CHAMPIONS 4 CHRIST – July 17-21, 2023 // UPDATED

**Hello Parents!**

**We are so stirred about C4C – oddly, more than ever – why?** Because CLEARLY God is moving in the lives of millennials and Gen Z in a fresh, new, transformative way – in what we believe is the initial evidence of a global awakening to God!

**We also believe that God has C4C specifically and strategically positioned to be used to help usher in this great awakening IN THIS NEXT GENERATION!** What a day to be ALIVE in God!

As the Lead Pastors of Generation Church **– we are entering our THIRD decade of making Champions a priority** on the church calendar, and if it weren’t such a GOD DIRECTIVE – we would not be continuing to do so!

In setting time aside for **your youth, to truly pursue the heart of God – under the ministry of seasoned ministers who represent generations ahead of them** (this is SIGNIFICANT!) things change – answers come into view – the future seems brighter and full of hope! We, without any doubt believe that it’s in the very presence of God – where things CHANGE – including US!

Endless thank YOUs for investing in and sacrificing toward your student’s future. **This surely will be a life changing event!** We have put together this packet of important information for you to answer any questions you may have. If after you review it with your student(s), should you have any questions or concerns, please contact PsDenise Menke @ 618.789.2068 via TEXT!

Here's to going higher in God, and setting each one’s course and direction in Him, while making the BEST of memories that last – for eternity!

I humbly thank you for your trust in me, and purpose to make wise decisions on behalf of your child/ren, and to treat them AS IF they are my own. It is my EARNEST belief that THIS year – they have an APPOINTMENT with God.

With my whole heart,

**Pastor Denise**

**Packet Includes:**

* C4C Release Form (sign + return with 1st installment of the deposit)
* GC Release Form (sign + return with 1st installment of the deposit)
* Important Contact Information (you’ll want to keep on the ready)
* Packing List (heads up - a luggage check in will be held in TheLoft – yay!)
* Code of Conduct (you’ll be having so much fun, we’ll just dress in Jesus)

**Contact Numbers:**

* PsDenise Menke 618.789.2068
* PsDwane Menke 618.789.3210
* Charles Menke 346.804.5114
* Erica Menke 832.416.2213
* Hailey Cortinas 210.793.4463
* Hailey Hesher 417.288.5818

Add’l Male Leader(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1-2)

Note: Each hotel room is assigned a ROOM LEADER who also stays with their assigned group in larger, crowded settings, such as: theme parks and during travel. Room Leaders will assist in:

1. DGroups (Devos + Discipleship) @ 7:15 am, Mon thru Fri of the Rally
2. BreakDowns – 2 of the 4 nights will be designated as a time to hear from the students in small group (male & female separated), so that – they can share what God has ministered to them – as they’re led – more below.

Also Note: The AM times are set to establish the discipline of consistent pursuit of God in Bible Study and prayer, and the BreakDowns facilitate an intentional time of discovery -- to ask questions of their leaders as to what they heard / learned / experienced. These times are absolutely POWERFUL and have proven to be rich and valuable over the two decades of leading youth to C4C and youth camps of every kind! We cannot imagine anything less this year!

**Packing List:**

* Your student’s name(s) on everything
* Pillow & sleeping bag +/or blankets (whatever you prefer if it’s chilly)
* Toiletries – soap, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, etc.

\*Please liberally use toiletries – your Pastors have been scarred over the years by taking youth to tropical places on mission trips where bathing wasn’t an option, so since it is an option – let’s SATURATE (literally) in this American freedom – shall we? LETS! (LOL) (Let’s shout it all together – daily bathing and deodorant are my friends – YAY!)

