

Greetings to all of our pastors and volunteer leaders who passionately serve our FL NYI students!!

First of all, let me thank you for your willingness to pour into the lives of students! You are serving a vital role in the building of the kingdom of God and we appreciate you and your efforts. You are most definitely on the "front lines" of ministry in your local community and I know God is using you in powerful ways!

As always, we believe that God is going to use youth camp to assist you in seeing the lives of your students transformed. Thank you for the opportunity to join with you as we intentionally place students in front of the living God for a life-altering encounter with Him. We have been praying for this week of ministry for months as we have been planning and preparing for its beginning.

Our speaker this year is a guy named Tito Rivera, who serves as Lead Pastor at a multi-cultural church in Newark, NJ and is the Northeast NYI Field Coordinator. He comes HIGHLY recommended and we're excited to have him share God's word with us this week!

As a camp planning team, we have been and will be praying for you in your efforts to get your students to camp. We know that finances are always an issue, but we serve a God whose resources are limitless and we are praying for His provision. We also want to do our part to help, so the early bird price is only \$10 more than last year!

Though we'd love to be able to do a drastic price drop for our adult sponsors, it's just not possible this year. However, we are keeping the price at \$285 per person regardless of when an adult leader registers. It's our hope, if at all possible, that the local church will assist sponsors with covering this cost as I'm sure many of them will have to take time off to serve.

Everyone coming to camp (adults and students) must register online through the link we provide. However, each student will still need a new FL NYI Medical Release Form filled out, notarized and on file. We know it's extra work, but the online registration only has release language for Realife Camp. We still need it for our district. And it will be good for other district events till camp next year.

Also, we are implementing a \$50 <u>non-refundable</u> deposit system when registering. When each person has completed the online registration process, our recommendation is that they (the family) pay the church the \$50 so that they have a "dog in the race". Then, after each deadline (early, regular, and late), you need to send one <u>church check</u> to Vicki Foley (info below) equaling the number of people you have registered at that time times \$50. This will lock in their registration. Then final payments need to be mailed to Vicki, **postmarked by June 20**<sup>th</sup>. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE...<u>no personal checks</u>. We need <u>one church check</u> to cover all participants. We'll communicate with you in advance of each deadline to confirm how much each check needs to be made out for.

For the most updated info, news and guidelines moving forward, check out our social media and our website <u>www.thefloridanyi.com</u>. But for now, **please just get these info sheets into your sponsors' and students' hands**!!

Thank you again for loving students enough to pour your lives into them. We look forward to serving beside you at camp this year! Till then, grace and peace to you all!

In Christ, Pastor Richard *Camp Director* 

Send Church Checks To: Vicki Foley 8078 Bushmaster Ave. Orlando, FL 32832



# **SPONSOR INFO**

WHEN: July 1-5, 2024 Registration begins Monday, July 1 @ 1:00 p.m. Camp ends Friday, July 5 @ 12:00 pm

**WHERE:** Realife Camp at Blue Springs 2650 Lakeshore Drive Marianna, FL 32446

#### WHAT'S PLANNED FOR CAMP?

We have some AMAZING things that are going to be offered this year that we've NEVER had before and we're excited you are planning to join us! Due to our need to move to a new location, we have discovered a place that offers things like snorkeling, kayaking in the spring, paintball, painting class, and more. And that's in addition to the normal things like a lake with a beach and a blob, a huge pool, basketball, beach volleyball, a climbing wall, and a plethora of smaller games like outdoor chess and checkers, ping pong, billiards, carpet ball and more! Oh, and it has the most amazing worship space that I've ever seen at a camp! Which will set the scene for incredible worship services led by Trevecca's Awaken and powerful messages from Tito Rivera!

#### WHO CAN ATTEND?

According to FL NYI policy, youth camp is for all those who have completed 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade and recent 2024 graduates.

#### WHO CAN SERVE AS A SPONSOR?

We understand that many local churches may have difficulty in finding adult leaders who can serve during this week, but we are hoping you will plan to send at least one adult sponsor with your students, preferably 1 for every 10 students). It is our request that each adult leader be **at least** one year removed (skip a summer) from being a participant at camp before serving as an adult leader. This creates a sense of separation between the age groups. But if at all possible, please send other, older adult leaders along to support them as they serve.

#### WHAT'S MY COST?

We would love to be able to offer our sponsors a HUGE discount for giving up this week to come serve with your students. However, with the rising costs of pretty much everything, this just isn't possible. However, we are going to leave a flat rate of \$285 regardless of when you register! But don't wait around too long. We need to know you're coming!

#### I'M COMING! NOW WHAT?

Please start by hyping up camp with your students!! But you can also go to <u>www.thefloridanyi.com/floridacamp</u> to find all the pertinent links and forms necessary for this event. All registrations will be online through Realife Camp. (QR Code below) So, please get registered as quickly as possible. And then, get connected with us on our social media (Instagram and Facebook). We'll be sending out regular updates for you leading up to camp!

