

Family Fest

winter weekend

Warm Up



CAMP INFO

The Historic Grand View Lodge

JANUARY WINTER WEEKEND CAMP INFORMATION

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Hello Winter Weekend Campers!

We are so excited that you will be joining us at Family Fest's Winter Weekend at the beautiful Grand View Lodge on Gull Lake near Nisswa, MN. This year marks our 20th Anniversary of Winter Weekend retreats!



This will be a memorable weekend for you and your family. If you have never been to a Family Fest Winter Weekend you are going to experience a very unique family vacation filled with fun, laughter, relaxation and great spiritual growth. We believe that you will have the time of your life and that God will be present in a very special way.

Inside you will find some information that should be helpful as you prepare for this special Winter Weekend. More specific details and a complete schedule will be given to you upon arrival.

Please read over the information and let us know if you have any questions.

Blessings,

Pete Larson

Arrival and Check-In

Check-in is on Friday from **6:30 -10:00pm** at the Norway Center across from the main Lodge building. Watch for Winter Weekend Signs.

**CHECK IN
6:30PM TO
10:00PM**

When you arrive, you will be greeted by our wonderful volunteers who will give you more important information regarding the weekend.

Please do not arrive before 6:30pm. Our staff and volunteers will be ready to help you at 6:30pm. The registration team will be at check-in until 10:00pm.

Late Arrival: If for some reason you know you will be later than 10pm, please give us a call. If you need to call on Friday, here is Pete Larson's cell phone number: 612.865.7884. If you text this info, please be sure to put your name in the text.

After you check in and get settled you can head down to the Grand View Water Park and try the giant water-slide and the hot tubs! If you have kids, you may want to walk over to the Gull Lake Center to check out where the Kid's Programs will be starting on Saturday morning.

Family Photo

We like to have a photo of every family to put on the photo board. It would help us if you could email a landscape (horizontal - 6 inches wide by 4 inches tall) photo prior to camp.



Please send to hello@familyfestministries.org with the subject "WWJ17 Family Photo".

If you can't send a photo prior to camp, please bring your family into check-in and we will take one there.

Friday Dinner

Dinner is not served on Friday night so you will want to stop on the way to Grand View. There are several restaurants in Baxter just before you arrive at Grand View Lodge. Also, Grand View's Main Dining Room and The Cru Restaurant are open until 9pm and the GVL Pub is all open until 10pm. Zorbaz Pizza, 8105 Lost Lake Rd, Nisswa, MN 56468 is located about 2 miles west of Grand View on Cty. Rd 77.

Workcrew

At Winter Weekend, you will meet an extraordinary group of people who will be serving you and your kids called the "Workcrew". These amazing people volunteer for the weekend to serve you. You will see them helping families in the dining room, assisting the KCs during the Kids Programs, leading free-time activities and much more. If you need anything at all during Winter Weekend, please ask one of these amazing people and they will be glad to help in any way possible!

Winter Weekend Fun

You'll have plenty to do during your free time at Winter Weekend. Your afternoons are pretty much wide open for you to play with your family. We will have information regarding the various activities such as dog-sledding (pray for snow!), tubing, snowshoeing, skiing, ice-fishing, bingo and much more at the Winter Weekend Desk.



Please note that the snow tubing, downhill skiing and the spa fees are not included in the cost of the weekend. Cross-country skis and snow-shows are available to rent at Grand View Lodge. If you are interested in getting time at the Glacial Waters Spa, we recommend that you call Grand View Lodge in advance for reservations.



- Giant Indoor Water park
- Down hill skiing & snowboarding
- Horse-drawn wagon rides
- Cross-country Skiing
- Skating
- Boot Hockey
- Dog-sledding
- Bingo
- Huge Sliding Hill
- Snow-tubing
- Giant Inflatables
- Ice Fishing
- Snow Shoeing
- Glacial Water's Spa - Call 218-963-8700

Sample Schedule:

7:45am - 8:45am	Breakfast
9:00am - 11:45am	Kids and Adult Programs
11:50am	Prayer Cave
11:50am - 1:15pm	Buffet Lunch
12:00pm - 5:00pm	Free Time Activities
5:15pm - 6:16pm	Dinner
6:30pm - 8:30pm	Kids and Adult Programs
8:30pm	Family Free Time

(Note: This is just a sample schedule. You will receive a full schedule upon arrival),

Prayer Cave

This is an optional event following our morning session. It is 10-15 minutes of prayer in the Oak Room. Feel free to drop on by to pray with others at Winter Weekend.

Grand View Lodge

Grand View offers a variety of amenities like the Glacial Waters Spa and coffee shop. To book a spa time call 218-963-8700. **We would ask that you do not charge anything to your room while at Winter Weekend, but rather use your personal credit card or cash.**

Kid's Programs

All kids from newborns to 9th grade will have age-appropriate programs in the Gull Lake Center, led by the KC's. The groups will be divided into four groups consisting of infants; children up through third grade; fourth through sixth grade; and seventh through ninth grade. High school students can apply to be in the KC program or may be part of the adult program.