* Brush / Comb
* Casual clothes
* Play clothes (to get messy in during activities)
* Laundry bag for dirty clothes or a white trash bag with your child’s name written in big lettering with a sharpie marker
* 1 modest swimsuit (prefer one piece or tshirt or tank over the top)
* Water shoes/flip flops (even for SDC)
* Beach towel
* Sunscreen
* Bible, notebook / journal and pen
* Camera (optional) \*they are responsible for electronics / choose wisely
* Prescription medication
	+ Prescription medications need to be in original bottle, with only the amount needed for the campers stay. All prescription bottles should come in a zip lock bag with the camper’s name written on it.
	+ All medications MUST be checked in @ TheLoft when checking in your student @ luggage check in – either SUN PM or MON AM
* Over the counter medications will only be allowed with a signed note from parent with typewritten instructions – thank you for understanding!
* Extra spending cash for snacks and product tables
* Snacks to share for car ride and hotel room (we got ALL the snacks – LOL)

**Let’s Not Bring: :**

No tobacco, drugs or alcohol – duh …

No clothing with vulgar or suggestive slogans

No comics or magazines

No matches or lighters

No weapons or fireworks

No water guns or water balloons

No prank or gag materials

(The latter two line items will be confiscated during luggage check in by PsDenise and loaded into HER luggage for safe keeping)

**Dress Code:**

**DRESS CODE FOR GUYS:**

1. No shirts with sayings that advertise darkness (you know what I mean) or dog people, places, principles, or politics – just ask yourself – would Jesus WEAR my shirt? Will it glorify Him? Could it be hurtful or offensive to someone I’m called to love?

2. Shorts can be worn to any event (and, should be ‘cause it’s HOT – after all, it’s summer - but keep it to the thigh, baby – keep it to the thigh).

3. So, please, let’s NOT pretend it’s 1970, and wear gym styled shorty shorts – ain’t nobody got time for that!

4. And can we talk? Let’s wear pants / shorts that FIT around our waist, so that – we don’t have any crack, front or back – K? K!

5. Back in the day – we’d take the BEND OVER IN CHURCH TEST (it’s a thing, ok?) – bend over to test the – “no crack, front or back” theory, and we pass that test in PRIVATE, in front of our mirror, in the bedroom, SO THAT – when we come out, we are CONFIDENT that all cracks are covered. Just think – you won’t be able to say I never taught you anything – this is VALUABLE stuff guys!

**DRESS CODE FOR GIRLS:**

1.Let’s do a DITTO on the tshirt sayings (same as the guys), AND add .. let’s avoid the current trend of our shirts ending uhhhh say, 6” ABOVE our waistline (just make sure your shirt falls below your waist – easy cheesy and WAY more fun!) And guys – let’s avoid the crop tops too .. that’s a fashion no no – so I’ve heard.

2. Let’s talk about halter tops and spaghetti straps. Bottom line – if God wanted you to wear dental floss, he would’ve put it in the Bible, but He didn’t. You gotta minimally wear a LEAF WIDTH shoulder on a tank top – like 2”-3” – and, we’re good! (See what I did there!)

3.Let’s be clear – no bikinis, no tankinis – just say no to the ‘kinis of all kinds people – seriously .. you ARE your brother’s keeper, and those leave NO-thing to the imagination, and I’ve yet to see any good thing come from objectifying my brother or sister’s body (that just got real, real quick!)

4.Gotta wear a bra – all the time / outside of the hotel room …

5.You can absolutely wear shorts, but again with the mid thigh length is awesome!

**General Rules for All Campers: :**

1. Involvement in all sessions, activities with teams and groups is required, but because your student knows that ahead of time, they’ll be prepared. (We do model and encourage ACTIVE involvement, because like anything – we get OUT of it, what we put INTO it!)

