

# WE WILL FOLLOW THE WAY OF JESUS CHRIST

## **The Happening Experience**

A Happening is an encounter with Jesus Christ! That may sound simple, but is it? Think about it. Think about having a real meeting with the Living Lord. Think about the cost, beauty, power and joy of being with Him! The Happening Movement believes that Christianity is relevant today, that it can penetrate the many areas of daily life and can transform the world and keep up with the changing times. Happening provides no new type of spirituality, but does provide a method through which one's spirituality may be developed and nourished, lived and shared with Christians willing to dedicate their lives to God in an ongoing manner. The Happening Movement believes that Jesus Christ has and will continue to make a difference in the world and in individual lives.

## **Renewal**

The Bishop's Happening Movement is a powerful instrument of renewal in the church. Its aim is to concentrate closely on the person and teachings of Jesus Christ. Our faith is seriously examined in a relaxed, fun and informal atmosphere. Happening is an experience that gives those who attend the desire to understand and serve the church. What's more, it provides the means to continue the Christian formation, which is just begun in the three-day program.

## **Format**

The student who is "Rector", the clergy, and the staff of mostly students, spend weeks working and praying together in preparation. Happening takes careful planning, as it is frequently the turning point in a student's life. During the weekend, those attending will listen to talks given by students and clergy, talks which are both stimulating and challenging. The subject is intensive, and after each talk, opportunity is given for questions and discussion in smaller groups.

## **Not a Retreat**

Happening is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. It is similar to a retreat, but very different and not a substitute for a retreat. The teachings of Jesus Christ are discussed in a feeling of joy and happiness, and there will be lots of singing and some games. Happening encourages participation in one's home parish. Because of the experience and its pointing back to the local church, Happening makes future retreats more enriched.

## **When?**

The Happening weekend begins Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. SHARP! It is over around 5 p.m. on Sunday. It is a lock-in, so prepare to stay the entire time. The Diocese of West Texas holds Happening three times each year: the first weekend of March, the first weekend of August and the weekend just before Thanksgiving.

## **Who Can Attend?**

Any Episcopalian in the 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades can attend. Limited space is available for members of other denominations. A small number of adults may also attend.

## **What to Bring?**

Bring a sleeping bag or bedding, a pillow, towel, toilet articles, swimsuit, and casual, comfortable clothing. Please bring an open mind.

## **But .... Hurry!**

Please fill out this application and return it (with your priest's or youth leader's signature) as soon as possible. The weekends fill up quickly and we want to assure you of your place. After we receive your application, we will send you an acceptance letter. The weekends usually fill up 4 to 5 weeks before the Happening, so don't delay!

## **Refunds?**

Don't worry. If you find that you cannot attend after you have registered, please notify us at least two weeks before the weekend and we will return your registration fee or sign you up for another weekend.

## **Interested? Join Us!**

Questions? Phone (888) 824-5387 or (210) 824-5387 and ask for Jean Beere or email her at [jean.beere@dwtx.org](mailto:jean.beere@dwtx.org)