



Winter Retreat 2021 Important Details

Contact Information

Matt Desmarais
mdesmarais@htcraleigh.org
703-772-6037

Winter Retreat Overview:

All middle and high school students (6th-12th grade) are invited to join us for our 2022 Winter Retreat. We'll head up to the mountains for a weekend of worship, teaching, and small group time as well as skiing, snowboarding, and snow tubing at Sugar Mountain.

Location:

Holston Camp and Retreat Center
6993 Hickory Nut Gap Rd.
Banner Elk, NC
28604

Sugar Mountain Ski Resort
1009 Sugar Mountain Dr.
Sugar Mountain, NC
28604

Skiing, Snowboarding, and Snow Tubing at Sugar Mountain

We will be skiing, snowboarding, snow tubing from about 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM at Sugar Mountain. Students will ski or snowboard in groups with adult leaders throughout the day. If your student has never gone skiing or snowboarding before and would like to give it a try, they can spend the day with a leader on the beginner slopes. If there are any students who don't feel comfortable skiing or snowboarding, we will have a leader available to take a group of students snow tubing and ice skating. Lift tickets and rentals are included in the total price of the retreat. Students will be driven to and from Sugar Mountain by adult leaders (the mountain is ten minutes away from the retreat center).

Departure

We will pull out of the Holy Trinity Anglican Church parking lot (549 N. Blount Street, Raleigh NC 27604) at 4:30 PM on Friday, February 11 **so plan to arrive by 4:15 PM**. Please have your student(s) bring a brown-bag dinner with them to eat on the way there (sandwich, chips, drink, etc.). Dinner will not be provided at the retreat center, and we will not be stopping for food on the way there. There will be snacks for everyone after we arrive on Friday evening. We will be taking two 15-passenger vans and additional volunteer vehicles. Students, even those with their driver's license, are not allowed to drive themselves to or from the retreat.



Return

We will return to Holy Trinity Anglican Church on Sunday, November 13 by 2:30 PM. I will send a group text (written ahead of time and sent by a co-pilot) when we are 30 minutes out.

Supervision

In addition to myself, there will be three other adult leaders there to supervise activities, build relationships with students, lead small groups, and more. We will also have parent volunteers with us throughout the weekend. These leaders have all been vetted by the church, gone through a background check, and gone through Holy Trinity's safety training.

Sleeping Arrangements

Students and leaders will be sleeping in gender separated cabins at the Holston Center. Bathrooms and showers are private with closable doors.

Meals

All meals except dinner on Friday will be provided by the Holston Center. Please have your student bring a brown bag dinner (sandwich, chips, drink, etc.) with them to eat during the drive there. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Saturday, as well as breakfast on Sunday. We will stop for lunch on the way back on Sunday. The retreat center will provide sack lunches for us to take to Sugar Mountain.

Masks

Students will not be required to wear masks while we are on the retreat. However, students are more than welcome to wear masks while we are indoors if they feel more comfortable doing so.

Cost:

The total cost of the retreat is \$275. This covers transportation, lodging, and meals as well as lift tickets and rental equipment at Sugar Mountain. There are scholarships available to anyone who may need one. We don't want the cost to prevent anyone from coming on the retreat. Please email Matt with any questions about the retreat cost or scholarships.