2. For your safety, obey all GC and C4C Pastors, Staff & Leaders at all times

3. No skates, skateboards or roller blades (we REALLY like your heads in tact)

4. No switching assigned rooms

5. All buildings and hotel rooms not being used by C4C or GC are off limits

6. In rooms @ midnight, lights out NO LATER than 1 am

*(Late night snacks MAY be eaten in this final hour, if the evening runs late … )*

7. No getting up before 6 am (to honor those still enjoying the ZZZZs)

**Specific Rules for All Campers:**

(Violation may result in being sent home – let’s just say no to that)

1.Guys & Girls - no physical contact. No coupling up or being in a room, vehicle or space alone. It’s just no good, and since I’ve done this since the 90s – I’m fairly certain I’ve seen it all … let’s just not. It’s likely, you’ll not find your future spouse DURING your time @ Champions.

2. No drinking alcohol, no smoking, no vaping, no tobacco products, no illegal drugs or legal drugs used illegally, and lastly – (to be clear) no marijuana

3. No fireworks allowed (you will have just had your fill on July 4th!)

4. No physical violence, destruction of people or property (any damages would result in parent’s / guardians being responsible for the costs associated with such destruction)

5. No sexual involvement or activity – of any kind, at all, at any time – ever

\* Parents / Guardians / Students – this includes NO PORNOGRAPHY .. access is frighteningly easy to find, so .. we’d like to monitor internet usage on their phones, or PREFERABLY encourage parents to restrict access on your student’s phone – privacy is not the same as secrecy. We believe a parent has the RIGHT & RESPONSIBILITY to monitor their minor child(ren)’s internet activity. We support you in this! Students who have access to the internet on their mobile device and expose other students to pornography during their week @ Champions, that would be grounds for serious consequences.

6. No foul or crude language

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 Parent/Guardian Student Date

**Generation Church Metro East**

**7517 N. Illinois St.**

**Caseyville, IL 62232**

**618-215.7712 / 618.789.2068**

**PERMISSION SLIP FOR CHURCH/YOUTH ACTIVITY**

**MEDICAL RELEASE FORM**

**NAME:**

**D.O.B.: AGE:**

**ADDRESS:**

**HOME PHONE #:**

**EMERGENCY CONTACT:**

**EMERGENCY PHONE #:**

***I give my permission for the above named child to attend \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(event) with Generation Church - Metro East for one year from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(date). In the event of an emergency, I hereby authorize consent for medical treatment as needed. Furthermore, by my signature, I release Generation Church-Metro East, the pastors, the staff and volunteers of any liability that may result in the event of an emergency during this event.***

**INSURANCE COMPANY:**

**POLICY #: GROUP #:**

**DATE OF LAST TETANUS SHOT:**

**ALLERGIES: MEDICAL, FOOD, ETC.**

***SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN DATE***

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**Sample Rally Schedule FINALIZED VERSION DISPERSED @ DEPARTURE**

**Sunday, July 16**

10 am – Worship at Generation Church

5 pm – Drop off for those that are staying the night at the church

6:30 pm - Dinner at Generation Church

7:00 pm – Ice Breakers / Game Night

10:00 pm – Lights out (guys & girls will be on separate levels)

**Monday, July 17**

6 am- Check In @ church / grab breakfast in the Café / load the vehicles / pray

7:15 am-DGroup

7:30 am – Leave lot

11:30 am – Arrive @ Lambert’s / pick up Ozark crew / have a BLAST!

2 pm – Arrive in Branson, MO – head to venue for C4C check in

3 pm – RALLY BEGINS!

(dodgeball / dance party / talent night)

6 pm – Dinner @ Branson Events Center (catered)

7 pm – Opening Events

10 pm – Back to hotel / (swim, hang out or guys’ or girls’ bonding nights)

12 midnight – in rooms

**Tuesday, July 18**

7:15 am – DGroup

9 am – Morning Mtg @ Branson Events Center

12 pm - Lunch

2:00 pm – Afternoon Mtg @ BEC

4:00 pm -Activity

6:00 pm - Dinner at church

7:00 pm – Meeting at BEC w/ Coach Chip

10 pm - BreakDowns w/ Guys & Gals’ Leaders (2 nights will include BreakDowns)

12 midnight – in rooms

Wed, Thurs – same flow, but add Silver Dollar City & White Water, Fri 12 Noon dismissal and drive home by early evening after Braum’s lunch!

