



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What Is Blast?**

Blast is a winter retreat we hold every year over President's Day weekend. For the last several years we have been at the Kalahari Resort in the Wisconsin Dells. ([www.kalahariresorts.com/wi/](http://www.kalahariresorts.com/wi/)) The Kalahari is a tremendous facility with tons of activities all under one roof – indoor water park, indoor theme park, bowling alley, movie theatre and video arcade. There are 4 main sessions with teaching about a specific theme each year, live music, and videos – all designed to challenge students spiritually, wherever they are at. The true backbone of the weekend is the small group experience. Students stay in a suite style hotel room with other students of similar age and same gender. Adult leaders stay with the students and lead them through the weekend, with the small group discussion happening right in the rooms. Many of the meals are prepared together in the rooms because they are equipped with full kitchens. It is truly an unforgettable weekend!

### **How Much Does It Cost?**

The cost for the weekend is \$225.00, which covers all programming materials, lodging, meals (except lunch on Saturday & Sunday), transportation, water park entry, indoor theme park entry and dodgeball tournament. We do offer skiing for high school students. Skiers will leave the Kalahari by bus to go to a local ski hill on Saturday afternoon. Cost for skiing is \$40 with your own equipment or \$65 with rental equipment. Please include that money in your registration. Please fill out the Cascade Mountain waiver and bring it with you to check in. You will not be able to ski without a signed waiver.

All students may bring additional money for resort activities such as bowling alley, video arcade, or the movie theatre. There are multiple restaurants and snack shops at the resort. Average price for a meal is \$10 per person. We will also have a Conference store with various things for sale such as clothing, books, etc. An offering will be taken up at the final session.

### **How Do I Register?**

Completely fill out and return the registration form along with a non-refundable deposit of \$100 no later than Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>. Space is expected to fill up. Registrations received after the deadline must include a \$25 late fee. You may register by:

- 1) Turn your registration in to your StuCo Campus Director
- 2) Mail it to the church office (1635 Emerson Lane, Naperville, IL 60540, attn: Tim Raad)
- 3) Go to [www.communitychristian.org/blast](http://www.communitychristian.org/blast) and use online registration.

Full payment will be due the day we leave for camp. To pay your balance via credit card please go the online registration and click on the balance payment tab. All online balance payments must be received by midnight Thursday February 16<sup>th</sup>.

**For skiers** – please download the Cascade Mountain waiver and bring it with you to check in. **You will not be able to ski without a signed waiver.**

## **When and Where Do We Leave and Return?**

You will leave from the Community Christian Church Campus you registered with. The only exceptions are the Naperville Downtown Campus which will leave from the Yellow Box, and the East Aurora Campus which will leave from Montgomery Campus. Check in begins Friday February 17<sup>th</sup> at 5pm, with all buses leaving by 5:30pm. Please have all necessary documentation and final payments. We will return to the same locations Monday February 20<sup>th</sup> by approximately 1pm. We will not be stopping for meals on either trip. Students will be fed breakfast in their rooms Monday morning.

## **Who Do I Contact With Questions?**

Campus StuCo Director:	(630) 210-1120	Bret Koontz, Naperville YB & DT
	(630) 388-5118	Jake Kirchner, Romeoville & Lemont
	(630) 209-8630	Tim Raad, Montgomery
	(630) 269-3321	Brian Prunty, Plainfield
	(630) 340-1890	Ari Martin, Yorkville
	(630) 228-6157	Bt Norman, Shorewood
	(630) 777-6427	Jon Hane, East Aurora
	(716) 697-8776	Matt Ward, Lincoln Square

Event Director:	(630) 209-8630	Tim Raad, Blast Event Director timraad@communitychristian.org
-----------------	----------------	--

## **What Should I Pack?**

All event activities are indoors with the exception of skiing. Students will not need to go outside, other than to get on or off a bus at arrival and departure. All events and activities are casual attire. Swim suits need to be 1 piece for girls or have a t-shirt worn over them, and for the guys they need to be non-speedo style. Swim wear is not allowed in the main session without a covering. Because the resort is warm, shorts and tank tops are fine, but you will want to have a sweatshirt or jacket in case you get cold. Please no excessively short shorts or low cut tank tops. God created you and remembers what you look like – you don't need to show off all the parts to everyone else. Any student wearing inappropriate clothing will be asked to change before an event or activity. Some of the activities and restaurants require shoes, so make sure bring at least one pair to wear around the resort. If you plan on bowling, bring socks!

