



## CONVENTION

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### *Swedenborgian Church Youth League*

Kurt Fekete  
Youth Director  
38 Great Falls Rd  
Gorham, Maine 04038

Dear Parents and Sponsors of Convention Teens,

The Annual Convention of The Swedenborgian Church is a greatly anticipated and exciting time of year. All ages of our church family from all over North America converge to one place where we spend a few days conducting church business, worshipping, learning and playing together. This brief letter is to inform you of what Convention is like and specifically, what activities, events and supervision are available for your teenager. We welcome your teenager to this wonderful event where they can learn and grow by experience to be responsible member of our church on a national level. There are many worthwhile activities planned for your teenager. We look forward to experiencing the energy, enthusiasm and talents that your teen brings to this year's Convention.

Our church youth league (ages 13 to 18) is called the Swedenborgian Church Youth League, or SCYL. Members of SCYL are called Leaguers. All teens, even if only loosely affiliated with the Swedenborgian Church, are openly accepted, welcomed members of the SCYL. During Convention, we sometimes allow 12 year olds to participate in the teen program.

This year's Convention session opens on Wednesday. The Convention schedule varies day to day, but for adults is generally organized as follows: Breakfast, Worship, Business Sessions, Lunch, Business Sessions, Dinner, Activities/Worship. The schedule for teenagers is similar, but with supervised youth outings, planning meetings, games and discussion taking the place of the business sessions. Wednesday we will begin our planned teen program starting with a welcome and afternoon meeting. Much of Thursday will be spent planning the SCYL worship service that the teens will lead Friday morning. The SCYL President (or designee) and the Youth Director will speak at the Friday morning business meeting after worship. It is likely we'll get out for some supervised SCYL offsite outings on Friday and Saturday afternoon. We'll also be selling merchandise as a fundraising project to assist with youth travel to church events.

If you are a parent who *is* attending Convention with your child, please complete the medical release form, sign it and send it in with your registration. If you are a parent who *is not* attending Convention with your child, please read the Sponsor Program Form, sign it and send it in along with your medical release form. As teens arrive at Convention, I will introduce them to their sponsors and have the sponsors sign the form.

It is not the responsibility of the staff of Convention to closely supervise the SCYL youth the entire time. As Youth Director, I do frequently try to help organize, participate in, and observe the activities of the teens; however, for the most part, parents and sponsors are responsible for the whereabouts and happenings of their respective teenagers. The Youth Director and Youth Leader will provide leadership, guidance and activities during business sessions, the SCYL outings, and when adults are involved in scheduled Convention events that are not interesting or appropriate for teenagers. Otherwise, teenagers are given a great deal of personal independence and are primarily overseen by their parents or sponsors. It is your responsibility, as parent or sponsor, to ensure that your teenager is in their assigned room at acceptable and reasonable hours (midnight is the suggested latest bedtime), is monitored during late evening/early morning hours and during times when planned SCYL activities are not taking place, and is adhering to the Convention schedule. I'd love to see the teens attend as many of the open, non-business events as possible, such as worship services and receptions.

On campus, we *may* have access to tennis courts and swimming. Make sure your teen packs a bathing suit and also a tennis racket if they like to play. I also encourage teens to bring musical instruments. Each teen has an opportunity to play an instrument and/or sing during our SCYL worship service.

Many ministers and national church officers show up earlier in the week for Pre-convention. Although some youth may be present prior to Wednesday and some activities may be available, no definite scheduled or supervised SCYL programs are planned in advance for this Pre-Convention time. Up until Wednesday, the teens will be under your direction and will otherwise be largely unsupervised.

I am thrilled that your teenager can join us this year at Convention. For more information, assistance or clarification regarding the youth program or logistics please contact Kurt Fekete, Youth Director at [kfekete@hotmail.com](mailto:kfekete@hotmail.com) or I can be reached on my cell phone at 802-345-0169 before or during Convention. You can also find information at the SCYL weblog at [youthleague.blogspot.com](http://youthleague.blogspot.com). This is a time for Swedenborgians to rejoice and celebrate together. I will do all that I can to make this a special and memorable Convention for the SCYL. I hope that your teen finds this time to be engaging, exhilarating and spiritually enlightening.

Sincerely,

Kurt Fekete  
Youth Director

# TEEN MEDICAL RELEASE FORM

NAME OF YOUTH: \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDATE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF LAST TETANUS SHOT, IF KNOWN: \_\_\_\_\_

KNOWN ALLERGIES, DIETARY REQUIREMENTS OR DEVELOPMENTAL ISSUES WE SHOULD BE AWARE OF:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

MEDICATIONS CURRENTLY BEING TAKEN: \_\_\_\_\_

(medication must be labeled clearly, with person's name, dosage and directions for use)

My minor has permission to administer his or her own medication(s) specified above:      yes      no

INSURANCE CO & NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Work: \_\_\_\_\_

This is to verify that I hereby do appoint my youth's sponsor and/or the staff of Convention to authorize and consent to emergency medical and/or surgical treatment, and performance of whatever operations or procedures deemed necessary by the attending physician, to the above named minor, for the applicable Convention time period.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

RELATIONSHIP: \_\_\_\_\_

(must be parent or legal guardian)

I give permission to use respectful photos and videos of my child in church publications and/or websites.      yes      no

## CONVENTION TEEN SPONSOR PROGRAM

The Convention sponsor program allows youth aged 13 – 17 to attend Convention without parents. The adult sponsor attends Convention and agrees to perform certain duties and take responsibility for the minor in place of the parent. Parents and/or the Youth Director arrange for and notify a sponsor prior to Convention. Children under the age of 13 should not attend Convention without a parent or legal guardian.

**Please print and complete this page and send it in with your registration. Youth Director, Kurt Fekete, will obtain the signature of the sponsor.**

Sponsors agree to the following duties:

1. Ensure that the youth takes part in all youth and family activities.
2. Care for the youth in case of illness or injury, including emergency and urgent care.
3. Arrange for the youth's transportation home in the event of an emergency requiring an unscheduled departure.
4. Monitor the youth's free time, bedtime, overnight and wakeup.
5. Ensure that the youth follows all rules established by Convention staff.
6. Participate in any necessary disciplinary action.

### SPONSOR INFORMATION FORM

NAME OF YOUTH: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSOR'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUTH TO DEPART WITH/VIA: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSOR SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

(YOUTH DIRECTOR WILL OBTAIN)

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_