



Our 26th Annual Middle School Conference

Massanetta Middle School Conference transforms the faith journeys of hundreds of middle schoolers from all around the country. Every aspect of this conference is crafted with middle schoolers in mind. Conference activities like keynote, recreation, encounter groups, and workshops are centered on the theme *“created. claimed. called. y’all are mine”* and our key scripture verse **Isaiah 43:1-2.**

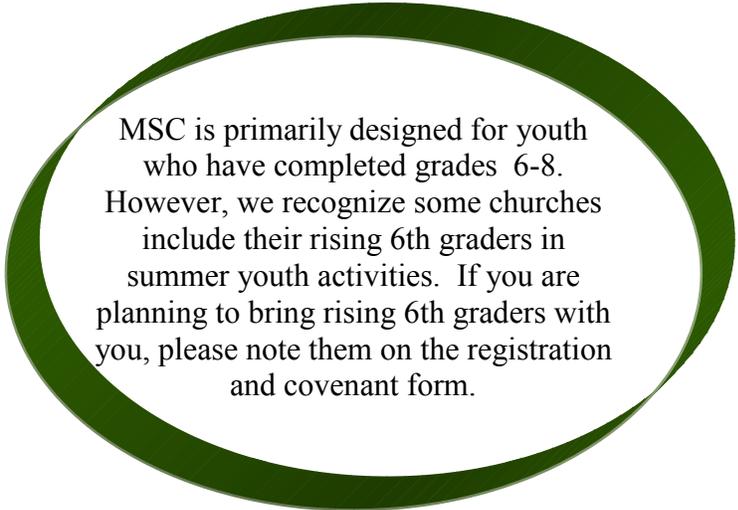
*“Do not fear for I have redeemed you,
I have called you by name.”*

We promise it will be one of the best things your youth group does all year

Please read through all information included in the packet. You will find everything you need to register for MSC.

- Registration instructions
- Church Contact Sheet
- Registration/Covenant Forms
- Workshop List/Descriptions
- Scholarship Forms
- Housing Preference Form
- What to Bring List

If you have any questions, please feel free to call **Nola Avey, Registrar for MSC at 540.434.3829** or e-mail at **nolaa@massanettasprings.org**



MSC is primarily designed for youth who have completed grades 6-8. However, we recognize some churches include their rising 6th graders in summer youth activities. If you are planning to bring rising 6th graders with you, please note them on the registration and covenant form.

Meet our Co-Directors for 2018

Each year, four fantastic leaders say YES to the call to serve youth and adults at the MSC. Be in prayer for these directors as they are in prayer for you and your youth.

June Co-Directors

Haley Jones— Second Grade teacher from Raleigh NC, and youth advisor White Memorial PC.

Chelsey McElwee—Works for Orange County School System and lives in Carrboro, NC.

July Co-Directors

Shasta Bode-Brown— Director of Christian Education & Youth Leader, First Presbyterian Church Mt. Airy, NC.

Kelly Kaufman— Parish Associate for Children's Ministries at Olivet Presbyterian Church and the Community Outreach Coordinator for GenOn Ministries.

A Typical Conference Day

8:00-9:00 am	Breakfast
9:00-10:45 am	Theme Presentations
11:00-12:30 pm	Workshops
12:30-1:30 pm	Lunch
1:45-3:15 pm	Afternoon Recreation
3:30-5:00 pm	Free Time
5:00-6:00 pm	Dinner
6:00-7:15 pm	Theme Presentations
7:30-9:00 pm	Workshops
9:15-10:30 pm	Fun for everyone!
10:30-11:00 pm	Back Home Devos
11:15 pm	Lights out/Curfew

Important Information Listed Below!!

MSC is primarily designed for youth who have completed grades 6-8. However, we recognize some churches include their rising 6th graders in summer youth activities. If you are planning to bring rising 6th graders with you, please note them on the registration and covenant form.

Total Costs—Two Options

- ⇒ **\$370** per person for lodging in **Hotels and Cottages**; includes air-conditioned lodging, linens, meals, t-shirt, and all activities.
- ⇒ **\$315** per person for lodging in **Cabins**; bring your own linens and towels, use bath houses, air-conditioned; meals, t-shirt, and all activities included.
- ⇒ **After April 16, 2018 add \$35 to the above for June and July sessions**
- ⇒ These costs include everything but your travel.

Registrations accepted by Snail mail or e-mail

In order for your group to be registered we **MUST** receive your full packet (Group Contact information form, Registration Forms per person, and payment) Please email your packet to Nola Avey (MSC Registrar) at nolaa@massanettasprings.org. You can still **SNAIL MAIL** your packets if preferred. Just remember only complete packets will be processed!!!

