

October 15, 2006

Dear Group Leader,

Peace and Joy! This past summer, over 34,000 teens embraced the opportunity to experience the unchanging love of God. Our office continues to receive e-mails and letters that tell of the wonders and blessings showered upon the youth who came and opened their hearts to God. If you shared in that adventure, thank you for your willingness to serve and bring teens to a Franciscan University Youth Conference. If you are looking to attend a Franciscan University Youth Conference for the first time, let us say thank you for serving the Lord and the young Church. We are praying for you and hope to see you at one of our conferences this summer. It is our pleasure to announce the theme for the summer of 2007: **ALL ACCESS**



“He came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near,  
for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

Ephesians 2: 17-18

**This year, we have made some changes to the registration process. We will no longer be using a lottery system for on-campus registration.** Registrations will be taken on a first come, first served basis. Everything you will need to know about attending and registering for an on-campus youth conference will be available online ([www.franciscanyouth.com](http://www.franciscanyouth.com)) by **November 15, 2006**, at the latest. This information should answer any questions you have. Please note that we will not be mailing out packets for registration this year, all information can be found online. The one exception is that the registration form will be available to print from our website at [www.franciscanyouth.com](http://www.franciscanyouth.com) beginning **January 5, 2007**. This date is when registration officially opens. Group Leaders can use November and December as a time to recruit Adult Chaperones and Youth, determine numbers, and request payments from Youth and/or the parish office. Please find below some additional points that you will need to know regarding registration and deadlines. These will be explained in the online materials in more detail:

- We are only accepting registrations by mail. In order to be fair to the first come, first served process of accepting registration, we will not accept faxed or e-mailed registration forms.
- All payments must be made with a credit card (Visa, MasterCard, or Discover), money order, or personal/parish check that is drawn on a United States Bank. The Group Leader must make the initial deposit (and then final payment) with either one check or one credit card. We cannot accept debit cards as a form of payment. Please make checks payable to FUS COO (Franciscan University of Steubenville, Christian Outreach Office).
- We are pleased to announce that the renovations on our largest dorm, St. Thomas More Hall, have been completed. Since we now have use of this dorm, we will no longer be housing groups at St. John Arena and Catholic Central High School.

- The deposit cost is \$30/person and must accompany the registration form. This payment is non-refundable. Provided there are spots available in the conference you are registering for, we will process the payment (deposit) immediately and will mail/e-mail a confirmation letter to the Group Leader.
- This year, there are two price options for attending an on-campus youth conference. Please note that Priests can attend with a group free of charge.
  - \$150/person – this includes registration, on-campus housing, and meals.
  - \$135/person – this includes registration and meals. There is a \$15/person discount given for groups who choose to make their own housing accommodations (hotels, etc.). Please note that by choosing this option, you will need to provide your own transportation to/from campus and have been able to secure housing off campus. There are a limited number of hotels in the local area.
- To register, you will need to know the number of spots you would like to reserve, including Priests, Group Leader, Adult Chaperones and Youth. There should be at least one, but no more than two Adult Chaperones for every ten Youth. If you are bringing male and female Youth, there should be male and female Adult Chaperones.
- Being that this is the first year we are not having a lottery, we are unsure how quickly conferences will sell out. If we receive your registration after a conference has sold out, we can proceed in one of the three following ways:
  - If an alternate on-campus conference is open that you are able to attend, we can sign you up for that conference.
  - If you cannot attend any of our other on-campus conferences and would prefer to attend one of our 13 regional conferences, we can return your deposit and registration form and you can register with one of the regional conferences.
  - We can put your name on a waiting list for the on-campus conference you would like to attend.
- A promotional video will be available online by December 1, 2006. Following registration, we will be able to mail DVD copies of the promotional video to all registered groups who are interested in receiving them.
- Due to the success of the last two years, we will continue the “Share the Glory Project” for groups interested in participating. Last year, with the help of over 7,000 on-campus participant’s, we were able to collect \$12,000 in monetary donations, gift cards and Spiritual Bouquets containing thousands of prayer intentions that benefited 4 parishes on the gulf coast who were devastated by the hurricanes that hit over a year ago. Thank you for all who participated in this project last summer. We will continue “Share the Glory” next summer, but we will be focusing on helping the poor in the local Steubenville area. More information will be made available as we research the needs of our immediate community here in Steubenville. Please watch for updates.

The above information is only a portion of the information you will need to know regarding attendance at our on-campus youth conferences at Franciscan University. Beginning mid-November, please take time to read the information found on our website. We look forward to hosting you during the summer of 2007.

We would also like to invite you to be a part of our Youth Ministers Retreat to be held on campus the weekend of January 26-28, 2007. All of the information on the retreat as well as how to register is available online.

Thank you once again for sharing the love of Jesus with young people. May God bless you and anoint your ministry. Please be assured of our prayers for you, and we welcome any questions you may have. You can contact our office by phone at (800) 437-8368 or (740) 283-6314, by fax at (740) 284-5494, or by e-mail at [conferences@franciscan.edu](mailto:conferences@franciscan.edu).

In Christ’s Peace,

The Christian Outreach Office  
Franciscan University of Steubenville