#### **EVENT GUIDELINES:**

For a comprehensive list of guidelines and things "not to bring", please refer to the FL NYI Guidelines and Expectations For All Events sheet that has been included with this info packet. It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians AND the local church leadership to ensure every participant is aware of these guidelines. We're communicating this to you to ensure we are all on the same page while at camp.

#### **ULTRA IMPORTANT!!**

The last day to register is June 19<sup>th</sup>. After that, registration will be closed. So, PLEASE make sure your students are registered! If you're not sure if they're registered, contact Vicki Foley at 321-689-1377 to be sure. Don't assume they are. **Know!** After the 19<sup>th</sup>, permission will be needed from me, Pastor Richard, to register. Registration will not be guaranteed and will be considered on a case-by-case basis. And after the 19<sup>th</sup>, their tshirt size will not be guaranteed.

### SPONSOR SAFTEY/SECURITY PROCESS:

- Background Check It is Florida District policy that all sponsors of overnight events for youth under the age of 18 must have a valid background check on file within 2 years prior to the event. Please go to <u>https://www.ministryopportunities.org/opportunity/4845//</u> and get yours filled out Any applicant who has no current, cleared background check <u>will not</u> be allowed to serve as a volunteer at camp.
- Safe Haven/Child Safety Training The safety of our students is vitally important and in the world in which we live, being up to date on child protection training is extremely important. It is our hope that each local church has Safe Haven policies and training in place for all who work with underage children. The Florida District has safe haven policies and procedures in place for all of our district events, so it would behoove you to review it in advance of attending camp. We'll be sending out a link to it for you to do so.

### **QUESTIONS?**

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions at all. You can reach me via email at <u>pastorrichard@hotmail.com</u> or 863-307-6782 (Cell). I want to help you in any way I can with making sure you and your students are prepared for the greatest week of camp you've ever experienced.

We, the camp planning team, are praying for you and your students. It is our desire that this is a transformational week as we place our students in front of Jesus. Which means we're also praying over ever facet of this camp. We're anticipating and expecting a move of God while we are together and we hope you are too!

In Christ, PR (Pastor Richard)





# **STUDENT INFO**

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**WHERE:** Realife Camp at Blue Springs 2650 Lakeshore Drive Marianna, FL 32446

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### WHO CAN ATTEND?

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### WHAT'S MY COST?

COST:\$285 Early Registration(Registered online by May 1)\$320 Regular Registration(Registered online by May 29)\$350 Late Registration(Ends Jun 19. After this date only by permission from the director)

PLEASE NOTE: There will not be any walk-up registrations. Registration will officially close on June 19th. After this date, any registrations will be dealt with on a case by case basis by me (Pastor Richard) Extenuating circumstances will be taken into account, but participation is NOT guaranteed. Also, after the 19<sup>th</sup>, your tshirt size will not be guaranteed.

# CLOTHING:

Casual clothes: Campers and sponsors are expected to wear appropriate clothing. We ask that midriffs be covered and undergarments not be exposed. No clothing or t-shirts will be allowed with inappropriate messages that would distract from the purpose God brought us to camp for. This includes in written or picture form, items that are profane or demeaning, promote illegal, violent, or gang activity, or promote the use of alcohol or drugs. Other clothing that will be considered inappropriate includes spaghetti straps, strapless tops, short shorts, midriffs, pants that sag, or t-shirts with sides cut out.

#### SWIMWEAR:

- Guys must wear sturdy trunks... no shorts, cut-off pants, or speedos. Shirts MUST be worn to and from swimming areas. This includes the pool, kayaks, snorkeling, and lake.
- Girls must wear sturdy, modestly cut one or two-piece suits. T-Shirts are not required while swimming, but no string, thong, or crochet bikinis are allowed.
- Both: Swimsuits may be worn ONLY during swimming.

# **EVENT GUIDELINES:**

For a comprehensive list of guidelines and things "not to bring", please refer to the FL NYI Guidelines and Expectations For All Events sheet that has been included with this info packet. It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians AND the local church leadership to ensure every student is aware of these guidelines.

### TOURNAMENTS:

In addition to all the great things planned for this year's camp, we will once again be hosting different tournaments during camp. Sign-ups for tournaments will be set up at registration at camp. Make sure you check out all the cool tournaments you can sign up for!

## GAMES:

There will be all kinds of games to participate in during the day and late at night. Any specific "need to bring" list will be provided as soon as possible to all participants before your arrival at camp. The safety of our students is a major priority in the planning of our games, but we can guarantee they will be a blast!

### I'M COMING! NOW WHAT?

Please start by talking to your local NYI leadership. They should be able to help you get registered. But you can also go to <u>www.thefloridanyi.com/floridacamp</u> to find all the pertinent links and forms necessary for this event. All registrations for students will be online through Realife Camp (QR Code below). Please fill everything out with your most up to date information. But you will also need to fill out a new FL District NYI Medical Release for All Events, have it notarized, and on file. This will be good for all district events till next summer. And then, get connected with us on our social media (Instagram and Facebook). We'll be sending out regular updates for you leading up to camp.

