

Weekend Format...

NB weekends are usually held in a youth camp setting, where young Christians can “retreat” from their ever-hectic world to consider some of the important relationships in their lives—with parents, with siblings, with peers and with their Lord.

Since relationships continually change, it is good for young people to attend several NB weekends; there is no limit to the number of weekends a 6th-9th grader can attend. There are usually two NB weekends per year, one in August and one in February.

The program begins on Friday night at 7:00 pm and ends on Sunday afternoon at about 4:00 pm. The NB weekend proceeds in a building block fashion, so participants must plan to attend the entire weekend.

A pair of youth leaders, called Shepherds, lead the entire weekend. The high school-aged young people guide the journey. The youth team is assisted by a married couple and spiritual director (clergy) and other adult leaders.

In addition to songs, games and skits, youth leaders present short talks on these topics: Friends, Siblings, Parents, School, what is Love, Who is Jesus, and

the Church. Small groups provide the opportunity to learn and share together.

What People say about New Beginnings...?

“New Beginnings Rocks!” (participant, then youth leader)

“...New Beginnings is the reason I am a Christian today” (participant, now youth leader)

“New Beginnings gave me hope and helped me understand that the teen years can indeed be the best times” (adult sponsor)

“Wow!! These kids are unbelievable--the way they care for one another, a true Christian community!” (Married Couple)

Want to know more?

Contact:

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email: mavesba@gmail.com

Facebook: Brian Maves

**Next NB Weekend:
February 17-19 2012
Camp Epworth
15404 Highway 45
Louisville, IL 62858**

New Beginnings #26



**Retreat Weekend for Grades 6-9
All Christian Faiths are Welcome**

St. Paul said, “Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity” 1 Timothy 4:12

**February 17-19 2012
Camp Epworth
Louisville, IL
Please register by February 5th**

The Episcopal Diocese of Springfield

New Beginnings Application

Participant: Youth ___ Adult ___

Name: _____

Gender: _____ Grade: _____

Birthday: _____ Age: _____

Phone: () _____ -- _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip _____

Home Church: _____

In City: _____

Ins. Co. and Policy No.: _____

Allergies: _____

Medications: _____

Parental Consent for minors:

As a parent or guardian of the named child, I attest that he/she is in good health and that I know of no physical, mental or emotional reason that would prohibit this child from attending the New Beginnings weekend. I understand that every measure and precaution has been taken to assure the good health and safety of each participant and therefore I waive any liability (of the Church, staff representing it, or the facility where the event is being held) for personal injury or death while attending the weekend. I give permission to have my child medically treated by a licensed physician, nurse, or hospital staff, while attending the weekend. I also understand that this medical expense is the responsibility of the family of the person being treated.

Signature: _____

Clip and mail to: NB Coordinator,
1322 Engle Creek Dr., O'Fallon, IL 62269

What is New Beginnings?

A fun, fast paced retreat weekend designed just for youth grades 6-9.

Run by a team of motivated Christian youth dedicated to serving all on the weekend by living the gospel of Jesus Christ.

A chance for youth to reflect on the important relationships in their lives and consider making a "New Beginning".

Songs, snacks, skits, old friends and new friends.

A Spiritual Experience for Youth: Even though NB is hosted in the Episcopal tradition, this experience is for all Christian youth. Episcopal youth are encouraged to invite their Christian friends to the weekend. NB is a great outing for an entire junior high youth group! Often, a NB weekend is the first opportunity for a young person to pause and reflect on their situation and their God.

NB presumes that participants will abide by the norms of a Christian community. All participants are expected to be respectful of the needs and rights of others. Use of tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs, language, inappropriate physical behavior, or destruction of property will not be tolerated. Those that cannot live

within the norms will be asked to leave the weekend.

What about Adult Supervision?

Although the NB weekend is led by youth leadership, adult leaders are engaged throughout the entire weekend.

As a policy, NB requires each church that sends "New Beginners" to the weekend to also provide one Adult Sponsor for each 5 youth attending (that are not on the team.) Exception: any church that has never sent a youth to NB may send up to 3 youths to the weekend without an adult sponsor. A sponsor from the adult team staff will be appointed for those youth. All subsequent participation by that church will require sponsors.

What about Cost?

The fee for **all** participants is the same, \$55. This covers all meals starting Saturday morning thru Sunday noon. Snacks are also provided, you will not be hungry.

Please enclose a check for \$55 made to the Diocese of Springfield-Youth.

Money should never be an obstacle to a youth wanting to attend a weekend. Scholarships are available; to apply for assistance, contact the NB coordinator.