

# MONTREAT YOUTH CONFERENCE

## JULY 22-29, 2017

Join with other youth from around the Presbytery of Arkansas this summer at the Montreat Youth Conference! The Montreat Youth Conferences are designed for high school students, entering freshmen through graduated seniors. A Youth Conference is a unique gathering of young people from all over the country for a week of study, worship, and recreation. Activities include morning energizers, music, keynote, small groups, afternoon recreation activities, and evening worship. You will spend time exploring your faith and enjoying friends (new and old!). All in the beautiful setting of the North Carolina mountains!

**Who can go?** Any current 8th-12th grader in the Presbytery of Arkansas! Churches can send a group of students, or students can register on their own.

**What is it?** An amazing conference for High School students that happens every year at Montreat Conference Center. Each week of a Montreat Youth Conference (there are 6!) brings in about 1,000 high school students from all over the country!

**When is it?** July 22-29, 2017. We'll depart from Little Rock on July 22, spend the night mid-way at a church, then arrive at Montreat on July 23. We'll get back to Little Rock late in the evening on July 29.

**Where is it?** Montreat, North Carolina, which is: 1) a beautiful little town in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Western North Carolina, 2) a cool Presbyterian college, and 3) a PC(U.S.A.) Conference Center. Find out more or see pictures at [www.montreat.org](http://www.montreat.org).

**How much does it cost?** \$799. That includes transportation, the conference registration fee, a t-shirt, and meals and housing at Montreat. Meals while traveling (2 lunches and 2 dinners) will be out of pocket. A \$200 deposit (non-refundable after March 15) is required to secure your spot. Spots are filled on a first-come, first-served basis, so get your registration in early! The balance of the trip fee is due March 15, 2017.\* Only those students who are paid in full by March 15 will be registered for the conference.

**How do I pay for this?** We strongly encourage local churches to help individuals fund their trip, whether that be through a fundraiser or from budget funds. Many churches pay for 1/3 or 1/2 of the trip cost. Individuals should discuss this with their Pastor, Educator, Youth Worker, or Clerk of Session. Some scholarship money is available through the Presbytery. Please do not let cost keep you from joining us on this trip! For more information about scholarships, please contact Britton Varn at [britton@presbyteryofarkansas.org](mailto:britton@presbyteryofarkansas.org).

**Who chaperones the trip?** Adults (23 or older) selected by the Presbytery's Youth Advisory Team. If an adult from your congregation is interested in applying to serve as a chaperone, please see the *Presbytery of Arkansas Adult Advisor Information and Application* sheet. All adult chaperones are required to complete a background check through the Presbytery and attend a Pre-trip Advisor Meeting.

**How will we get there?** We will be traveling in a chartered, 56-passenger bus.

**How many spots are there?** We have registered for 18 youth spots and 3 adults spots. Spots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. If we have more people register than this, we will gladly attempt to add them (if we are able to increase our lodging and registration spots through the conference, and if there are bus seats left). A waiting list will be kept if needed. Get your registrations in early to secure your spot!

**Questions?** Contact Britton Varn, Youth Ministry Coordinator for the Presbytery of Arkansas, at [britton@presbyteryofarkansas.org](mailto:britton@presbyteryofarkansas.org) or 501-663-2424.

*\*No refunds can be made after March 15 unless we can find someone to fill your spot — we will have already sent payment to Montreat and for transportation. If you must drop out of the trip after March 15 and we can find another youth to fill your spot (every effort will be made, but no guarantees!), we will refund your trip fees, minus your deposit. Thanks for understanding!*



# Presbytery of Arkansas Youth Summer Trips 2017 Registration and Personal Information Form

Mail to:  
Presbytery of Arkansas Youth Summer Trips Registration  
9221 N. Rodney Parham Rd.  
Little Rock, AR 72227  
With \$200 deposit  
by March 15, 2017

MONTREAT YOUTH CONFERENCE

JULY 22-29, 2017

CURRENT 8TH-12TH GRADERS

\$799 (\$399 FOR ADULT ADVISORS)

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

Youth name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex:  M  F

Youth cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_ T-shirt size (adult sizes): \_\_\_\_\_

Youth email: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian Name/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian email: \_\_\_\_\_

*To be signed by the youth participant:*

- Yes, I am excited to attend a Summer Trip with the Presbytery of Arkansas! I agree to be open and welcoming to new experiences, people, and faith; to be an engaged part of the group; and to have fun!

