

**NORTH ARKANSAS DISTRICT  
PRETEEN RETREAT  
Volunteer Guide**

**ONE OF A KIND**



# Thank You

First of all, thank you for volunteering your time to serve at our Preteen Retreat this year. We are so grateful for you! We know you are sacrificing your weekend, and we can't thank you enough for donating your time, energy, and talents to do so. We are praying for you, along with the preteens and the other volunteers who will be attending this year. We know that God has an amazing weekend in store for us as we grow in our love for Him and one another.

The role of a retreat sponsor should not be taken lightly. We assume that as a volunteer you like preteens and you love Jesus! If that's true, you have the opportunity to be one of the most important influences on a preteen's experience on retreat. When making this commitment, please realize the importance of this role.

We want to partner with you to provide the best experience for our retreat participants. This guide will give you insight into how our preteen retreat works, our policies, and our expectations. While at retreat, we will provide activities and instruction to help you along the way. Please don't hesitate to ask questions. Remember we are all in this together for the glory of God!

North Arkansas District Preteen Retreat Team: Diane Solberg, Amanda Odom, Elizabeth Karlowski, Brian Bowers, Denise Clark, Amanda Yates, and Jessica Thorne.

We believe that time at retreat can serve as one of the most powerful and life-changing experiences in a preteen's life. Our mission is to create a Christ-centered environment where relationships are built and lives are impacted for the kingdom.

Our goals are:

- To build relationships and impact lives for Jesus Christ.
- To help lead preteens into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.
- To ensure that every preteen understands how deeply loved they are by God.
- To teach preteens to treat others as children of God.
- To have fun through safe and exciting activities.

# Guidelines

**Understand that retreat is for the PRETEEN PARTICIPANT.**

**Be an active member of the local church sending you.**

**Be spiritually mature ...**

**Sponsors are responsible for leading small group discussions, prayers, and devotions with their preteens. We don't expect you to have all the answers (we certainly don't!) but you should be spiritually grounded with a close relationship with Christ.**

**Be flexible!**

**Be in good health ...**

**You will walk a lot! You are required to keep up with your preteens and arrive on time to all activities. Please be prepared.**

**Be in good spirit ...**

**You are expected to play games and do the activities alongside your preteens. Preteens often rely on their sponsors for emotional support and guidance and will feed off of your energy. If you are a grump—they will be grumpy! If you have a negative attitude—they will have a negative attitude. If you are happy and having a good time—they will do the same!**

**Follow rules ...**

**With fun comes rules. You will be expected to follow all rules communicated to you through the retreat leadership. We want everyone to have a fun, memorable experience at retreat but we must all respect certain rules to ensure the safety of our participants. You are required to adhere to these rules no matter how small they may seem. You are also setting a huge example for your preteens on respecting authority. If you don't understand why a policy or rule is in place, please do not hesitate to ask.**

**Cell phones ...**

**Sponsors may use their cell phone Bible app or camera in site of the campers, but must not call or text during the day or when around the preteens. Sponsors must not allow preteens to use their personal cell phone. If a preteens is homesick or ill, please notify the retreat nurse or the retreat director.**

# Job Description

- Be an example of Christ through your words and actions in every aspect of retreat life.
- Keep track of the preteens assigned to your group at all times.
- Be aware of time and get your preteens to and from activities on time.
- Report any accidents to the retreat nurse.
- Report any damage to the leadership team.
- Make sure no preteen is left alone at any time.
- Ensure the safety of preteens by not allowing them to share the same bed. No exceptions!
- Make the preteens the number 1 priority through their time there.
- Watch your phone for updates.
- The state of Arkansas is a mandatory reporting state. If you learn, during retreat that a camper is being abused, please get in contact with the camp director immediately.

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# What You Need to Know

## Medication

All medication will be turned  
into the nurse upon arrival.

All medication should be placed in a  
clear plastic baggie in the original packaging  
with the exact dosage needed.

Include the following: First & last name,  
church name and medication instructions.



## Speaker

Shaun Stevenson is a kid's pastor in Tennessee  
and is currently serving at Gallatin 1st Church of  
the Nazarene. He loves speaking at camps &  
retreats and is super excited to share how we  
are ONE OF A KIND!

## Questions

Diane Solberg @ [dsolberg@bnaz.org](mailto:dsolberg@bnaz.org)

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