

Nov. 28th, 2015

Hey youth pastors & group leaders,

We trust you guys had a great Thanksgiving. There are four main events we would like you and your group to be a part of that are coming up. These are really good opportunities to make connections with this great network of people and churches. Now with the assault on Christian values that is ever increasing and the unashamed worldliness that even many professing "Christians" seem to carelessly flaunt, it is so crucial that we surround ourselves with those who make the Bible our foundation and are truly pursuing Jesus and His will for our lives. We need to encourage & challenge each other to really go after the heart of our Heavenly Father and like Hebrews 10:24 (NKJV) tells us, "let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works."

Start the new year with our annual [Servant Leadership Retreat](#) on **Jan. 15th & 16th, 2016** that's for all leaders and youth you're raising up as leaders. Actually you can bring any adults, they don't have to be serving in youth ministry or in ministry at all. Retreat is at the Embassy Suites in Grapevine. There's an option to pay Encounter's part online (link also for hotel rooms), it's through PayPal and involves a fee. **There's only a few weeks left to get that EARLY BIRD pricing.**

[Shannon Pickard](#) (a.k.a Shan the Man) is one of everyone's favorites and he will be one of our main speakers along with others who will be sure to inspire all. We'll have great times of worship, prophetic ministry, messages, and sharing with each other on what we've learned to do and not do as leaders, along with key tips and techniques for anyone in any kind of leadership. Everyone is called to be a leader, in one way or another. God has done some great things in our past retreats. Be sure to read some testimonies and even listen to past sessions on our website under "Retreats." and use the promo videos to help spread the word.

We're believing for another amazing summer camp. [Encounter God's Presence camp is June 20th - 24th, 2016](#). Again with intriguing workshops to choose from along with some specifically for those of you that want to be a part of the [Mission Trip in August. \(Encounter camp goes international!\)](#) Our forth event, we're looking at a [Spring Retreat Weekend near Spring Break](#).

One of this year's camp guest speakers was imprisoned and tortured in Ethiopia, [Pastor Getaneh](#), who speaks at many Voice of the Martyrs events will challenge us all to have enduring faith in the face of Christian persecution. New plans for our unique Persecuted Christian [Spiritual Amazing Race](#) activity which focuses on persecuted countries and has been great for mingling together all the churches along with involving all the youth regardless of athletic ability. Each year, we write over 1,200 handwritten letters to imprisoned Christians from different countries to encourage them in prison cells.

E.D.M. (Electronic Dance Music) is a huge and the [Transform DJs](#) are being flown from Colorado to all over the world because they are using it as worship to glorify God. So we'll have a dub step dance party for Jesus with some awesome break dancers. [The Cross Heirs band](#), will be rocking out for us with their hip hop/rock jams. [Spoken word poet, GF Soldier](#), will be back spitting out truth. "[Shan the Man](#)", (a.k.a. Shannon Pickard) comedian will keep us laughing throughout the week and have us playing some crazy games. We'll be bringing in a huge inflatable water slide. S.A.G.U. in Waxahachie, TX offers a very impressive sound system and cool lighting along with their first-class facilities: racket-ball courts, basketball courts, and the indoor swimming pool. There are also some nice sand volleyball courts for everyone to enjoy.

[Sherri Evans & the prophetic ministry team](#) will be asking God to give prophetic words for you and your youth. Many of the words for the youth pastors & spouses will be shared at another time instead of taking time during the main sessions. I'll be bringing an encouraging message as will [Shawn Brann](#), who has been the assistant Chaplain for the Dallas Cowboys for 10 years, always brings a [pro-athlete](#) to share. You'll hear [Stephen Evans](#) testify about the presidents of countries with whom he has been meeting as he continues to have huge 40,000 plus crusades where God is truly moving.

Each church is invited to perform a drama/dance during camp. (They are usually "human videos," where your group acts out a song.) Also, each group will have an opportunity to show a "Video of Great Exploit" (*Daniel 11:32*) which shows your group doing an outreach, mission trip, or some kind of a special event.

Please, let us know if you're planning on the leadership retreat. Would you like to help plan a Spring Retreat weekend? Mission trip in August? If you're interested in summer camp, let us know soon so we send a detailed packet with posters.

Camp will be only \$235 per person. (Add extra for travel costs if needed.) **The \$50 deposit and registration forms are due on March 18th.** Registration forms, details & promo videos for the retreat and camp are on our website, along with links for our YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to help promote the retreat & camp with your people in committing to going and hopefully starting to recruit all their friends to join as well. They can all be found at [EncounterGodsPresence.org](#)

For His glory,
Jason & Heidi Williams



P.S. - If you want to host an Encounter God's Presence youth rally or a night of worship that is geared to all ages, or another type of event please let us know. We also have been leading main services with the worship, multi-media message and ministry time. And when requested, we also have volunteer team members who can paint during worship, share prophetic words or even a band for events that can help pull in those who like hip hop/rock music. We love seeing God change lives.