

Let Love Lead

2019 Montreat Youth Conference

To help you plan your trip to Montreat Youth Conference, many of your resources are available on our website at: <http://www.montreat.org/back-home-info/>

A Letter from Your 2019 Planning Team

We are excited that you have chosen to attend a Youth Conference in Montreat this summer. The planning team and leadership have been working hard and praying for you. During our time together, we will explore how God calls each of us to be a new creation in Jesus Christ and to live a life of service and faith. We will continue to work and pray for you as you prepare and journey to Montreat. Have a safe and fun-filled trip.

The 2019 Youth Conference Weeks One and Two Planning Team:

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YOUTH CONFERENCE WEEKS 1 & 2

SPECIFIC ITEMS

A Word about Montreat Youth Conference Recreation

Recreational ministry is a vital and integral part of the Montreat Youth Conference experience. Recreation helps us see others and ourselves in new ways. When we move and play together, we can learn to talk together, and walk together and do life together. Play helps break down stereotypes, prejudices and barriers allowing us to open doors, to communicate and to be the Body of Christ.

We hope you will join us in relating the importance of recreation during your time in Montreat. Just as you expect your back home groups to fully engage in small groups, keynote and worship we invite you to faithfully consider intentional participation in recreation this summer.

"Recreation builds a group of strangers or acquaintances into a community. The trust and intimacy of a community that plays together prepares it to then create, problem-solve, and minister together." www.re-create.cc We appreciate your support in encouraging your group to participate in creating just such a community.

Recreation Events

Monday: Will include water activities; participants are encouraged to wear clothes that are NOT white if they plan to get wet.

Tuesday: Bring your flashlights (not cell phone flashlights) to Tuesday evening Recreation for a game of Flashlight Tag.

Thursday morning: We will begin the day with Sabbath activities as we move from Wednesday's theme, "Love Leads Us to Wholeness" into Thursday's theme, "Love Leads Us to Each Other".

Mission Project in Small Groups

Sole Hope—On Thursday afternoon during our small groups, there will be an extended time period for the small groups to work on a service project for the conference. We will be cutting out shoe patterns to go to Sole Hope, which makes shoes for children and families in Uganda. As a part of this project, we are asking Back Home Groups to donate gently used blue jeans (denim material) and fabric scissors to the Conference. Please drop these items off at registration so that we can organize and distribute those materials to our small group leaders before Thursday.

Conference Band

Our music leaders, Marissa and Marcus, invite you to bring your small percussion instruments (djembes for example), guitars and ukuleles to help be a part of worship or keynote a couple of times during the week. There will be sign-up sheets in the lobby and rehearsals will happen at 1:00pm beginning Monday.

Communion

This week our community will be celebrating communion on **Wednesday**. We are planning for all of our communion bread to be gluten free. You may want to let your group know that *some* groups have a tradition of dressing up for communion services. This is not necessary, but we wanted your group to be aware.

Pew Seat Assignments

For 2019 we will continue the practice of making pew assignments in the Auditorium (for keynote and worship) for all back home groups during Montreat Youth Conferences. Assigning pews to each group has provided better community, hospitality, and safety during the conferences.

We will again assign pews before the start of the conference using an online form system. Click this link— [MYC Seat Assignment Form](#) to indicate your choices. After you submit your selections you will receive an email confirmation from Montreat that we have received your pew seating choices. Please save this email! In that email you will see a record of your selections and you will have the option to edit your selections if needed. For any changes that you make you will receive a new, updated record of your edited selections in your email. **The due date to submit your selections is: May 15.** If you need to speak to a staff member regarding pew seat assignments, please contact Katie Cashwell at katiec@montreat.org

Montreat staff will make assignments based on your selections and notify you of your assigned pews at registration. You will have the opportunity to go into the Auditorium after you get your assignment at registration and lay eyes on where your pews are before the opening program. When the doors open on Sunday night, please plan to sit in your assigned pews. If you arrive after 7:00 PM and you miss the opportunity to go through registration and receive your pew assignments, please come, with your group, to the back of the Auditorium when the doors open on Sunday night. A Montreat Staff member will help you locate your pews.

