



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Renewal takes place this year at Miracle Camp from October 22-24. This weekend retreat is an incredible experience every year as loads of middle school students, led by scores of tremendous adult and high school leaders, grow in their friendships with one another and in their relationship with God. Wherever your student is at on their faith journey, this weekend is an amazing opportunity to take their next step!

One of our priorities for events like this in Granger Student Ministries (GSM) is to place students in groups with their friends they have requested on their registration. While we do our best to honor all requests made, cabin and group size limitations sometimes prevent students from getting all of their roommate requests, but we will always place your student with at least one of their friend requests. And if your student is new to GSM or hasn't connected yet don't worry, we take extra care to pay attention to them so that we can get them in the best group possible to spark some friendships for them.

A unique element to the Renewal experience is that all students are placed onto a team, where one guys' group and one girls' group come together to form a team that will walk through the weekend together including sharing meals, sitting together during sessions and competing in all the fun games. At check-in we give each team of students and leaders matching color bandannas for the weekend as a fun way of identifying teams. We will also be posting these teams with their assigned colors to the [GSM Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/grangerstudents) (facebook.com/grangerstudents) on Thursday, October 21. That way your student can bring any color clothes they want to have that match their team color, but please don't feel the need to go buy a whole new wardrobe for the weekend. You do not need to have Facebook to access the site this way to find out your student's color.

To help you and your student get ready, we've included some details and information that will help you to prepare:

- Proper provision is made for health, sanitation, nutrition and overall well-being. Also, there will be a team of medical professionals onhand to take care of any first aid and medication needs.

- To save any embarrassment during the weekend for your student, you will want to notify Katie McCormick ([kmccormick@grangerchurch.com](mailto:kmccormick@grangerchurch.com)) in advance about any special problems such as sleep walking, bed-wetting, etc. that you did not list on their registration.
- We have included a recommended [Packing List](#) with this letter. We also recommend labeling all belongings.
- It's been a crazy year regarding the coronavirus. Here is what you can expect when sending your student to Renewal:
  - Smaller groups of students with each cabin leader
  - Games held outside in open air as much as possible
  - Smaller groups of campers/leaders in cabins
  - Daily health screening of campers and staff

Plan to drop off your Granger or Elkhart student at the Granger Campus at **5 p.m. on Friday, October 22** and to pick up your camper at the Granger Campus **at 1 p.m. on Sunday, October 24**. One of the last things we do together on the retreat is attend the 11:30 a.m. service as we intentionally bring this great weekend experience home to our church family where your student will continue to have opportunities to grow in their renewed faith.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Riley VanDeVoorde". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Riley" being the most prominent.

Riley VanDeVoorde

Director of Granger Student Ministries