



## Registration Packet

Please find the following enclosed:

- Leader's Letter
- Cloud 9 Expectations for a new Youth Pastor
- Group Registration Form
- Workshop Letter
- Workshop Registration Form  
(If this is your first time attending Cloud 9, you don't have to plan and lead a workshop, unless you want to!)
- Talent Show Registration Form
- Schedule
- Directions to Camp Michindoh (4545 E. Bacon Road, Hillsdale, MI 49242)

Cloud 9 Group Registration forms and payment must reach Donnell Wyche by **October 16, 2009**. *The cost of this year's event is \$89 per person for the **first 200 people registered by August 23rd**. After that, it's **\$99 until September 23rd** and **\$109 until October 16th**. Registrations received after Oct 20th, will be subject to a \$20 late fee and may not receive a T-shirt due to time constraints.*

All registration forms and payments should be made payable to **Vineyard Church of Ann Arbor** and mailed to:

Vineyard Church of Ann Arbor  
Attention: Donnell Wyche  
2275 Platt Road  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
(734) 477-9135 x115 - voice  
(734) 468-0119 - fax

All documents included in this registration packet are available in PDF format: **[www.cloud9retreat.com](http://www.cloud9retreat.com)**.

In preparation for this year's retreat the Cloud 9 website ([www.cloud9retreat.com](http://www.cloud9retreat.com)) has been updated with the Cloud 9 Video, photos, and this year's retreat information. If you need additional information or assistance, please feel free to contact one of us directly.





Hey there,

The Great Lakes Region youth pastors would like to invite you to the Cloud 9 youth retreat on October 23-25, 2009. The retreat will be held at Camp Michindoh in Hillsdale, MI for the eighth year in a row and is open to senior high and middle school students.

At its core, Cloud 9 provides an opportunity for students to meet with God through worship, prayer ministry, and teaching, with opportunities to hang out, show off, play, sleep, eat, and laugh thrown in for good measure. The retreat is designed to stoke the fire that fuels our furnace, as well as provide a framework for students to embrace the intimacy of the Father's heart. This framework provides the inner motivation that makes Christianity an inside-out experience. Within this context, students gain practical skills for hearing His voice and for recognizing promptings from the Spirit that open the door to God's extravagant grace. We'd love to have you and the students from your church join us in receiving the good gifts God has planned for us this fall.

**Will this retreat change your life, set you on fire, blow your socks off?** Nah, probably not (unless you bring those plug-in electrical socks they advertise on cable late at night). But, God might. Whenever we've gathered to worship and seek him together over the last several years, it seems he's honored our meager faith and met us powerfully. We've got no reason to think this fall will be any different and expect that God wants to touch his kids again. And, of course, we'll work out some sort of discount or medical attention if you get second or third degree burns in the process.

The retreat kicks off on Friday night. Workshops, free time, and a talent show are sandwiched by sessions Saturday morning and evening, and the retreat closes with a celebration on Sunday morning. The cost of this year's event is different, depending on when you register. For the first 200 people who register by August 23rd, the cost will be \$89 per person. After that, the cost will be \$99 until September 23rd. Then, the cost goes up to \$109 until October 16th. The registration fee includes lodging, an event t-shirt, snacks on Friday evening, and meals on Saturday and Sunday morning. You can purchase additional meals on Friday evening or Sunday afternoon for \$5 per person/meal.

**Want more info?** Great! Registration information is available online at <http://www.cloud9retreat.com/>. We have a couple videos online that might give you a helpful peek at what Cloud 9 is like. Feel free to show them to students, youth leaders, parents, etc. For other questions, someone will be contacting you in the next couple of weeks to check in, make sure you received this letter, and see what registration material you will need. We look forward to seeing you!

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donnell P. Wyche". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "D".

Donnell Wyche  
Vineyard Church of Ann Arbor  
2275 Platt Road  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
donnell.wyche@cloud9retreat.com  
www.cloud9retreat.com  
(734) 477-9135 x115  
(734) 418-8436 - cell





## Cloud 9 Expectations for a New Youth Pastor

Cloud 9 is not your typical youth retreat. Most retreats are at some camp that has worship, funny comedic bits, helpful seminars, and a series of talks with a related topic that is relevant to youth culture. Cloud 9 does have those aspects, but turned on its head.