**Cost Breakdown & FUNdraisers:**

Amazingly, the price for 2023 has come down to $350 pp for the rally entrance, tshirt, lanyard, hotel lodging, all meals & theme park tickets (I don’t know how they do it for this $) – like, really!

**A few minor extras:**

1. Lambert’s - $20
2. Braum’s - $10
3. Spending cash (if you want to – they don’t HAVE to have this, BUT we will collect their $30 ahead of the week @ Luggage Check In in TheLoft SO THAT – we have the money to pay for their lunches both Monday & Friday)
4. Church will cover the Taco Bell & pizza runs @ night, PLUS they will have an assortment of snacks both homemade and donated in their hotel rooms – they will NOT starve – trust me – LOL!
5. Church will cover the costs of fuel – in our FUNdraising efforts, we will be sure to raise funds for these final two line items as well as raising funds for each youth – should they need to fundraise .. most do & we encourage it!

Note: Young people gain so much for having to work for something. That said – fundraisers can be a fantastic way for them to bond as a team, work hard and develop a synergy even prior to departure in July. Especially with technology, distance doesn’t seem to be a separator for those who are joining in our crew in July, but don’t live in our area, or even attend Generation Church or our youth group. These young people make lasting relationships as they find other young people on the same spiritual journey as they are! Distance doesn’t seem to matter!

**REGISTRATION OPENS:**

Saturday, April 1@ champions4christ.org … BUT – we will be registering AS A GROUP – so, your payments will be collected by PsDenise Menke @ GC OR by paying online @ gcmetro.church ON or AFTER April 2, 2023.

**$100 DEPOSIT DUE: Sunday, April 2, 2023**

**THE COST BREAKDOWN CONTINUED: (let’s make this simple)**

*Everyone gets paid differently, so, this should help immensely!*

May – 2 payments of $50 = $100 / June – 2 payments of $50 = $100

July – FINAL PAYMENT DUE NO LATER THAN JULY 1st (per C4C) of just $50!

In the meantime – I prefer to add AS MANY young people who are even THINKING of attending C4C to the fundraiser spreadsheet, BECAUSE it’s far easier to delete and disperse their funds they’ve raised (it’s a donation to a non-profit, so they can’t legally just take those monies – just as a heads up), than it is to ADD in later.

If someone decides they want to be added in in June or even July, we will do all we can to help make that happen, but as you can see – it’s far simpler to make that decision NOW, and work toward that end goal.

**FUNDRAISERS:**

**(Dependent upon availability – a student is PREFERRED to do their own work, BUT if proximity or work overlaps their ability to participate in the fundraiser, they CAN ask someone to fill in by proxy – friend, family member, etc.)**

1. **Servers @ WELCOME HOME LUNCHEON** | Kim + Rhonda – spearheads Sunday, April 2 (donations rc’vd and dispersed per table)
2. **Servers @ Bake Auction @ Generation Church** | Erica Menke – spearhead

 Sunday, May 7 @ the close of the WELCOME HOME Luncheon!

1. **Custom Designed TShirt Merch Sale** | Hailey Hesher – spearhead

 Projected Launch Date: Sunday, April 30 (more deets ASAP!)

1. **Date Night Childcare** / Minimum Donation Per Child / Per Youth SATURDAY, June 17 – 6 to 10 pm
2. **Church CLEAN UP AFTER Date Night Childcare** – EXTRA $50 pp / 3 ppl Saturday, June 17 (note: this will take about 2 hrs pp / 10p-12m
3. **Independence Day Concessions Sales during ALL CHURCH PICNIC** Sunday, July 2 – after service
4. **Heart for the House Fundraisers** (FIRST SATs – First 5 youth to sign up - $50 for 4 HOURS of actual work)

 *Dates: April 1 / May 6 / June 3 / July 1 – (set up for 4th of July Picnic)*