The Jeremiah Project Application Deadline

Go to: [JEREMIAH PROJECT APPLICATION](#) and complete the application online. **Deadlines for applications are: Week 1 deadline— May 28, Week 2 deadline — June 4.** After the deadlines, selections will be made and applicants' back home leader will be notified by the end of the week. Any applications received after these deadlines will not be notified if they have been selected until on site registration on Sunday.

Packing List and Dress Code

(Give a copy of this page to each member of your group)

☐ **Clothing** (see the dress code below)

- Shirts
- Shorts (see the dress code below; not allowed on stage)
- Pants or jeans—at least one pair (see the dress code below)
- Shoes (athletic, hiking, rock hopping)
- Sandals
- Jacket or fleece
- Swimsuit (for the pool)
- Socks & undergarments
- Raincoat/ raingear

☐ **Toiletries**

- As needed
- Linens and towels if needed (ask your leader)

☐ **Misc**

- Bible
- Flashlight/batteries
- Sunscreen
- Water bottle
- Medicines & prescriptions
- Money (conference t-shirt, merchandise, snacks, offering, etc)

Montreat Youth Conference Dress Code

For everyone:

As we build a Christian community based on mutual trust and respect, Montreat Conference Center seeks to respect the choices of individuals in expressing themselves while setting norms to establish an atmosphere conducive to faith development and personal growth.

Throughout the Youth Conference, participants are discouraged from wearing clothing that:

- is too revealing (e.g., clothing that is too tight or transparent; clothing with extremely short hemlines; shirts that reveal a bare midriff; visible undergarments).
- advertises alcohol, tobacco products or other substances abusive to the body.
- contains language or images that ridicule a person's gender, sexuality, or geographic/ethnic origin.

For people taking part in stage leadership: (Jeremiah Project, recreation, music, variety show, communion servers, liturgists)

God is the audience, Jesus is the star, and you are the stage hand. It's a bad production when the stage hand becomes the star. (Otis Moss, 2016 APCE Conference h/t @Kierkegaard)

When a person is in a position of leadership or on stage, the focus of the congregation should be on God. The guidelines stated above *must* be adhered to by all those on stage at all times. In addition, **dress code on stage will be sleeved shirts and pants or skirts with hemlines below the knee.** Shorts worn on stage will be considered as an exception to the rule and must have the prior approval of the Conference Director or Montreat Staff.

The Conference Director or Montreat Staff has sole discretion to determine whether or not attire is appropriate. This code applies to all on stage.

We're here....where do we go, what do we do?

Conference Registration/Check-In

What: Conference Registration

When: Sunday, 3 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Where: Upper Anderson Auditorium

Who: Only one adult is needed to complete registration; youth are asked not to come through registration space.

There is no late registration. (Late arrivals call 800-572-2257 x 0 or Susie Burns at 828-450-0650)

Items to Bring to Registration/Check-In

Covenant Signature Page

— One copy of the Covenant Signature page (page 6)

Participant Locator Form

— Online printout form (page 6)

Money:

— for outstanding housing balance (if any) & additional wristbands (see right).

Mission Project supplies: see page 2

Back-home leader Meeting

When: Sunday (immediately following the opening session)

Where: Walkup Building

Who: One Back-home leader from each group, to meet with Co-Directors & Conference Staff

What: This first-night orientation contains vital information and guidelines and addresses specific questions regarding the conference.