\_\_\_\_\_  
Youth signature Date

*To be signed by the parent/ guardian:*

- Yes, I want my son/ daughter to be a part of one of these amazing, faith-building trips!
- Acknowledgement of Financial Policy.** I understand that a \$200 deposit is due with this registration form and that the balance of trip fees is due by March 15, 2017 (only those paid in full by March 15 will be registered for the conference). I understand that no refunds can be made after March 15 unless we find someone to take my son/daughter's spot. I understand that if my son/ daughter must drop out of the trip after March 15 and we can find another youth to fill his/her spot (every effort will be made, but no guarantees!), I will receive a refund for trip fees paid, minus my deposit.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/ Guardian signature Date

## Other Stuff You Might Want to Know About Presbytery of Arkansas' Summer Trips

### Who is sponsoring these trips?

The Youth Advisory Team of the Presbytery of Arkansas. The Presbytery will handle all registration details, arrange transportation, and provide Adult Advisors (21 or older for Middle School trips; 23 and older for Sr. High trips). The Presbytery's budget supplements the cost of this trip, pays for the Trip Leader's fees and helps to pay for the other adult advisors, and decreases each participant's fees.

### What is the Youth Advisory Team (YAT)?

The Youth Advisory Team is made up of youth (10th-12th graders), college-aged students, and adults who care about young people and about Youth Ministry. The Youth Advisory Team plans events and trips, which are open to all youth in the Presbytery. If you are interested in serving on the YAT, or if you have questions, please contact the 2016-2017 YAT Moderator, Geoff Ryken, at [geoff@ryken.com](mailto:geoff@ryken.com).

### How is registration handled?

For financial and logistical reasons, space is limited on summer trips, so spots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis! The registration deadline is March 15. Registrations received after March 15 may be accepted if spots are still available, but are not guaranteed. You are encouraged to register early to secure your spot! A Waiting List will be kept if needed.

### What happens after I register?

Youth and parents will be emailed within a few weeks of registration to confirm that their registration form and deposit was received. If no confirmation email is received, please contact [britton@presbyteryofarkansas.org](mailto:britton@presbyteryofarkansas.org). Closer to the date of each trip, participants will receive more information about the trip, including conference-specific forms that must be filled out and returned.

### How can my church encourage youth to attend?

Please make sure information about these trips gets into the hands of the Youth Ministry team at your church! Churches are encouraged to consider paying a portion of the trip fee for those youth attending from your church. You are also encouraged to support your youth in prayer before, during, and after the trip!

### Who do I contact with questions?

Contact Britton Varn, Coordinator for Youth Ministry, Presbytery of Arkansas, at 501-663-2424 or [britton@presbyteryofarkansas.org](mailto:britton@presbyteryofarkansas.org).

### How do I find out more about Presbytery of Arkansas Youth Ministry Offerings?

"Like" our Facebook Page!

[www.facebook.com/PresbyteryofArkansasYouthMinistry](http://www.facebook.com/PresbyteryofArkansasYouthMinistry)

Watch the website:

<http://www.presbyteryofarkansas.org/frmYouthCouncil.aspx>

You'll find information there to keep you updated about these trips and other offerings by the Presbytery!

# Presbytery of Arkansas Adult Advisor Information

So, you're thinking about applying to be an Adult Advisor? Congratulations on being a part of that small, yet amazingly fun and dedicated group of adults who knows how uplifting it is to chaperone trips with these awesome youth! Read through the following Q&A, and if you still think this job might be for you, fill out the Adult Advisor Application Form and return it to the Presbytery office as soon as possible. You do not need to send any money with your Application Form.

