



**JAMAICA BAPTIST UNION  
YOUTH DEPARTMENT  
2B WASHINGTON BOULEVARD  
KINGSTON 20**

*Theme: "SPIRIT-FILLED WITH A PURPOSE TO FULFIL"*

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Pastors/Moderators  
Church Secretaries  
Parish Moderators  
Youth Department Executive Members  
Parish Youth Association Presidents  
Youth & Young Adult Fellowship Presidents

**FROM:** Lance Fisher - Youth Department Chairman

**DATE:** March 31, 2008

**RE:** CAMPS 2008

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Christian friends, accept greetings in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Christ. I write to update you on the plans for *Camps 2008*.

In your preparation for Summer Camps 2008, please note the following:

**THEME AND SUB-THEMES**

The Youth Department decided on the theme for the period 2007 to 2009, "Spirit-filled with a Purpose to fulfil", which seeks to encourage spirituality among our youth. This emphasis has guided the choice of a theme for our ministry in Camps 2008 which is expressed, "*Mek it Real: Spirit walk with Spirit talk*"

**DATES**

The dates and ages for Camps 2008 are as follows:

**Please ensure that age limits are adhered to for each camp.**

- |                          |                    |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| ○ <b>Junior</b>          | July 7 – 12        | Ages 9 – 12 years  |
| ○ <b>Intermediate I</b>  | July 14 – 19       | Ages 13 & 14 years |
| ○ <b>Intermediate II</b> | July 28 – August 2 | Ages 15 & 16 years |
| ○ <b>Youth</b>           | August 4 – 9       | Ages 17 – 20 years |

## **VENUES**

All Camps will be held at the Nutshell Conference Centre in Duncans, Trelawny.

## **FEES**

We note the steady increase in prices experienced in Jamaica recently and we are sure that you are concerned about being able to afford to send your youths to camps this summer. We share this concern and want to give as many persons as are interested, the opportunity to benefit from camps. With this in mind, we have managed to keep the cost to a manageable **\$4,000 per camper**. This fee (**\$4,000** per camper) will cover the costs of camp material, meals and accommodation for the week. An **additional \$600** for each camper may be needed for the camp's excursion/beach trip, in addition to personal pocket money.

**NOTE: The nature of the excursions may vary as some camps may provide the choice of visiting a charity instead of the beach.**

## **REGISTRATION**

All campers are to be registered (with payment) through the Jamaica Baptist Union Office, **NO LATER THAN Friday, June 6, 2008**. This will include completion and return of the attached registration form, to be endorsed by the Pastor or Moderator. Special attention must be given as well to indicate dietary and health concerns on the attached forms. **We again urge and encourage churches to submit their registration forms AND fees to the Union Office BEFORE the Camps begin.**

**Please ensure that age limits are adhered to for each camp. The camps administration reserves the right to refuse campers who do not fall within the age range of the camp.**

Check-in will begin at Nutshell at **3:00 p.m.** on the Monday of each camp.

## **EMERGENCIES/HEALTH CARE**

As is often the case when groups of exuberant youth gather for activities like our camps, there is the possibility that the need for some medical attention may arise; whether pain killers for a headache or something of a more demanding nature. We have, therefore, sought to address this issue with the following provisions:

1. We are making great efforts at having nurses present at each camp. **We welcome offers from nurses who may be available to serve at any of our camps to inform us promptly through the JBU Office.**
2. A small contributory Health Fee of \$50 has **already** been **included** in the camps fee.
3. We will have a medical doctor on call for each camp, should the need arise for further medical assistance.
4. We ask that campers carry their Health Cards or that the cards be left in the care of the Camp's administration to cover any costs that may be associated with the need for urgent medical attention off the camp site. In such cases parents will be informed and will have the option of collecting their children at the camp site and attending to their medical needs.

## **CAMP STAFF**

Each camp will be equipped with the following personnel:

- Camp **Chief** (main administrator)
- Camp **Chaplain** (spiritual guide)
- Camp **Secretary** (record keeper/liaison)
- Camp **Nurse** (qualified professional)
- Camp **Counsellors** (male and female – at least *one* per room)

## **TRAINING**

We earnestly ask that you assist us in our efforts to prepare adequate teams of counsellors to be deployed at each camp. As part of this effort, the Camps Commission will stage two planning and training sessions on Saturday **March 29** and Saturday **May 10**, both at the **Ocho Rios Baptist Church**. **We urge interested persons to contact the Union Office immediately.**

## **CRITERIA FOR COUNSELLORS**

Persons interested in serving as counsellors at a camp must meet the following minimum criteria:

1. Submit a completed Counsellor Application form accompanied by the reference form which should be completed by the applicant's pastor/circuit moderator.
2. Be at least 21 years of age and 5 years older than the upper age limit of the camp at which he/she wishes to serve. *Exceptions will be made re the age limit in cases where recommendations are made by the Pastor or Moderator and further approved by the Camps Administrators.*

## **TRANSPORTATION**

We continue to encourage those churches/circuits and associations who have responded positively to this challenge and have found effective methods of providing transportation for the campers. We pray that you will be able to continue doing so. We urge that the times for arrival (**3:00 pm – Monday**) and departure (**12 noon – Saturday**) be adhered to for the safety and convenience of all concerned. Persons who are transporting campers are asked to ensure that the Campers are duly registered before leaving the camp site.

## **SPONSORSHIP**

The Camps ministry continues to challenge us financially. We are tremendously grateful for the kindness shown by churches and circuits, parish associations and other interested parties who have made contributions of cash or kind in the past. Once again we welcome your offers to assist us in this area of ministry and encourage you to contact the Union Office to pledge your support.

## **WHAT TO TAKE TO CAMP**

Below is a suggested list of items to take to camps:

- Bible/Notebook/pen/pencil
- Bed linen/toiletries
- Suitable, modest clothing: day wear, sports wear and one formal (dress-up) outfit

- Games/sports equipment
- Musical instruments
- Snacks (if necessary- a tuck shop is operated at camp)
- Medication (where possible/necessary)

**WHAT NOT TO TAKE**

- Comic books, novels
- Video games, walk-man/disc-man, radio
- Knives, scissors or any other potentially harmful item

**Let us each play our part in seeking to ensure that Camps 2008 are, *once again*, an unmatched opportunity for introducing souls to Christ and imparting immeasurable blessings to young lives.**

**Every blessing!**