Wristbands

Wristbands will be worn by all conferees (youth & adults) and are required for admission to all conference events. In order to accommodate different needs of groups who bring extra adults to function as cooks & drivers, there are four different wristbands available. **AGAIN THIS YEAR: These can be purchased prior to your arrival by using the [Additions/Cancellations form](#) or they will also be for sale at registration on the day of the conference:**

* **Keynote Only** - \$80 allows adults to attend keynote only;

* **Recreation Only** - \$20 allows adults/children ages 5+ to attend rec events only;

* **Both Keynote & Recreation** - \$85 allows adults to attend all keynote & conference recreation events, but not Small Group sessions;

* **Young Child** - **FREE** - allows children under 5 to accompany their parents to Youth conference events.

All persons wearing wristbands will be expected to adhere to all Youth Conference guidelines. Worship services are the only youth conference events open to the public.

Small Group Placement

We want to create a hospitable, inclusive, and accessible environment in worship, keynote, recreation, and small groups.

If you are aware of a special need regarding one of your conferees (wheelchair access, hearing or vision impairment, recent experience of trauma or grief, etc.), please indicate that need in writing via email (cheryl@montreat.org) as soon as you're aware.

After submitting your request, we'll confirm that we've received it and make a plan. Staff and directors will work to accommodate all such requests. If the special arrangement is in regards to small group placement mention to the folks at the wristband station at registration that you have a special request on file. They will give you the appropriate wristband(s) and instructions.

Conference Schedule

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	8:00 AM --Variety Show Sign-Up <i>Anderson Aud. Lobby</i> 9:00-10:30 AM --Holy Motion --Singing --Keynote <i>Anderson Aud.</i> 10:30 AM-12:00 PM --Small Group (1)	9:00-10:30 AM -- Holy Motion -- Singing --Keynote <i>Anderson Aud.</i> 10:30 AM-12:00 PM --Small Group (3)	9:00-10:30 AM -- Holy Motion -- Singing --Keynote <i>Anderson Aud.</i> 10:30 AM-12:00 PM --Small Group (5)	9:00-10:30 AM Sabbath Activities 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM -- Holy Motion -- Singing --Keynote <i>Anderson Aud.</i>	9:00-10:30 AM -- Holy Motion -- Singing --Keynote <i>Anderson Aud.</i> 10:30 AM-12:00 PM --Small Group (7)
3:00-7:00 PM Registration <i>Upper Anderson</i>	1:00 PM --Band Rehearsal 2:00–3:30 PM --Small Group (2) 3:30 PM --Recreation	1:00 PM --Band Rehearsal --Director's Reception 2:00–3:30 PM --Small Group (4) 3:30 PM --Recreation	FREE AFTERNOON	1:00 PM --Band Rehearsal 2:00–4:15 PM --Small Group (6) with Mission Project	1:00 PM --Director's Reception 2:00-3:30 PM --Small Group (8) 3:30 PM --Recreation
7:15 PM Evening Childcare opens 7:30 PM Welcome and Opening Celebration <i>Anderson Aud.</i> Immediately following opening: --parents pick up children from childcare --Orientation for Back Home Leaders <i>Walkup Bldg</i> --Recreation Event 10:30 PM Curfew Dorm/Cottage Orientation Back Home Groups	7:00 PM Evening Childcare opens 7:30 PM --Worship <i>Anderson Aud.</i> . 9:00 PM --Parents pick up children from childcare --Recreation 11:00 PM Curfew Back Home Groups	7:00 PM Evening Childcare opens 7:30 PM --Worship with Offering <i>Anderson Aud.</i> 9:00 PM --Parents pick up children from childcare --Recreation 11:00 PM Curfew Back Home Groups	7:00 PM Evening Childcare opens 7:30 PM --Worship with Communion <i>Anderson Aud.</i> 9:00 PM --Parents pick up children from childcare --Recreation 11:00 PM Curfew Back Home Groups	7:00 PM Evening Childcare opens --Recreation 7:30 PM --Worship <i>Anderson Aud.</i> 9:00 PM --Parents pick up children from childcare --Variety Show <i>Anderson Aud.</i> --Candlelight Lake Susan 11:00 PM Curfew Back Home Groups	7:00 PM Evening Childcare opens --Recreation 9:00 PM --Parents pick up children from childcare --Worship <i>Anderson Aud.</i> --Candlelight Lake Susan 11:00 PM Curfew Back Home Groups

Instructions for Filling Out Forms

We are very excited to share with you that we made more improvements to our MYMONTREAT database.