### **QUESTIONS?**

We're here to help! So, if you have any questions, please feel free to buzz me at <u>pastorrichard@hotmail.com</u>. I'll do my very best to help you in any way I can.

I can't WAIT to see what God is going to do while we're together at camp this year. I'm praying for you. Our planning team is praying for you. And we're praying over every facet of our time together. Come ready to allow God to do a new work in you. I'm sure He wants to!

In Christ, Pastor Richard (PR) *Camp Director* 





# FL NYI Guidelines and Expectations for All Events

The District NYI Council and Leadership Team have developed a list of guidelines and expectations that are in place to eliminate distractions as we do our best to help students glorify God, have fun and remain safe while participating in all of our district sponsored events. Though we know that the local church may have stricter or more lenient guidelines, we ask that everyone adhere to those listed below for district events to avoid confusion and create a sense of unity, with an understanding that there may be "event specific" guidelines and expectations as well.

# **Student Section:**

- Youth covenant to...
  - Respect/obey all adult sponsors, leaders, staff, etc. (Not limited to your local church)
  - Treat other youth with kindness and consideration and avoid behaviors that will be a distraction to God's work.
  - Abide by all guidelines set in place for each event.
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Abide by all event specific guidelines and boundaries set by event leadership
  - Adhere to the schedule of activities (be where you're supposed to be when you're supposed to be there.
  - To keep displays of affection limited to holding hands.
  - Avoid inappropriate behavior at ALL times that might cause those around you to feel uncomfortable or threatened.
  - To ensure all medical/liability releases are filled out completely for all events. Failure to do so will negate participation in district events.
  - Leave all pets at home.
- The following is our dress code. If a student violates this code, he/she will be asked to change into appropriate attire. Please refrain from...
  - Baggy pants/low cut pants that show underwear.
  - Revealing swimsuits (ie. Bikinis, speedos, etc.)
  - Sleepwear outside of your sleeping quarters.
  - Tank tops that are less than 2 fingers width on the strap (hide the straps)
  - Shorts and skirts that are shorter than fingertip length
  - Strapless anything.
  - Bare chested guys outside of sleeping quarters or swim areas.
- It is understood that repeated failure to adhere to these guidelines will result in consequences that may include a trip home early at the parent/guardian expense. However, there are certain offenses that will expedite the trip...
  - Possession of any of the following
    - Illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia
    - Alcohol
    - Tobacco or paraphernalia
    - Fire arms
    - Fireworks
  - Sneaking out after set curfews

- Having a member of the opposite sex in sleeping quarters.
- Participating in immoral conduct
- Destroying property or destructive pranks
- Electronic Devices...
  - The reality of today's world is that phones are difficult to eliminate from events. However, we encourage every leader to discourage the use of these while at events as much as possible except in emergencies to contact parents or for group communication. They are proven distractions to what God might like to say or do in the life of our youth. But please note that all other electronics should be left at home. (ie. Gaming, computers, etc.)

### Adult Section:

- Adult leaders covenant to...
  - o love students!
  - o love students!!
  - o love students till it hurts!!! (and at times it will...)
  - o be in a vibrant, active relationship with Christ. If we don't, the students will know it.
  - be the adults. Be empowered to hold students accountable to schedules and guidelines, but lead by example.
  - be flexible. There may be an area where we need your help due to unforeseen circumstances. Please be ready to step up!
  - be patient. We are dealing with many students who bring "baggage" with them to our events, with pre-conceived notions of what is acceptable and what is not. Also, our events are led by people who are no more perfect than you, so...
  - be visible. Students need to see you involved with what is going on. There will be times you can "disappear", but interact with students (not just your own) as much as possible.
  - be humble and transparent. We are not perfect and are not expected to be. Students need to know that we, too, are human and therefore struggle.
  - be in prayer. This is vital before, during and after every event. Praying with and for our students and leaders is vital!
  - be filled. As much as our events are geared toward reaching students, we have seen how God works in the lives of our adults at our events as well.
  - be safe. Students tend to have an "I'm invincible" mentality. Be watchful at events and discourage "invincible" activities that they may try to participate in.
  - refrain from being alone with a student. We know one-on-ones are part of ministry, but always be in a highly visible location with them.
  - communicate. At the many events we have, it is vital that we communicate with each other about the where's, the when's, the how's, and the why's to avoid the pitfalls that can break down the team.
  - be conscious of God's direction when dealing with students. Our sensitivity to the Spirit may make the difference in how receptive a student is to God's voice.
  - ensure that you have a current background check on file with the district when participating in district events. They are only good for two years!
  - o be current on your ministry safe haven training. Don't assume you know. Know!
  - $\circ$  be a participating member in good standing with a local Nazarene church.