Refunds

All but a \$25 fee is refunded if requested:

- ⇒ by **May 30, 2018** for the June sessions
- ⇒ by **June 12, 2018** for the July sessions

All but a \$75 fee is refunded if requested:

- ⇒ by **June 13, 2018** for the June sessions
- ⇒ by **June 27, 2018** for the July sessions

Generally there are no refunds after these dates.



NEW

Checks and Credit Cards

Payment by check is preferred. You may secure your space with a credit card # sent in with your registrations. If a check can follow, this is best for Massanetta Springs and you will not lose your place. **You are NOT registered if you send in payment only.**

Scholarships

Scholarships are provided from our 2017 offerings. If you need assistance for a youth, please complete and submit the Scholarship Form found on the website, **before registering your group**. The funds will be distributed as requests are made and typically for \$100.

What are all these housing options??

The Hotel consists of 2-room suites with 2 twin beds in each room (some have an additional trundle for a group of 3). A hall bathroom connects the 2 rooms. The Hotel is air-conditioned with all linens provided.

Wilson and Virginia Cottages sleep 20-24 & have air-conditioning, a meeting space, and linens provided. The cottages are for large groups and may be requested.

The **Cabins** in our wooded area are available at the reduced rate of \$315. All cabins sleep 8 persons and are air-conditioned. **Please bring your own linens.** The bath house is a short walk from each cabin.

What are Encounter Groups?

Adults and youth are divided into 22 Encounter Groups based on workshop choices and to balance age, gender, and church representation. Your “back home” group will be together at theme presentations, during meals, during free time, and at “back home” time.

Adults and youth from the same church will not be in the same group unless your group is larger than 22.

Adult Advisors

You will need **one** Adult Advisor (**21 years or older**) for every **seven** youth you bring of each gender.

Adult Advisors fully participate in all of the MSC.

What to do if you are short an Adult Advisor?

We are unable to register your group without the ratio of Adult Advisors, but we may be able to help “connect you” with another group. Please call the Registrar.

When to Arrive and Depart

Arrive between **1:00 and 3:45 pm**. If your group arrives after 3:45 pm, you will miss important opening activities. The conference will end around 11:30 a.m.

Child Care

The conference does not offer child care and we are unable to allow under-aged participants.

Questions? Email us at nolaa@massanettasprings.org or by phone (540) 434-3829 or toll free (888) 627-7774.

Registration Instructions Check List

The following steps should be used as a checklist to be sure that your registration materials are ready to be sent to Massanetta Springs. Please review the following procedures and all materials to be sent in for the conference.

- ❑ Photocopy and distribute the necessary number of the **Registration/Covenant Form, Workshop List and What to Bring List**— one for every Adult and Youth Participant. (note: both youth and parent's signatures must be on registration form).
- ❑ Let everyone know the dates and how much it will cost to go to the conference: the registration fee of \$370 for Hotel lodging or \$315 for lodging in Cabins (bring your own linen for cabins), plus your travel and your other expenses. Instruct them to fill out the form completely. **Incomplete forms will delay your group's registration and could cause you to not get into the session of your choice.**
- ❑ Have the contact person for your group fill out the **Group Contact Person Information Sheet**.
- ❑ If you are requesting scholarships, please fill out scholarship form and send to registrar (nolaa@massanettasprings.org) before you send your packet in. After confirmation on scholarship request, make sure you deduct the amount rewarded from your total fee.
- ❑ Please complete and return the **Housing Preference Form**. **Our Child's Protection Policy does not allow us to house adults and youth together, with the exception of parent/child relations. This means youth and adults cannot be in the same suite that is connected by a bathroom in Richardson or Hotel Addition.**
- ❑ Collect registration forms and money from youth. Make sure that all of the forms are complete and that youth-to-adult ratios are met (one adult for every seven youth of each gender you bring...there must be a male advisor if you bring male youth and a female advisor if you bring female youth). **Please make sure you double check your registration forms before sending them in—workshops are listed, t-shirt size, age, gender, and all registrations forms are signed by both youth and parents. If registration/covenant forms are not signed by both (with exceptions of adult advisors attending), we will have you send us a completed signed form.**
- ❑ **The registration fees increase by \$35 per person if not postmarked by April 16, 2018 for both sessions.**
- ❑ **There is no official registration deadline, however, some weeks fill and close in March.**
- ❑ Write one check payable to Massanetta Springs, Inc. for the complete fees of all registrants when sending in your Contact Sheet.
- ❑ Put check, completed Registration/Covenant Forms for all registrants, the Group Contact Person Information Sheet, and the Housing Preference Form in an envelope addressed to Massanetta Springs, 712 Massanetta Springs Road, Harrisonburg, VA 22801-8325; ATTN: Middle School Registrar.
- ❑ Registrations can also be made through e-mail to our registrar Nola Avey at nolaa@massanettasprings.org or faxed to 540.433.6118 (**e-mailing—please scan as a pdf only in one file if possible**).
- ❑ We **are** able to hold your space with the credit card # and wait for a check to arrive by mail. Massanetta prefers payment by check.