## What is the purpose of an Adult Advisor?

- ◆ To accompany youth participants in their overall event experience. To serve as a Christian mentor, guide, shepherd, and model.
- ◆ To encourage youth participants and fellow Adult Advisors to fully experience the event; participating in activities, making a way for youth to offer their thoughts, and to approach the event with fresh eyes of a young person seeing for the first time.
- ◆ To pray for and counsel the youth participants. To serve them with humor, patience, hospitality, firmness, and faithfulness.
- ◆ To help the conference/ trip leadership create a safe and healthy community. To watch for signs of trouble and signs of wonder. To participate in discipline as well as celebration. To laugh and to offer sympathy when needed.
- ◆ To encourage youth and fellow Adult Advisors to care for themselves by taking seriously the times for rest, food, fun, worship, and networking.

Adult Advisors are **full participants** in the conference and must look out for the safety and well-being of all trip participants at all times! *Adults who attend Presbytery of Arkansas summer trips are Advisors for ALL the youth on the trip, not just those from their home church.*

## How are Adult Advisors selected?

Adults Advisors are selected based on the needs of a particular trip. Each conference requires a certain ratio of youth to adults. We must meet that ratio. For logistical and financial reasons, our goal is to send enough adults, but we usually do not have the funds to send "extra" adults. Adult Advisors will be chosen based on the needs (including the male/female balance of participants) for each trip. Typically, we send adults who are serving on the Youth Advisory Team or who are from congregations that are sending youth on that trip.

## Who chooses the Adult Advisors?

The Youth Advisory Team is responsible for choosing the Adult Advisors for Presbytery of Arkansas Summer Trips. One Adult Advisor (designated by the Youth Advisory Team) will serve as the Trip Leader.

## What do Adult Advisors pay?

The Youth Advisory Team will pay for 1/2 of the total trip fees for each Adult Advisor (we wish we had the budget to do more!). It is the responsibility of the Adult Advisor to pay for 1/2 of the trip fees, but we **highly** encourage the home church of each selected Adult Advisor to pay for these fees. Please talk to your church about helping to fund your trip.

## What responsibilities do Adult Advisors have before the trip?

Adult Advisors are expected to attend a pre-trip Adult Advisor meeting. The date and time will be set once we get our team in place!

## After I send in my form, when will you let me know something?

We will try to let you know something as soon as possible (we will be in touch within a few weeks for sure). In some cases, we may need to wait until the deadline (March 15) to know the final number of youth who will sign up so we can figure the final number of Adult Advisors that we will need.

# Presbytery of Arkansas Adult Advisor

## Application Form

Mail to:  
Presbytery of Arkansas Youth Summer Trips Registration  
9221 N. Rodney Parham Rd.  
Little Rock, AR 72227

MONTREAT JULY 22-29, 2017 CURRENT 8TH-12TH GRADERS \$399

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex:  M  F

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ T-shirt size: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please answer the following questions: *Do you have youth from your church attending this trip?*  yes  no

*Why are you interested in chaperoning this trip?*

*In what way(s) are you involved in Youth Ministry at your church or in the Presbytery?*

*Have you ever chaperoned a youth mission trip or a youth conference trip?*

*What other experience do you have that makes you a good candidate to chaperone a Presbytery summer trip?*

Please provide us with a reference from your congregation (a Pastor, Educator, Youth Worker, Clerk of Session, etc.).

Reference name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

- I have read the Adult Advisor Information page in this packet. I can fulfill the role of Adult Advisor for ALL the youth on this trip (not just those from my church), and I would be a team player working with the other trip adults. I understand that it is an expectation for Adult Advisors to attend a pre-trip Adult Advisor meeting.
- Acknowledgement of Financial Policy.** If selected as an Adult Advisor, I understand that the trip fees are due by March 15, 2017. I understand that no refunds can be made after March 15 unless we find someone to take my spot. I understand that if I must drop out of the trip after March 15 and we can find another adult to fill my spot (every effort will be made, but no guarantees!), I will receive a refund for trip fees paid, minus my deposit.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date