

# Youth Newsletter

March 2012

## Youth Travel to Mountains of Virginia for Annual Ski Trip

Although there has been a drought of natural snowfall this winter, there was plenty of the man-made variety on the slopes at Massanutten Resort, the destination for this year's annual Youth Ski Trip.

Seven youth and leaders left the church around 2:00pm on Friday, January 27, headed for Massanutten Resort, a mountain-side resort just west of the Blue Ridge Parkway, about 15 miles east of Harrisonburg, Virginia. After a convenience stop in Richmond, and a stop for dinner at Buffalo Wild Wings near the campus of James Madison University in Harrisonburg, the group arrived at the resort around 9:30pm.

This year, rather than staying in multiple rooms in a lodge or condominium complex, the group rented a full-sized cabin. Capable of sleeping 12, the cabin featured four bedrooms, three bathrooms, a full-sized kitchen, a living and dining area, and a basement game room.

"The cabin turned out to be perfect for our group," commented David Salerno, Bethlehem's Youth Director. "There was plenty of room, and we were less than ¼ mile from the Ski Lodge. We could actually see the slopes from the cabin's deck."

"Being in the cabin made it easier for us to do activities together, play games together, have meals together, and just spend time together as a group," remarked David. "The icing on the cake was that it was actually less expensive than renting rooms at a motel."

The group woke up on Saturday morning and headed to the Ski Lodge to check out their skis. Several of the youth attended Ski School, while the remainder of the group hit the slopes. After lessons, the group returned to the cabin for lunch.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 4** VeggieTales "Robin Good" Movie Premiere, 12:15pm, Old Fellowship Hall (lunch provided)
- March 11** Regular Meeting, 4:30pm-5:45pm
- March 15** Alphas/Omegas Winter Jam 2012 Trip, time & details TBA
- March 25** Regular Meeting, 4:30pm-5:45pm

For more information about your club's schedule, including any special events planned for your individual club, please see your club's leaders.

After lunch and a rest break, the group returned to the slopes around 3:30pm Saturday afternoon. The conditions throughout the trip were very good for skiing, with temperatures in the 40s and several inches of recently-made powder covering the ground.

"I was actually surprised how good the conditions were for having no significant snowfall this season," commented David. "They were making snow much of the time we were there. Massanutten has gotten very good at snowmaking, and it definitely showed on this trip."

The group returned to their cabin around 7:00pm Saturday evening for dinner, games, and fellowship before calling it a night.

The group woke up early Sunday morning to attend the 8:33am early worship service at nearby McGaheysville United Methodist Church. The church was having a special "Backwards Sunday", where everything was done in reverse. They began the service with the closing song, continued with the sermon, and closed with the opening music. The group was made to feel very welcome, and the church recognized and thanked the youth for attending.

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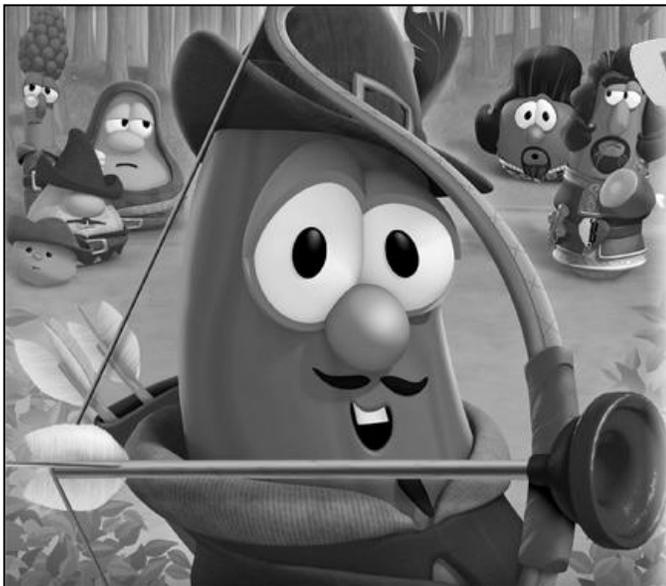
**(Ski Trip, continued from Page 1)**

After church, the group briefly explored the summit of Massanutten Resort before heading back to the slopes around 12:00noon. Even though several of the youth had never skied prior to this trip, by this time, everyone had gotten the “hang” of it and was having a great time. The group stayed out for several hours before returning to their cabin for a late lunch.

The group returned to the slopes around 4:00pm and enjoyed several hours of night skiing. “I

thought night skiing was fun, different, and unique,” commented Omega Youth member Kate Jones. “It was like nothing I had ever done before.” The group stayed out until after 8:30pm, then returned to the cabin for a late supper of hand-made personal pan pizzas.

The group woke up early Monday morning, packed, and left the cabin around 10:00am. After a quick stop by the General Store for souvenirs, the group headed for home, stopping at Chick-Fil-A in Richmond for lunch and arriving back at church around 4:00pm.



VeggieTales

**Robin Good**  
and His Not-So-Merry Men

**Sunday, March 4 • 12:15pm**

**A premiere event for the whole family!**

**Lunch provided • call 334-1507 for more info**

**WINTER JAM 2012**  
TOUR SPECTACULAR

featuring



**Alpha/Omega Youth Concert Trip**  
**Thursday, March 15**

bus leaves church at 3:15pm – see David Salerno for info

World Vision's



**IT'S NOT TOO LATE!**

**OVERCOME HUNGER**

This past weekend, our youth participated in the World Vision 30 Hour Famine, to help raise money for needy children all over the world.

If you have already made your pledge, thank you!

If not, it's never too late to make a difference in the life of a hungry child. Just \$1 a day will help feed and care for a child in poverty through World Vision.

Please see any Famine participant or youth leader to make your pledge today. Thank you!