Questions? Email us at nolaa@massanettasprings.org or by phone at (540) 434-3829 or toll free (888) 627-7774

Massanetta Springs Middle School Conferences 2018

Contact Person Info & Church Registration Sheet

Your Name _____ Position _____

Your Address _____

Your City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____ Day # _____ Cell # (____) _____

Are you coming to the conference with your group? Yes _____ No _____

Church Name _____ Presbytery _____

Church Address _____ Church # (____) _____

Church City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Medical Forms for your group are your responsibility. Please bring them with you and keep them with you.

_____ Enclosed is my Contact Sheet, payment option and registration forms per person

_____ No my registration forms PER PERSON are NOT included.

Refund Eligibility: All but \$25 is refunded if requested by May 30 for June sessions and June 12 for July sessions; All but \$75 is refund if requested by June 13 for June sessions and June 27 for July sessions; and generally no refunds after these dates.

Conference Session and Lodging Selection: Choose and Check one:

June 21-24: Hotels at \$370 per person _____ **OR** Cabins at \$315 per person _____

June 26-29: Hotels at \$370 per person _____ **Cabins not available this session**

July 5-8: Hotels at \$370 per person _____ **OR** Cabins at \$315 per person _____

July 10-13: Hotels at \$370 per person _____ **OR** Cabins at \$315 per person _____

Our second session choice is: _____

Participant Registration Forms to be sent in (remember the ratio of adults to youth is 7:1)

_____ Number of female youth _____ Number of female adult advisors

_____ Number of male youth _____ Number of male adult advisors

_____ TOTAL YOUTH _____ TOTAL ADULTS

Early Bird deadline—April 16 (for all sessions):

TOTAL # ATTENDING _____ x Per Person cost of \$ _____ = \$ _____

Add \$35 per person after April 16 (for all sessions):

TOTAL # ATTENDING _____ x Per Person cost of \$ _____ = \$ _____

Payment Method:

_____ Check enclosed (preferred)

_____ Hold with Card—check to follow

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Massanetta Springs
712 Massanetta Springs Road
Harrisonburg VA 22801
(888) 627-7774
www.massanettasprings.org
nolaa@massanettasprings.org

Print Name on Card: _____

Expiration Date: _____ 3-Digit Security Code: _____

Signature: _____

MSC 2018 Registration and Covenant

Please fill in everything and print or type clearly!

Participant's Name (as to appear on nametag) _____

Home Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Gender:

Female Male

Grade (current grade)

6th 7th 8th Adult

T-shirt size (ALL are adult sizes)

S M L XL XXL XXXL

YOUTH: An Adult is asked to complete this for or with the youth.

1st Parent or Guardian's Name _____

Best Email: _____ Best Phone: (____) _____

2nd Parent or Guardian's Name _____

Best Email: _____ Best Phone: (____) _____

ADULTS: Adults in attendance are asked to share this information.

Adult Participant email and cell _____ (____) _____

Emergency contact name & cell _____ (____) _____

Are there any medical (physical or mental) needs that we need to be aware of (allergies, medications, etc.)?

Are there any special dietary requests? (Please use the back of this form if you need more space)

Workshops: Top 5 choices for the 4 workshops: 1st _____ 2nd _____ 3rd _____ 4th _____ 5th _____

CIRCLE Conference Session: June 21-24 June 26-29 July 5-8 July 10-13

Church (name, city and state) _____

As a participant, I agree to the following covenant: I have willingly chosen to participate in the Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference. As a participant, I will work towards the goals of this event and the building of our group into a Christian community by:

- participating wholeheartedly and enthusiastically in all activities planned for my group
- speaking up when I have a problem or need
- listening and responding to the needs of others
- following the guidance of all adult leadership
- respecting the rights and property of others, and abiding by the rules of the Conference Center
- not using or promoting the use of controlled substances (alcohol, drugs, tobacco, flammables)
- not leaving the event grounds without my adult leader present
- encouraging others to understand and abide by this covenant, and striving to live as a supportive member of the group, and as a good example to those with whom we are in contact.

