IMMERSE 2019

July 24-27

Asbury Hills

 Thank you for registering for Immerse 2019, sponsored by the South Carolina Ministries with Young People (SCMYP). We are so excited that you and your youth group will join us in the beautiful mountains of Asbury Hills. It is our hope and prayer that your Immerse experience will bring your youth closer to God, closer to each other, and closer to other Methodist students as we dive deeper in our faith.

 This year we will learn how we can “UNLEASH our Faith,” as disciples of Christ. How would your spiritual life look differently if you were able to freely and fearlessly unleash your faith in Jesus Christ? The Reverends Brad and Megan Gray will lead us as our speakers as we consider this theme. And we are excited to welcome back Chad and Kami Turner will be leading our music for worship. We will also have some great breakout sessions to encourage students to learn how they can unleash their leadership, creativity, inner strength, and spirituality.

 In this information packet you will find a packing list, reminders to share with you group, directions, and a schedule that will prepare you for your trip. Please feel free to share these lists with your students as you prepare to join us for Immerse. We are glad you are here and we are honored that you would trust us to speak into the lives of your young people. Our team has been praying for your group and we look forward to seeing you this summer!

 Sincerely,

 THE IMMERSE DESIGN TEAM

**Getting Ready**

**Checklist**

**Just a quick list of things that you might want to be sure you have taken care of.**

* Make all arrangements with Asbury Hills
* Distribute packing list to students and adult leaders
* Get Medical Forms, Permission Slips, and Waiver forms from Students

\*(Waiver forms will need to be submitted at the time of registration)

* Make sure your volunteers are all screened for Safe Sanctuary and that your group meets Safe Sanctuary requirements.
* Tell your students to Like Immerse on Facebook and to Follow @SCMYP on Twitter
* Use the #Immerse19 on Twitter to follow the conversation

**Before You Arrive**

* Pray for your youth and adults and all those preparing to attend Immerse.
* Ask your congregation to join you in prayer for everyone coming to the event.

**Prepare your group:**

* Be sure to tell your students to regularly check in with adult leaders to share where they are going. Students should travel in groups of 3.
* Talk to your group about appropriate times to visit restrooms - only before and after sessions.
* Please discuss the importance of the Immerse nametags. This allows us to know that they are Immerse participants.
* Just a head’s up, cell phone and wi-fi signals are very low in the mountains.
* There are some new Immerse rules that are specific to Asbury Hills.
* In regards to bathing suits:
	+ Girls should wear one piece suits or tankinis
	+ Boys should wear swim trunks
* Spaghetti straps are not permitted
* As you walk around camp you must wear closed toed shoes. This does not include Chacos or Flip-Flops.

**Arrival**

* Registration begins at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday. There will be a tent set up outside the office at Asbury Hills where groups will receive their room assignments, name tags, on site material, and t-shirts.
* We look forward to seeing your group on July 24 at Asbury Hills! If you have any questions, please email us at immerse@scmyp.org or call Doris Seals at 888-678-6272.

**Recommended Packing List**

* Bible
* Notebook and writing utensils
* Pillow
* Sleeping Bag or Twin Sheets
* Jacket/Sweatshirt
* Please pack clothing that is modest and free from any inappropriate language or images
* Pajamas
* Undergarments
* Bathing suits – Girls – one piece, or tankinis. Guys – swim trunks.
* Hat
* 2 pairs of closed toe shoes - Sneakers and Shoes that can get wet
* Rain Gear
* 2 Towels – bath and pool
* Personal Hygiene Products (i.e. Shampoo, Conditioner, Soap, Toothbrush, Toothpaste)
* Refillable Water Bottle
* Flashlight
* Bug Spray
* Sunscreen
* Bag for wet and dirty clothes
* Any medications

**DO NOT BRING**

* pets, weapons, fireworks, knives, alcohol, non-prescription or illicit drugs, tobacco of any type, walkie-talkies, iPods, personal sports equipment, and video games.
* Cell Phones are not permitted during sessions
* Asbury Hills and Immerse are not responsible for loss or damage of personal property.

**During Immerse:**

* Group Safety and Behavior Expectations: The adult leaders from your church will be responsible for the safety and behavior of your group. You should know where your youth are at all times. Please avoid having students wander around the camp by themselves.
* Family Groups: Each participant will be a part of a Family Group. Family groups are made up of youth and adults from other churches. We will ask adult leaders to participate and lead one of these groups. There will be extra adults to help us comply with Safe Sanctuary. You will be given more information through a separate email, and will also be given a printed booklet for the family groups in your On Site Materials.

