



The Bridge

21st Annual

Sleepout

24-hour Fundraiser

Dear Church Friends,

Will you consider participating in the 21st Annual Sleepout? The Sleepout is our annual fundraiser aimed at raising funds and awareness of the need in our area and our ministry. It starts at 3 pm the day after Thanksgiving, Friday, November 24, and continues until 3 pm Saturday, November 25, 2023, in the parking lot of the Guthrie Desmond Street Practice, 105 Desmond Street, Sayre PA. We are challenging each member church of *The Bridge* to support the Sleepout by providing 2-4 representatives to weather the cold in our makeshift house with a Bridge board member (ideally one of your own representatives!) for a **one-hour block of time** in support of those who will suffer this winter without heat. These representatives could be from a youth group, women's group, men's group, support group, choir, club, an individual family, or other interested individuals. If every member church signs up for one hour, each of our 24 hours will be blessed with a Christ-centered love and compassion for those in need in our community! Please help make that happen!



See “The 5 W’s of *The Bridge*’s 20th Annual Sleepout” on the next page for more information about the event. Also, included are a flyer to post, a bulletin insert/handout, and current Bridge brochure with a reproducible copy as well. For questions or to secure your one-hour time slot, contact Kim at 570-867-2628 (call or text) or sleepout@thevalleybridge.org.

Thank you for your partnership with us as together we endeavor to make a difference in the lives of those in need in the Valley community since 1987. Please help us make our 21st Annual Sleepout the most effective Sleepout to date!

Sincerely,
Kim Paul, Joan Schoonover, and Wendy McKeithan
The 2023 Sleepout Team



The 5 W's of *The Bridge's* 21st Annual Sleepout

WHO can participate? Anyone who would like to support the ministry of *The Bridge of the Penn-York Valley Churches* and those in need in our community.

WHAT can I do? Bring excitement, energy, and awareness to the 21st Annual Sleepout. Here are ways to help:

- Pray for the Sleepout, the ministry of *The Bridge*, and those served.
- Sign-up for a one-hour block of time during the Sleepout with 1-3 others from your church to “sleepout” representing your church and *The Bridge* in the community.
- Have your choir, chorus, band, ensemble, puppeteers, youth group, women’s group, men’s group, support group, or drama group “sleepout” during a one-hour time slot.
- Donors will be recognized on our website. Levels include:

Diamond - \$2,500 and over	Silver - \$250
Platinum - \$1,000	Bronze - \$125
Gold/Voucher - \$500	Other
- Ask your employer to support and participate in the Sleepout.
- Contact us to get involved in the year-round ministry of *The Bridge*.

WHEN is it and when do I sign up? The Sleepout starts the day after Thanksgiving, Friday, November 24 at 3p until Saturday, November 25 at 3p. Sign up today to get your desired one-hour time slot. Contact Kim at 570-867-2628 (call or text) or sleepout@thevalleybridge.org to secure your spot!

WHERE is it located? In the parking lot of Guthrie Desmond Street Practice which is located on the corner of Desmond Street and West Packer Avenue (105 Desmond Street, Sayre PA).

WHY does it start on Black Friday? *The Bridge's* annual Sleepout has started on the day after Thanksgiving since 2002 because it follows a day of thanks and plenty when most people have eaten enough or maybe too much. Many individuals are starting to think about purchasing Christmas gifts. The visibility and bustle of the Sayre Christmas parade has been important for the Sleepout allowing visitors to see our makeshift home, observe volunteers shivering in the cold air, and recognize that in this time of excess, many people in our community do not have full bellies, full shopping bags, or a warm home.



The **Sleepout** is a fundraiser where *Bridge* board members, groups from member churches, and local businesses sign up to weather the cold in a makeshift home without heat for one-hour blocks of time with the purpose of raising funds and awareness of the needs of the community and the ministry of *The Bridge*.