I understand that abiding in this covenant will result in a positive group experience. I understand that failure to abide by these guidelines may result in being sent home at my parent's/guardian's expense.

Participant's Signature (Youth and Adult Leaders) _____

As the parent/guardian of this participant, in signing this Registration Form, I agree to the following:

- I give permission for my son/daughter to participate in the Middle School Conference.
- I am aware of and approve of the planned costs, dates, places, and activities of this event.
- I understand the degree of risk (if any) involved in this event and because I trust the adult leadership and my child, I hereby release Massanetta Springs Conference Center, and any of the adult leadership at the Middle School Conference, from any liability for any injury or problem occurring during participation in this event.
- I give permission for the use of photography including my child to be used for Middle School Conference publicity.
- **I have completed all the Registration Form** and it is correct to the best of my knowledge.

I understand that all reasonable attempts will be made to contact me in the case of an accident involving my son or daughter. In the event that I cannot be reached, I hereby give permission to the physician selected by my youth's adult advisor, or the Conference leadership, to hospitalize, secure proper treatment for, and to order injection, anesthesia, or surgery for my son or daughter.

Parent's/Guardian's Signature (not required for Adult Leaders) _____

2018 Middle School Conference
Created. Claimed. Called – Y'all are mine!
Workshop Selections

When selecting workshops for the registration form, please use **numbers** only.

1. Side by Side	We will take a look at issues facing people around the world and close to home. Then explore ways we can walk side by side through mission and service.
2. God's got you	God says "you are mine," but what does that really mean? We will spend time reflecting and journaling about how being claimed as a child of God empowers us to pass through the waters of life without fear.
3. Called by Name	Hello, my name is _____. Come to this workshop to learn about names and their meanings. We will explore and create symbols that represent families of all kinds.
4. Pass Through The Waters	It takes trust to walk through the waters with God. Get up and get moving and take a playful approach to life's challenges.
5. Survivor: 'Netta edition	This workshop will equip you, physically, mentally and spiritually for whatever life throws at you.
6. #followme	Can you snap, 'gram, and tweet to change the world? Find out how your social media presence can reflect your faith.
7. Praisin' in the Rain	The Bible teaches us to praise God in good times and bad. Explore how music can help you through the rainy days. Here comes the "Son"!
8. Thrown by God	The God who created Jacob and Israel created each of us as unique beings. Just as a potter creates with clay, come to this workshop for a hands on experience to form your own art.
9. Rising waters	The world around us is changing, sometimes not for the better. How we live our lives can affect our world. Come learn about ways you can live responsibly in God's creation.
10. Shelter from the Storm	We often feel the waters rising and fires blazing around us. How do we address our personal storms and fires? Come pray, reflect, and meditate in a space safe from the storm.
11. God's Big Story	We are all part of God's family tree. Find out the stories of your faith ancestors and bring them to life through drama.

2018 Middle School Conferences Housing Form

There are two housing options and costs which should be noted when you register:

1. Housing in our Hotels and Cottages: \$370 per person (\$405 after **April 16, 2018** for June & July sessions); linens/towels and air-conditioning provided.
2. Housing in Cabins— Cabins with 4 twins and 2 bunks each (sleeps 8; air-conditioned) and bath houses within walking distance. **You provide linens/towels:** \$315 per person (\$350 after **April 16, 2018** for June & July sessions). Spaces limited. This is also the rate for churches who own cottages at Massanetta Springs.

For Hotel lodging, and because you know your youth best, please help us by placing your youth in suites of rooms using the chart below. We have a limited number of trundles and cots, so 3 in a room is possible. ***We thank-you in advance*** for being gracious and positive about all our housing.

- The order of receiving the church’s registrations along with the size of the church group determines where groups are housed for those selecting the hotel housing option.
- For Cabins—all male in one cabin and all female will be in another.. There are 4 twins & 2 bunks, or 8 beds per cabin. **There are limited Camp Cabins per session, so first come, first served.**
- All of our Hotel rooms are suites. A suite is made up of two rooms (each with two twin beds) that have a connecting bathroom.
- All four occupants of the suite must be of the same gender.
- **Our Child’s Protection Policy does not allow us to house adults and youth together, with the exception of parent/child relations. This means youth and adults cannot be in the same suite that is connected by a bathroom in Richardson or Hotel Addition.**
- Please indicate the adults by writing “Adult Suite” next to their names.