All kids will experience the love of Jesus Christ with games, activities, crafts, scripture, songs and stories. Get ready for high flying action. Note that all groups except the infants will be doing outdoor activities and should bring outdoor gear to all programs!

Adult Program

The main focus of our adult time is Club, which features awesome music, humorous skits, relevant presentations, and small group discussions. We meet 2 times each day in the Norway Conference Center. Kids will join us for the first 25 minutes of Club on Saturday night and Sunday morning and then they will join us for the last part of Club on Monday. Except during the times where all the kids join us at club, we would ask that you do not bring children to the adult sessions.



KCs (Kid Counselors)

The kid's programs are led by a group of nearly 40 trained high school and college students who are directed by our adult teachers. These KC's (Kid Counselors) do a great job leading these programs. Your children will have a great time playing games, singing songs, and hearing about a great God who loves them very much.



Lodging

One of the best parts of Family Fest's Winter Weekend is Grand View Lodge's housing. Typical units will have a bedroom with 2 queen beds and a private bath. Most have a kitchenette and a small living room. Some of the larger units have several bedrooms connected to one common living room. This works well if you are coming with friends or family and would like to be housed together.

Note: All housing for Winter Weekend are handled through Family Fest. Please do not call Grand View Lodge for housing questions, but rather refer those to Family Fest.



What to bring

For your kids:

Lots of outdoor clothes (labeled with child's name on them), night-lights, swimming diapers, baby gates, porta-cribs, sleeping bags (if your kids want to use them), room snacks & beverages, humidifier (rooms can get dry), fan (for blocking noise if you are a light sleeper). Grand View has high chairs and booster seats.

Fun Stuff :

Bring ice skates, skating helmets, hockey sticks, sleds, cross country or downhill skis, and other sporting equipment, swim suits, goggles, warm clothes, games, cards, movies, etc. Please, label any items you bring that others may use!!

Treats:

In addition to your own room snacks, it would be great if you would bring a pan of nut-free bars or cookies to share during adult Club time. These will be out during breaks along with coffee, tea and water.

Sunday Night Adult Dinner:

On Sunday night, we will have a special dinner for adults only. Some people will dress up (business casual) for this dinner, but there are no expectations.

Allergies & Special Diets:

Family Fest desires to meet the needs of everyone who comes to Winter Weekend. We understand that some people may have allergies or special dietary needs.

It is important that we know about allergies or other pertinent medical information of children so we can alert the teachers and KC's. If you have a child with an allergy or medical condition, please go to <http://familyfestministries.org/camp-allergy-diet-form/> and fill out the form for each individual.

We will do our best to meet those with special diet needs with substitute/alternate food options. If you have special dietary needs, please download the Family Fest Dietary Needs Form from our website and send it to us one week before camp.

Our Speaker

We are very blessed to have Fr. Kevin Finnegan as our speaker for January Winter Weekend! Fr. Kevin has been a long-time friend and cheerleader of Family Fest.

He is the pastor at Our Lady of Grace in Edina, MN. He grew up in Chicago and is still ecstatic that the Cubs won the World Series.



We are so thrilled to have him as he is a gifted speaker with a deep and passionate faith as well as a hearty laugh.



Directions To Grand View and more.

To Grand View Lodge from Twin Cities

Address: 23521 Nokomis Avenue, Nisswa, MN 56468

From the Twin Cities, take Interstate 94 west to the Clearwater/Annandale exit (#178). Turn right through Clearwater and Clear Lake. In Clear Lake, take Highway 10 west past St. Cloud and Little Falls to Highway 371. Stay on 371 to Baxter. Proceed 13 miles north on Highway 371 to the second intersection of County Road 77. There will be a Holiday Gas Station on your left. Turn left and follow County Road 77 for one mile to the resort on left. (Travel time 2 hours, 45 minutes from the Twin Cities) Link to Grand View's website for map: www.grandviewlodge.com.

To Roy Lake Ice Houses

To get to the ice houses, take Nokomis to Cty Rd. 77 and turn left. After about a 1/4 mile, turn right onto Lower Roy Lake Road. Turn left (3rd left) on Lodge Road. There is a small area to park near 3786 Lodge Road. The fish houses are red and green. You may also dial "0" on the house phone and request a shuttle.

To Ski Gull:

Ski Gull is 7.7 miles from Grand View Lodge. Go west on Cty Rd 77 around Gull Lake. Ski Gull will be on your left.

To The Preserve Sliding Hill:

From Grand View Lodge – Take Hwy 371 North 5.7 miles; turn right on CR 107; continue approx. 2.3 miles; turn left at Preserve sign.



Other Questions???

If you have other questions, please call us at 952.881.0939 (office) or 612-865-7884 (Pete Larson's cell).
Website: www.familyfestministries.org.