### **The Facility:**

Camp Michindoh is great facility that is on a nice little lake in Hillsdale, MI. We are the only people at the camp which makes it convenient. The camp offers cabins with bunk-beds and bathroom facilities. Four meals are served in a buffet style in the dining hall, which is located in the center of the camp. The main meetings are located in the rec-center which is a multipurpose facility that holds all 500 of us. Seminars are held in the main lodge in different rooms throughout the conference center. Check out the camp at [www.campmichindoh.com](http://www.campmichindoh.com).

### **The Retreat:**

There are no funny comedic bits to relate to the kids and make them feel at ease because this retreat is about worship. The retreat is designed to stoke the fire that fuels our furnace and to provide a framework for students to embrace the intimacy of the Father's heart, which provides the inner motivation that makes Christianity an inside-out experience. Within this framework students will gain practical skills for hearing his voice, and recognizing those promptings from the Spirit that open the door to God's extravagant grace.

### **The Worship:**

Worship is intense and awesome. Picture 500 students and leaders rockin' out worshipping God. It is a sight to see.

### **The Talks:**

There are four main sessions throughout the weekend with three of those featuring three talks. Talks are relevant in the sense that it deals with our need for the Father, not "How can I be a better boyfriend?" On the surface the talks don't seem to apply, but the kids pay attention and follow along because the Holy Spirit is driving this whole weekend. Following the talks Cloud 9 provides for a time for ministry that allows those that attend to express what God is doing in their heart.

### **The Ministry Time:**

Ministry time is a sweet time in which the students are allowed to respond to what God stirred in their hearts during the talk. Leaders from all of the groups are available to pray with the students in pairs and are asked to pray with same sex students (guys w/ guys, girls w/ girls).

### **The Workshops:**

Workshops run the gambit of youth seminars from spiritual disciplines to the typical dating workshop. All of the workshops are lead by pastors and leaders from the region. There are two sessions that allow the students to hit two different topics. A majority of the workshops are located in the same building which makes it easy to herd the students into different workshops.

**Free Time:**

There is a scheduled free time on Saturday for two hours which allows everyone to decompress from the first two sessions. Anyone can do things ranging from taking a nap to canoeing to nothing. Free time is just that, free. There is scheduled stuff to do that will be available for all to do.

**Expectations:**

Cloud 9 is produced with the help of volunteers, pastors and leaders from all over the Great Lakes Region. Pastors and leaders are asked to help in many areas such as leading a workshop, organizing an activity during the free time, making sure one's students as well as other students are having an awesome time, etc. If you want to serve, you can. If you want to just sit back and enjoy, go for it. I did that the first time I went to Cloud 9.

**Extra:**

Following the retreat is a debriefing meeting which allows all of the youth pastors to voice their opinions from the retreat and implement change for next year's retreat. I have enjoyed the meeting because I can vocalize praise, concerns, and ideas. As a newcomer to the retreat, my insights were valued because they are fresh and unadulterated. It was cool to see my suggestions being put into action for next year's retreat. I would encourage you to call other youth pastors in the area to get their take on the retreat and ask them questions that are your mind.



# Group Registration Form

Registrations Due: **October 16th**

Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (church): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (leader): \_\_\_\_\_

Leader(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Male Students: \_\_\_\_\_ Female Students: \_\_\_\_\_ Male Leaders: \_\_\_\_\_ Female Leaders: \_\_\_\_\_

Fri. Dinner \$5 \* \_\_\_\_\_ persons = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Sun. Lunch \$5 \* \_\_\_\_\_ persons = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

T-Shirts \_\_\_\_\_ S \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_\_ XL \_\_\_\_\_ XXL (+\$) 2 Leader Shirts: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return form along with payment payable to:

**Vineyard Church of Ann Arbor**

**Attention: Donnell Wyche**

2275 Platt Road

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Fax: (734) 468-0119 Phone: (734) 477-9135 x125





## Workshops Letter

It's that time of year again and the Cloud 9 Leaders are excited about Cloud 9 this year! We have received a lot of input about Cloud 9 workshops, and have incorporated it into the organization of this year's workshop plan. The intent is to create a balance of workshop topics geared towards living Christian life as a whole.

