

# Youth Newsletter

March 2009

## Alphas, Omegas Return to Snowshoe for Annual Ski Trip

At 6:00am on Saturday, February 14, after a devotion and group prayer, ten youth and four chaperones headed to Snowshoe Resort in West Virginia for their annual Ski Retreat.



Paula leads the group in a devotion before leaving church

After a stop for breakfast near Mechanicsville, a bathroom stop near Lexington, and a scenic drive through the mountains of West Virginia, the group arrived at the resort around 2:00pm.

During the bus ride, Omega youth leader Becke West led the group in a devotion on the topic of God's love, and handed out candy-filled goodie bags to the youth.

The group checked into their rooms at the Silver Creek resort area, and ate a late-lunch/early-dinner of tacos, chips, and drinks.

"One of the ways we kept expenses down for the youth was to bring and prepare all of our meals at the resort," commented David. "That way, the youth didn't have to bring so much spending money to pay for high-priced resort food. Plus, we all ate together as a group, which promoted fellowship and togetherness."

## YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULES

### ALL CLUBS

March 1	Regular Meeting, 5:30pm-7:15pm <i>Pioneer Clubs only</i>
March 8	Regular Meeting, 5:30pm-7:15pm
March 15	Regular Meeting, 5:30pm-7:15pm
March 22	Regular Meeting, 5:30pm-7:15pm
March 29	Regular Meeting, 5:30pm-7:15pm
April 5	No Regular Meeting <i>Easter Egg Hunt</i>

For more information about your club's schedule, including any special events planned for your individual club, please see your club's leaders.

Each of our rooms at Silver Creek had a full kitchen, and most of them had two queen beds and a queen pull-out sofa. Plus, our resort was literally steps from the ski slopes and the Tubing Hill, making it easy to come and go as we pleased.

After eating, four of the youth and a chaperone went snow tubing, while the rest hit the slopes for night skiing.



Tristan, Ginger, Tori, and Laura had a blast snow tubing!

(continued on Page 2, *Ski Trip*)

*(Ski Trip, continued from Page 1)*

The group returned to their rooms for devotions around 9:00pm. Led by Alpha youth leader Paula Thornton, the topic focused on loving and caring for others.

The next morning, after an early breakfast in their rooms, the youth headed to church at St. Bernard's Chapel, where they attended the Protestant service and took communion.




The group stops for a picture at the altar after church

After returning from church, the group stopped for a quick snack in their rooms, then hit the slopes.





Everyone poses for a picture at the top of the mountain

The group paused briefly for sandwiches, chips, and drinks around 2:00pm, then came in for dinner—spaghetti and meat sauce with Italian bread—around 6:00pm.




## Pioneer Clubs News & Notes






The **Scooters** recently completed their Jesus the Teacher unit. The children have been working on several crafts this past month, including refrigerator magnet picture frames and wrapping paper. The Scooters also made a puzzle depicting the parable of the house built on shifting sand. The children are now working on their next unit, Growing.



This past month, the **Voyagers** earned their God and Me Bible award. The children also earned their Artist and Feeling Good activity awards. To earn their Feeling Good activity award, the Voyagers learned about taking care of their bodies through fitness and hygiene. The club also finished a number of drawings and artwork.



In February, the **Pathfinders** finished their fourth unit of the year, God Made Us, which included the lessons Made By God, Jesus Gives Us Joy, I Have Talents, and My Qualities. The children earned their Exercise Fun and Secret Codes activity awards. The Pathfinders also earned their Printer activity award by learning about stamping, stenciling, and printing.

Eating dinner together after a long day of skiing

After dinner, part of the group returned to the slopes for one last ski session, while the rest turned in their rental gear and enjoyed the resort's indoor/outdoor pool.

*(continued on Page 3, Ski Trip)*

*(Ski Trip, continued from Page 2)*



Laura and Tori relax in the outdoor hot tub

The conditions at Snowshoe overall were very good. The resort had received almost 13 feet of natural snowfall to date, although warmer temperatures the week before our arrival turned some of the skiing surface to an icy mix. The high temperatures throughout our stay were in the mid 30s, with a mix of snow and sleet on Saturday night, clear skies Sunday, and light to moderate snow on Sunday night and Monday morning.



The view from our rooms at Silver Creek

The group woke up early Monday morning, packed their belongings, and left Snowshoe around 10:00am.

After stopping for lunch in West Virginia and a bathroom break near Richmond, the group returned to church around 6:00pm, about two hours earlier than scheduled, allowing the youth to enjoy dinner with their families before returning to school the next day.

“This year’s Ski Trip was a great time of fellowship, enabling us to grow closer together as a group, and to grow closer to God,” commented David. “Special thanks to Becke West, Paula Thornton, and Lisa Tarkington—this trip would not have been possible without them.”

### Youth Donate to Food Pantry on “Souper Bowl” Sunday

On Sunday, February 1, the youth of Bethlehem Christian Church celebrated “Souper Bowl” Sunday by bringing in non-perishable food items for Bethlehem’s Food Pantry.

“Several years ago, we decided to set aside a special day—‘Souper Bowl’ Sunday—to give our children an opportunity to help the needy in our community by donating non-perishable food items to the Food Pantry,” commented David Salerno, Bethlehem’s Youth Director.

This year, over 130 different canned and boxed goods were donated by the children. Thanks to all the youth and parents who helped support this worthy cause.



2009

Camp Piankatank  
Hartfield, VA

[www.camppiankatank.org](http://www.camppiankatank.org)

<p><b>June 28-30</b>    Amazing Adventure Mini-Camp (ages 7-9)</p> <p><b>July 19-24</b>    Extreme Escape Youth Week (ages 13-17)</p> <p><b>July 26-31</b>    Amazing Adventure Camp (ages 10-14)</p>	
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*Register today to insure your space!*

*If you would like to register for Summer Camp, or would like more information, please call David Salerno at (757) 334-1507.*