses to transport back and forth to NRG Stadium.

I think that's it for now! Don't ever hesitate to ask questions you are having! Thank you for this important work you are doing...remember to delegate so you're not carrying the whole load! I am so thankful for each of you!

Smiles,
Catherine =)
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