There will be one workshop on dating and purity separated by gender. The other workshops will be based on an "easy to read" yet insightful book by Andy Stanley and Stuart Hall called '*The Seven Checkpoints: Seven Principles Every Teenager Needs to Know*'. There is a leader manual and a student journal, both of which will be helpful in topic preparation. We strongly encourage those who would like to lead a workshop to base their main subject matter on one of the seven checkpoints outlined in this book. This doesn't mean we are limited to seven workshops, as each point has many aspects for consideration and discussion. Nor does this mean you have to use the book in your workshop. We are just asking you select your subject material based on one of the checkpoints. Below is a brief list of what the checkpoints are about, their principles, and their critical questions:

### #1 Authentic Faith

**Principal:** God can be trusted. He will do all He has promised.

**Critical Question:** Do your students trust God with the critical area of their lives?

**Description:** This checkpoint focuses on a correct understanding of faith. Confusion in this one area is the primary reason so many students abandon Christianity. True faith is confidence that God is who He says He is – and confidence that He will do everything He has promised to do.

### #2 Spiritual Disciplines

**Principal:** When you see as God sees, you will do as God says.

**Critical Question:** Are your students developing a consistent devotional and prayer life?

**Description:** The focus of this checkpoint is your students' devotional life. The apostle Paul says that true spiritual transformation begins with a renewed mind. Only as teenagers begin to renew their minds according to the truths of Scripture will their attitudes and behavior begin to change.

### #3 Moral Boundaries

**Principal:** Purity paves the way to intimacy

**Critical Question:** Are you establishing and maintaining godly moral boundaries?

**Description:** One of the most important things you can teach your teenagers to do is to establish clear moral limits. They need to learn how to protect their bodies and emotions by honoring God's plan for sex and morality. That's the focus of this checkpoint. The depth of their intimacy with God and others is dependent upon it.

### #4 Healthy Friendships

**Principal:** Your friends will determine the direction and quality of your life.

**Critical Question:** Are you establishing healthy friendships and avoiding unhealthy ones?

**Description:** The people your students associate with most will have a direct impact on the decisions they make and the standards they choose. Healthy friendships build them up and draw them closer to God; unhealthy friendships bring them down and cause them to compromise what they know is right. This principle focuses on helping students build healthy friendships while avoiding unhealthy ones.

#### **#5 Wise Choices**

**Principal:** Walk wisely

**Critical Question:** Are you making wise choices in every area of your life?

**Description:** This principle focuses on the necessity of applying godly wisdom to the choices students make. Good decision making is more than simply choosing between right and wrong. Teenagers need to learn to ask, "In light of my past experience and my future dreams, what is the wise thing for me to do in this situation?"

#### **#6 Ultimate Authority**

**Principal:** Maximum freedom is found under God's authority

**Critical Question:** Are you submitting to the authorities God has placed over you?

**Description:** Teenagers often view freedom and authority as opposing concepts. But the Bible teaches that true freedom is found under authority. This principle focuses on students' need to recognize God's ultimate authority and respect the earthly authorities He has placed over them.

#### **#7 Others First**

**Principal:** Consider others before yourself

**Critical Question:** Are you putting the needs of others ahead of your own?

**Description:** Selfishness comes naturally to teenagers (not to mention the rest of us!) Selflessness, however, must be learned. The Bible says that Jesus "made himself nothing" in order to serve the people He loved. He put the needs of others ahead of His own. This checkpoint focuses on the true nature of humility and service.

## **The Books:**

The Seven Checkpoints: Seven Principles Every Teenager Needs to Know  
For Youth Leaders  
Andy Stanley and Stuart Hall  
Howard Publishing  
ISBN: 1-58229-177-2

The Seven Checkpoints: Seven Principles Every Teenager Needs to Know  
Student Journal  
Andy Stanley and Stuart Hall  
Howard Publishing  
ISBN: 1-58229-178-0



# Workshops

The workshops are a vital part of the Cloud 9 experience. Because of this, we are asking that every church\* sign up to plan and lead at least ONE workshop. Please include your Seven Checkpoints Principle in your workshop description.

**Name of Workshop:**

**Workshop Description:**

**Workshop Leader:**

**Church:**

\*If this is your first time attending Cloud 9, you aren't required to host a workshop.

You can register for your workshop via  
[www.cloud9retreat.com/workshops](http://www.cloud9retreat.com/workshops) or fax your completed form to  
734.468.0119 by October 1st.





