
MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL YOUTH LEADERS AND SUPPORTERS
FROM: PASTOR VANDEON GRIFFIN, DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: YOUTH CONGRESS 2009 REGISTRATION AND BACKGROUND CHECKS
DATE: 11/24/2008

Seasons Greetings! We would like to notify you of a change in the registration process for Youth Congress 2009. Registration will be conducted in our office, as you may remember occurring in most previous years. You may refer to the Youth Ministry's new website at www.sccyouth.info for more information and to download forms.

Because of this change in the registration process, all monies should be sent to the conference office by the deadlines specified, please. To remind you, there is a **NON-REFUNDABLE**, but **TRANSFERABLE (same gender)** deposit of \$75.00 for **each delegate & chaperone** due by February 19th in order to receive the early bird rate (\$50 off each delegate/chaperone). The deposit may only come in the form of a church check, cashier's check or money order. **We are unable to accept personal checks.** There will be a \$5 service charge (per transaction) for credit card payments. You may also register for Kid's Congress and order concert tickets as well.

All monies/remaining balances must be received in our office no later than March 19th. Please do not mail ANY monies after March 19th -- we won't be there to receive them. **Balances not received by this date may be brought with you but, again, it cannot be a personal check AND there will be no cash refunds on-site for churches that overpay.** A check will be sent to your church 2-3 weeks after the completion of Youth Congress.

If by some chance you wait to register on-site (we are definitely discouraging this), we will try to accommodate you, if we still have room (which is unlikely because we turn our delegate list in to the hotel early March). It is **most** likely there will only be seminar and concert tickets available at that time. If we are able to accommodate you, please note there is a late fee of \$30 per person. This late fee goes into effect if you have not registered by March 4th; so it is most beneficial to all to register by the March 4th deadline.

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Please know we are here to help and want to see each and every one of you at our **75th Youth Congress!** Please call if we can be of assistance to you or to ask any questions.

Last, but definitely not least, we must stress the importance of background checks on **ALL those working with/coming in contact with/driving, etc. our precious youth. THIS IS NOT OPTIONAL!** November 12, 2008, President Browne addressed this matter in a correspondence to pastors, urging them to “review the Church Manual (2005 Edition) and note page 147 that references ‘Pastors and Assistant Pastors’.” He also stated, “**ALL INDIVIDUALS WORKING WITH YOUTH must agree to have a background check is needed, please contact the Conference Secretary’s office.**” We have also made the forms available on our youth website at www.sccyouth.info. We thank you in advance for your cooperation in this delicate matter.