You are responsible for bringing your own toiletries (deodorant, comb, toothbrush/toothpaste, etc) – these will enhance your experience as well as the experience of the other students in your room. Towels are provided for both the room and the waterpark. Bedding is provided in each room, but feel free to bring your “special” pillow or your “wooby” if you need them to sleep. Be sure to bring something appropriate to sleep in – you will be sharing a bed with another student.

Personal Electronics such as cameras, phones, iPods are allowed, however you are responsible for their safety and well being. StuCo and your leaders are not responsible if they get lost, stolen or go swimming at the waterpark. Also if these devices are distracting you from connecting with other students or experiencing the event, leaders will take them away and return them to you on the ride home. Please do not bring entire gaming consoles with you – they distract you from the point of the event and they cannot be plugged into the tv's in the room anyway (I know – I've tried!)

**AND MOST IMPORTANTLY - Please bring a Bible and a pen!**

## **What Is The Schedule?**

This is a proposed schedule of the event. Students will be given an exact schedule when they arrive at Blast.

### **Friday Night:**

5:00pm Check in at Campus  
5:30pm Leave for Kalahari (*NO DINNER STOP*)  
9:30pm Arrive at the Kalahari  
10:00pm Small Group Time in Rooms  
10:30pm Main Session #1  
12:00am Small Group Time in Rooms  
1:00am Lights out!

### **Saturday:**

8:00am Wake Up & Breakfast in Rooms  
9:00am Small Group Encounter (Personal Devotional Time)  
9:45am Break out Sessions in Conference Area  
12:00pm Lunch on Own  
12:00pm Load Bus for Cascade – Skiers (High School Optional Activity)  
Free Time (Activities: Waterpark, Movie, etc)  
5:30pm Skiers Leave Cascade for Resort  
6:00pm Dinner in Rooms  
7:00pm Main Session #2  
9:00pm Group Time  
10:30pm Blast Late Night Water Park time  
12:00pm In Rooms  
12:30am Lights out!

### **Sunday:**

8:00am Wake Up & Breakfast in Rooms  
9:00am Small Group Encounter (Personal Devotional Time)  
10:00am Main Session #3  
11:30am Small Group  
12:30pm Lunch on Own  
Free Time (Activities: Waterpark, Movie, etc)  
12:30pm Dodgeball Tournament  
6:00pm Dinner in Rooms  
7:00pm Main Session #4  
9:00pm Group Time  
10:00pm Blast Late Night Indoor Theme Park time  
12:00am In Rooms  
12:30am Lights out!

### **Monday:**

8:00am Breakfast in Rooms  
9:00am Load Luggage  
9:30am Leave the Kalahari (*NO LUNCH STOP!*)  
1:00pm Bus Arrival at Church

### **What Is The Menu For Meals In The Room?**

The menu is still being developed, but plan on it being more corn dog-ish than prime rib-esque. If you have food allergies please communicate that to your StuCo Director or the Event Director. We will not be able to adjust the menu, but we will work with you to transport food you provide if necessary. Each room has a full kitchen including fridge, freezer, oven and microwave.

### **What Happens If I Get Sick Or Homesick?**

We will have several nurses with us to evaluate sickness and minor injury should they occur. Those situations will be treated with consultation and consent from home. The Kalahari Resort is staffed with emergency EMT's in the event a significant event should take place. Homesickness can happen, especially amongst younger students. Leaders are prepared to coach students through that. We will generally discourage frequent calls or texts home because this actually makes it worse instead of better. There will be no transportation home until Monday morning, unless a parent chooses to come get their student, but in most cases homesickness can be easily overcome.

### **Can I Get a Scholarship or Make Payments For The Event?**

Please contact your StuCo Campus Director if you have financial concerns. At this time a payment plan is not available for the event.

### **Do You Need Leaders For This Event?**

Yes! Please contact your Campus StuCo Director regarding leader roles and opportunities.

### **What If A Question Is Not Listed?**

Then it's dumb and shouldn't be asked! Just kidding – contact your StuCo Director or the Event Director if you have any questions or concerns about Blast.