# Talent Show Registration

The talent show will take place Saturday night in the Gym, right after the Saturday Night Session. To participate in the talent show, please have your students fill out this form describing their act (one form for each act). Either send your form back with your Cloud 9 Retreat registration forms or keep them until the retreat and turn them in to one of the interns. There will be additional forms available at the retreat if you decide to fill one out there. The deadline for turning in the talent show form is the Saturday Morning Session. Any forms turned in after the session will not be included in the talent show.

**Name(s):**

**Description of Talent/Act:**

**Category**  Comedy  Inspirational  General Talent

**Length of Act (5 min max)**

**Church:**

Questions? Email Jon Bartholomay at [jon@milanvineyard.org](mailto:jon@milanvineyard.org).

\*\*There will be no gong at the talent show. Every student will be able to complete their entire act.





# Schedule

## Friday

6pm	Dinner (Weatherwood Center)
6:45	Arrive and Register (Weatherwood Center)
8pm	Leader Welcome and Orientation (The Forum)
8:30	Opening Worship (Gymnasium)
9:15	First Teaching Session & Ministry Time
10:30	Snack (Gymnasium)
11pm	In Cabins & Lights Out

## Saturday

7:30	Divine Hours / (Weatherwood Center - Michigan Room)
8am	Leaders Breakfast / (Weatherwood Center - The Atrium)
8:30	Breakfast (Group A) / (Weatherwood Center)
9am	Breakfast (Group B) / (Weatherwood Center)
9am	Leaders Meeting (The Forum)
9:30	Opening Worship (Gymnasium)
10:15	Second Teaching Session & Ministry Time
12pm	Lunch (Group A) / (Weatherwood Center)
12:30	Lunch (Group B) / (Weatherwood Center)
1:05	Workshops
2:15	Workshops
3:20	Free Time
5:30	Dinner (Group A) / (Weatherwood Center)
6pm	Dinner (Group B) / (Weatherwood Center)
6:45	Evening Worship / (Gymnasium)
7:30	Third Teaching Session & Ministry Time
10pm	Talent Show
11:30	In Cabins & Lights Out

## Sunday

8am	Divine Hours / (Weatherwood Center - Michigan Room)
8:30	Breakfast (Group A) / (Weatherwood Center)
9am	Breakfast (Group B) / (Weatherwood Center)
9:30	Opening Worship (Gymnasium)
10:30	Testimonies
11:15	Communion
11:35	Video
12pm	Clean up, Pack & Go Home
12:30	Lunch (Optional) / (Weatherwood Center)



## Directions to Michindoh Retreat Center

4545 E. Bacon Road  
Hillsdale, MI 49242  
<http://www.michindoh.com/>

From **Ft Wayne**: (approx. 1 hr 30 min)

Go North on I-69 to Michigan - 47 miles  
Continue North on I-69 to US 12 - 13 miles  
Go East (R) on US 12 to State Rte 99 just before Jonesville - 16 miles  
Go Southeast (R) on State Rte 99 (road jogs) - 5 miles  
In Downtown Hillsdale go East (L) on E. Bacon Rd - 4 miles  
Michindoh is on your right

From **Battle Creek** (approx. 1 hr) / **Kalamazoo** : (approx. 1 hr 30 min)

Go East on 94 to I-69  
Go South on I-69 to US 12 in Coldwater  
Go East (L) on US 12 to State Rte 99 just before Jonesville - 16 miles  
Go Southeast (R) on State Rte 99 (road jogs) - 5 miles  
In Downtown Hillsdale go East (L) on E. Bacon Rd - 4 miles  
Michindoh is on your right

From **Adrian** : (approx. 40 min)

Go West on State Rte 34 to State Rte 99 - 29 miles  
Continue West 3 mile to Lake Pleasant Rd  
Go North (R) on Lake Pleasant Rd to E Bacon Rd (follow airport signs - road jogs)  
Go East (R) on E Bacon Rd for 2 mile  
Michindoh is on your right

From **Toledo** : (approx. 1 hr 15 min)

Take I-80/90 West to Hwy 15 (Exit #2)  
Go North (R) on Hwy 15 to M99 in Michigan  
Continue on M99 to M34 intersection  
Go West (L) 3 mile on M34 to Lake Pleasant Rd  
Go North (R) on Lake Pleasant Rd to E Bacon Rd (follow airport signs - road jogs)  
Go East (R) on E Bacon Rd for 2 mile  
Michindoh is on your right