- Again you will be able to send a link that allows your youth to complete their own covenant information online.
- New this year, both the youth and their parents will be able to "sign" the covenant online.
- Once completed, you can print one page with all of your youth and parent signatures.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ENTERING PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

CLICK THE LINK TO MYMONTREAT at www.mymontreat.org

STEP 1: LOGIN WITH YOUR USERNAME and PASSWORD: Your username is the contact person's e-mail address listed on your conference registration form. Your password is the 6-digit reservation number found at the top of any group receipt/ confirmation you have received.

STEP 2. PARTICIPANT LINK: On the group information page, you will see a PARTICIPANT LINK. Copy, paste, and send this link to all of your youth and adults. For returning participants, they should review and make any necessary updates, ie grade, etc. If they aren't in the database, it will take them to a blank form which they'll complete. **NEW FOR SUMMER 2019:** both youth and parent can sign the covenant electronically! If any of your group members don't complete the form online (and you are doing it for them) you will need to enter their information by clicking on the REGISTER PARTICIPANT button. If this happens YOU are responsible for getting them to add both youth and parent signature (with an old-fashioned pen!) to the Conference Covenant Signature Page.

STEP 3: COMPLETE LOCATOR FORM INFORMATION: To complete the additional information on your locator form, click on COMPLETE LOCATOR FORM INFORMATION.

STEP 4: PRINT LOCATOR FORM and PRINT CONFERENCE COVENANT SIGNATURE PAGE: Once all of your group members have submitted the covenant information, log back in and PRINT LOCATOR FORM and PRINT CONFERENCE COVENANT SIGNATURE PAGE. There is a slight lag time from submission to populating the forms. Every member of your group should be listed on the locator form and on the covenant signature page (either electronically or handwritten).

STEP 5: What to bring to onsite registration: TWO COPIES OF THE LOCATOR FORM: Bring 2 copies of the locator form. One copy will be turned in at registration and one copy will be for your records. ONE COPY OF THE COVENANT SIGNATURE PAGE. Bring 1 copy of the signature page to turn in at registration.

NEW FOR SUMMER 2019: you do not need to bring individual covenants to registration. If you would like copies of your group's covenants for your own records, there is a print covenants option or you can choose to print an additional copy of the Covenant Signature page.

Any questions can be directed to Hope Barker at hopeb@montreat.org

Jeremiah Project: Please share the application link with youth in your group who might be interested in sharing their gifts for worship leadership with the conference. For more information about Jeremiah Project, go to the website at: <http://www.montreat.org/back-home-info/>. Applications are due a week before your conference.

Clubs & Childcare Registration: For information & registration, go to our website: <http://www.montreat.org/clubs>

Variety Show Covenant & Sign-Up: Make copies of the form on page 7 for any person(s) wishing to sign up for the variety show.

- Please read the covenant agreement carefully before signing.
- You may submit this form when you sign up.
- Please be prepared to submit song lyrics at the time of sign-up.

Variety Show Information

The Variety Show shares performing arts talents. There are limited spaces for this evening activity. Sign up Monday morning in Anderson Auditorium lobby. When sign-ups are closed, acts will be chosen with attention given to theme, appropriateness and variety. All members of acts must attend "sound check" in full costumes that comply with the Dress Code and wristbands that will be worn at the event. **Please see page 3 for the stage dress code and page 9 for Variety Show Requirements.** Any change in participants, performance material or costumes from the sound check to the evening of the performance will result in the disqualification of the act. Sign-up does not assure inclusion in the Variety Show.

Adult Back-home Leader:

"I have seen the act and agree that it is G-rated and suitable for presentation to the conference. I have also reviewed the Dress Code and Variety Show Requirements with my youth"

Submit at sign up.