ROOM _____ _____

CONNECTING BATH

ROOM _____ _____

ROOM _____ _____

CONNECTING BATH

ROOM _____ _____

ROOM _____ _____

CONNECTING BATH

ROOM _____ _____

ROOM _____ _____

CONNECTING BATH

ROOM _____ _____

ROOM _____ _____

CONNECTING BATH

ROOM _____ _____

2018 Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference Scholarship Form

If you are requesting a scholarship, please send this form in before you complete your registration packet.

The 2017 Middle School Conference worship offerings have been designated to provide scholarship assistance for youth who need financial assistance for attending the 2018 MSC.

Please complete one form for each individual request.
Please request no more than 3 scholarships per church.

An adult contact person or staff member is asked to complete this form for each individual request. **Parents may not apply for scholarships.** Email or phone reply will be made promptly to each request and scholarships will be awarded as requests are received, usually in the amount of \$100. Completion of this form does not guarantee scholarship assistance.

Church Name, City, State: _____

Presbytery: _____

Contact Person: _____

Contact's Email: _____ Best Phone: _____

MSC Session Attending: _____ June 21-24 _____ June 26-29 _____ July 5-8 _____ July 10-13

Scholarship requested for: _____

Please state briefly the need for financial assistance: _____

Are there other sources of income for attending the MSC? _____

Has this person already registered for this conference? _____

Is this the youth's first Middle School Conference? _____

Other comments: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Return to: MSC Registrar (nolaa@massanettasprings.org)
712 Massanetta Springs Road, Harrisonburg VA 22801
Phone-888-627-7774 Fax- 540-433-6118

Date _____
Amount _____
Email Confirmation _____
Approved _____

Massanetta Middle School Conferences 2018 Information Sheet

Welcome! We are excited that your church has chosen to participate in the 2018 Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference. Our vision for the conference is that, with God's help, together we will strive to meet the needs and interests of 6th-8th grade youth. By providing hands-on experiences through conference-wide recreation, 11 unique workshops, theme presentations, and worship, we hope to challenge your youth in their Christian life. You can expect the conference to provide inspirational leaders, experiences, opportunities, and beautiful surroundings, but you are also an important part of this event!

ADULT ADVISOR COVENANT

You, and all the other adult advisors, play a very important role in the ministry of the conference. While you will receive more details on the first night at the Adult Advisor Orientation meeting, here are some highlights of how we will be looking to you to insure the success of the program: Please help:

- By participating fully in all conference activities with the youth and attending everything!
- By accepting the responsibility as a role model for all youth participants.
- By affirming and helping to enforce the conference covenant.
- By encouraging and supporting the Youth Enabler Team (senior high youth who lead the Encounter Groups) in their efforts to minister to you and the Middle Schoolers.
- By providing leadership and accountability for your own group during all events of the conference— leading the “back home” devotions, honoring the conference curfew, and supervising your youth during free time.
- By not leaving site unless there is an emergency. If you must leave site, please notify a Conference Director.

Any time that you have a question, a need, an affirmation, or concern about **any** element of the conference, please share this with the Conference Directors or any member of the Planning Team. Thank you for helping us make this event an important stop along our connected journeys of faith!

Packing list

MUST BRING

Bible, pencil, notebook	Clothing for warm weather play
Water bottle	Swimsuits and towels
toiletries	Walking shoes—no open toe on rec days
Flashlight	Jacket, sweater, sweatshirt
Watch & alarm clock	Rain coat or umbrella

MIGHT BRING

Sunblock	Prescription medication
Camera	Money for items in gift shop
Money for closing worship offering (MSC scholarships for 2019)	

SHOULD NOT BRING

- Ø spaghetti strap tank tops, tube tops, halter tops, midriff exposing tops, short shorts, low riding shorts or pants, dresses (you will be involved in high energy activities and these fashions will prevent you from participating fully and allow the possibility of exposing yourself)
- Ø bikinis or revealing bathing suits
- Ø skateboards or scooters
- Ø rollerskates/rollerblades
- Ø unnecessary technology, laser pointers, walkie-talkie's
- Ø lots of money
- Ø alcohol or illegal drugs, tobacco products of any kind
- Ø weapons of any kind, flammables
- Ø other unnecessary valuables

- Cell phones are permissible for adults only if absolutely necessary and **may not be used during conference presentations, worship services, recreation, workshops**, etc.
- Massanetta Springs has full wi-fi access in all rooms and meeting spaces. Adults if work from home is necessary, you may use your work devices during free-time or after all youth are in bed.
- Conference Leadership reserves the right to send participants back to their rooms to change if their wardrobe is inappropriate or will prevent them from actively participating in the conference. Please think about this when packing!