You will see on the schedule that the family groups will alternate for recreation times. For example, while Family Group A is at recreation, Family Group B will have their discussion time. Then in the afternoon, Family Group A will have their discussion time while Family Group B will have their recreation time.

* Recreation: On Thursday and Friday there will be Family Group recreation time. This is a time to strengthen relationships within the group as well as have some fun. These will be structured activities supervised by camp staff. This time is integral in creating bonds between students and within family groups. Some of these activities will involve water. Please note that all bathing suits should be one-piece and that spaghetti straps are not allowed.
* Walking: Please make sure that students and adults have appropriate walking shoes. To make sure we avoid any injuries ask students to wear sneakers or tennis shoes. There is a lot of walking, and a lot of hills at Asbury Hills, so please encourage students to wear the appropriate footwear.
* Free Time: On Thursday and Friday afternoons there will also be 2 hours of free time. This is an opportunity for students to rest or to go and try the activities around Asbury Hills they have not tried yet. Groups will not be allowed to leave camp as they have in years past. However, there are quite a number of activities available on-site for this time.
* Testimonies: If one of your students would like to talk about the God moments that they have experienced during Immerse please contact Chris Lynch at the camp and let him know. There will be a time when students are able to share their experiences to the group.

**Directions to Asbury Hills**

Asbury Hills is located off Highway 276 in northern Greenville County of South Carolina. The easiest access to Highway 276 is through Greenville, SC.

If you are traveling from Columbia, SC or south of Columbia, take Interstate 26 west to Interstate 385 north into Greenville.

From Atlanta, take Interstate 85 north to Interstate 385 north into Greenville.

From Charlotte, take Interstate 85 south to Interstate 385 north into Greenville.

When traveling north on Interstate 385 toward Greenville, do not exit onto Highway 276 until you get into Greenville on I-385. Once I-385 takes you into Greenville, exit onto Highway 276 west, exit number 42, also called Stone Avenue. Turn right at the bottom of the exit ramp. Go to the seventh traffic light and turn right, following Highway 276 which will then be called Rutherford Road. Stay on Highway 276 for the next 25 miles as it takes you out of Greenville, past Furman University, through Traveler’s Rest, Marietta, and Cleveland. Highway 276 will turn right as it heads up the mountain to Caesar’s Head State Park. Approximately 1.5 miles past this turn to the right you’ll see the sign for Asbury Hills on your left. Turn left onto Lakemont Drive and immediately right onto Asbury Drive. The office will be .1 mile on your right. The dining hall is at the end of Asbury Drive.

If traveling from Asheville, take Interstate 26 east to Highway 25 south toward Greenville. After crossing into South Carolina, take Highway 11 south into Cleveland where you’ll turn right onto Highway 276. Stay on Highway 276. The camp will be approximately 1.5 miles on your left.

From Brevard take Highway 276 east into South Carolina. The camp will be approximately 4 miles past Caesar’s Head State Park on your right.

**Immerse Schedule**

**Wednesday, July 24 2019**

2-4 pm Registration

4 pm Leader’s Meeting

5-6 pm Get to know you

6 pm Dinner

7-8 pm Worship @ Rec Shelter

8:15-9:15 pm Family Group w/ ‘Smores

10 pm Church Group

11 pm Lights Out

**Thursday, July 25, 2019**

8 am – 8:30 am Breakfast

9 am – 9:40 am Workshops (two/three options each morning)

9:45 am -10:15 am Gathering (music)

10:30 am -12:00 pm Family Group A [Recreation @ Alpine]

 Family Group B

12:00 pm Lunch

1-2:30 pm Family Group A

 Family Group B [Rec. Wet Willy/Zipline]

3-5 pm Free time– pool, creek hike, archery, giant swing

6 pm Dinner

7-8 pm Worship @ Lakeside Chapel

8:15-9:15 pm Family Group

10 pm Church Group

11 pm Lights Out

**Friday, July 26, 2019**

8 am – 8:30 am Breakfast

9am – 9:40 am Workshops (two/three options each morning)

9:45 am -10:15 am Gathering (music)

10:30 am -12:00 pm Family Group A

 Family Group B [Recreation @ Alpine]

12:00 pm Lunch

1-2:30 pm Family Group A [Rec. Wet Willy/Zipline]

 Family Group B

3-5 pm Free time– pool, creek hike, archery, rock wall

6 pm Dinner

7-8 pm Worship @ Mountain Chapel

8:15-9:15 pm Reflections

10 pm Church Group

11 pm Lights Out

**Saturday, July 27, 2019**

8 am Breakfast

9 am Family Group

10 am Worship @ Rec Shelter

11:30 am Leave for home