I. Description of Act:

II. Needs for Audio/Visual, Props, Stage, Setup, etc:

III. Attach lyrics if applicable and cite writer/composer/source:

Participants:

"I agree to abide by the act requirements stated on the next page."

	<u>Name (print)</u>	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Back-home Group</u>
1)			
2)			
3)			
4)			
5)			
6)			
7)			
8)			
9)			
10)			
11)			
12)			
13)			
14)			
15)			

VARIETY SHOW REQUIREMENTS

- Sign up on Monday morning in the lobby of Anderson Auditorium. Bring covenant and lyrics.
- No more than 4 minutes for set up, performance & exit.
- Ridiculing persons, groups, or geographic areas will not be permitted.
- Any sexual reference will exhibit a healthy attitude regarding sexuality — as opposed to “shock value”, exploitative, or general tastelessness (this includes spoken word, dancing/gestures).
- In an effort to be sensitive & pastoral to the whole conference, conference staff & co-directors will evaluate whether or not an act has the potential to trigger traumatic events for other participants.
- Use of food is NOT allowed
- Use of substances/material that requires stage clean up will NOT be allowed.
- Acts will show respect for all property (stage, AV equipment, or other equipment provided).
- **All participants will be present & in full costume at the sound check. Participants must abide by the specific stage Dress Code.**
- A back-home group leader must attend the sound check with the participants.
- All participants MUST be wearing their wristband properly at both the sound check and the performance (Replace broken wristbands by purchasing a new one in the Youth Conference Office).
- Each participant will sign a covenant agreeing to abide by these requirements.
- The back-home group leader will sign the covenant stating that the leader has seen the act & agrees that it is G-rated & suitable for presentation to the conference.
- A conferee may appear in no more than one act.
- Young people will be the focus and also leaders of this event. Adults with the group may certainly be a part/partner of the act, but in an assisting and supportive role.
- Lyrics must be provided in writing at sign up for any music used during the act, including background music. Please cite if your song/poem/etc is original and if not, who wrote the piece. Changing the lyrics to a song or omitting inappropriate words or phrases does not guarantee the act will be approved.
- No act will be previewed before sound check.
- A Co-Director will be present at sound check. If an act is not approved, an adult member of the planning team will provide an explanation. Every effort will be made to not embarrass an act and to give them an opportunity to meet the above criteria.
- Please remember we have limited audio visual resources. We will do our best to accommodate each participant.
- Bring any music or recorded accompaniment on a flashdrive, LABELED with your name to sound check. No cell phones will be used to pull music off.
- Planning team members that are part of your back home group may not be in your group's act.

MYC CHECKLIST

- ☐ Read this packet
- ☐ Read the Youth Conference Back-Home Information page at—<http://www.montreat.org/back-home-info/>
- ☐ Submitted our groups seating choices at: [MYC Seat Assignment Form](#)
- ☐ Visited www.mymontreat.org and entered group information (see page 6)
- ☐ Updated and printed locator form from www.mymontreat.org
- ☐ Printed covenant signature page from www.mymontreat.org
- ☐ Shared packing list and dress code with each youth in my group (page 3)
- ☐ Sent [Jeremiah Project application link](#) to interested youth
- ☐ Paid Balance
- ☐ Purchased additional wristbands with the [Additions/Cancellations form](#) or have cash or check to purchase them at registration
- ☐ Emailed cheryl@montreat.org with special small group placement needs
- ☐ Registered any children for clubs or childcare at www.montreat.org/clubs
- ☐ Registered for Montreat Summer Mission experience with AYM if applicable
- ☐ Shared Variety Show information and distributed the Variety Show covenant, which will include my signature, to those youth interested in performing.
- ☐ Collected insurance information for each participant to bring with me and keep in case of an emergency. *Please note: Montreat Conference Center does not require this but strongly suggests that you collect this information and abide by your church's policy*