From **Jackson** : (approx 40 min)

(When you give these directions to a guest, make sure the back roads are clear.)  
Go South on 127 to US 12 - cross US 12  
Go about 2 mile and veer to the right (staying on 127)  
Go through Addison to Church Rd (look for green road sign) - 8 miles (after you veer)  
Go West (R) on Church Rd to Waldron Rd - 2.7 miles  
Go South (L) on Waldron Rd 1 mile to E Bacon Rd  
Go West (R) on E Bacon Rd - 7.4 miles  
Michindoh is on your left

From **Indianapolis** : (approx. 3 ½ hrs)

Go North on I-69 to Michigan  
Continue North on I-69 to US 12 - 13 miles  
Go East (R) on US 12 to State Rte 99 just before Jonesville - 16 miles  
Go Southeast (R) on State Rte 99 (road jogs) - 5 miles  
In Downtown Hillsdale go East (L) on E. Bacon Rd - 4 miles  
Michindoh is on your right

From **South Bend** (approx. 2 hrs) / **Chicago** (approx. 3 ½ hrs)

Go East on I-80/90 to I-69.

Go North on I-69 to Michigan

Continue North on I-69 to US 12 - 13 miles

Go East (R) on US 12 to State Rte 99 just before Jonesville - 16 miles

Go Southeast (R) on State Rte 99 (road jogs) - 5 miles

In Downtown Hillsdale go East (L) on E. Bacon Rd - 4 miles

Michindoh is on your right

From **Grand Rapids** (approx. 2 hrs) / **Holland** (approx. 2 ½ hrs) :

Go South on 131 to I-94

Go East on I-94 through Battle Creek to I-69

Go South on I-69 to US 12 in Coldwater

Go East (L) on US 12 to State Rte 99 just before Jonesville - 16 miles

Go Southeast (R) on State Rte 99 (road jogs) - 5 miles

In Downtown Hillsdale go East (L) on E. Bacon Rd - 4 miles

Michindoh is on your right

From **Findlay** (approx. 1 ½ hrs) / **Columbus** (approx. 3 ½ hrs) :

Go North on I-75 to I-80/90

Take I-80/90 West through Toledo to Hwy 15 (Exit # 2)

Go North (R) on Hwy 15 to M99 in Michigan

Continue on M99 to M34 intersection

Go West (L) 3 mile on M34 to Lake Pleasant Rd

Go North (R) on Lake Pleasant Rd to E Bacon Rd (follow airport signs - road jogs)

Go East (R) on E Bacon Rd for 2 mile

Michindoh is on your right

From **Cleveland** (approx. 3 ½ hrs) :

Go West on I-80/90 through Toledo to Hwy 15 (Exit #2)

Go North (R) on Hwy 15 to M99 in Michigan

Continue on M99 to M34 intersection

Go West (L) 3 mile on M34 to Lake Pleasant Rd

Go North (R) on Lake Pleasant Rd to E Bacon Rd (follow airport signs - road jogs)

Go East (R) on E Bacon Rd for 2 mile

Michindoh is on your right

From **Ann Arbor** (approx. 1hr 15 min) / **Detroit** (approx. 2 hrs) :

Go West on I-94 to 127 (just before Jackson)

Go South on 127 to US 12 - cross US 12

Go about 2 mile and veer to the right (staying on 127)

Go through Addison to Church Rd (look for green road sign) - 8 miles (after you veer)

Go West (R) on Church Rd to Waldron Rd - 2.7 miles

Go South (L) on Waldron Rd 1 mile to E Bacon Rd

Go West (R) on E Bacon Rd - 7.4 miles

Michindoh is on your left

From **Lansing** (approx. 1hr 15min) :

Go South on 127 to I-94 (Jackson)

Jog East on I-94 a couple miles

Continue South on 127 to US 12 - cross US 12

Go about 2 mile and veer to the right (staying on 127)

Go through Addison to Church Rd (look for green road sign)- 8 miles (after you veer)

Go West (R) on Church Rd to Waldron Rd - 2.7 miles

Go South (L) on Waldron Rd 1 mile to E Bacon Rd

Go West (R) on E Bacon Rd - 7.4 miles

Michindoh is on your left