



IMMERSE 2023

November 3-5

Asbury Hills

Thank you for registering for Immerse 2023, 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.

Our theme this year is #Transformed. Romans 12:2 says, “Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is.” To live a transformed life is the ultimate goal of a disciple of Jesus Christ. While at Immerse students will wrestle with the questions like: What do you believe?, Where do you belong?, and Who are you becoming?

We are excited to have Rev. Ken Nelson as our speaker to share around our theme in our main sessions. Rev. Nelson is the District Superintendent of the Orangeburg District. He has been in ministry in South Carolina since 1993. He is excited to join us for Immerse 2023. As always we will have incredible worship, great breakout sessions, and of course family groups to unpack the #Transformed theme.

In this information packet you will find a packing list, reminders to share with your 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. If you have any questions please email us at [immerse@scmyp.org](mailto:immerse@scmyp.org). 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.**

- Distribute packing list to students and adult leaders (the last page of this document)
- [Complete the rooming list form by October 17th.](#)
- Compile any Medical Forms, Permission Slips, and Waiver forms required by your church safe sanctuary policy from your students prior to departure. Be sure to bring all such forms with you to Immerse.
- Make sure your volunteers are all screened for Safe Sanctuary and that your group meets Safe Sanctuary requirements.
- Tell your students to follow @SCMYP on Instagram and Twitter
- Use the #Immerse23 on Instagram 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.

- Let your group know that cell phone and wi-fi signals are very low in the mountains.
- As you walk around camp you **must wear closed toed shoes**. This means no Chacos or Flip-Flops.

## **Arrival**

- Registration begins at 6:00 p.m. on Friday. 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 November 3rd at Asbury Hills! If you have any questions, please email us at [immerse@scmyp.org](mailto: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 and Blanket
- Jacket/Sweatshirt
- Please pack clothing that is modest and free from any inappropriate language or images
- Pajamas
- Undergarments
- Hat
- 2 pairs of closed toe shoes - Sneakers and Shoes that can get wet
- Rain Gear
- Towels
- Toiletries (i.e. Shampoo, Conditioner, Soap, Toothbrush, Toothpaste)
- Refillable Water Bottle
- Flashlight
- 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 need one male and one female adult leader from each church to participate in leading one of these groups. There will be extra adults to help us comply with Safe Sanctuary. Please let us know who your adult leaders are by October 17th. More information will be sent through a separate email, and they will also be given a printed booklet for the family groups in your On Site Materials.
- **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 there are a lot of hills at Asbury Hills, so please encourage students to wear the appropriate footwear.
- **Free Time:** On Saturday there will also be 3 hours of free time. This is an opportunity for students to rest or to go and explore Asbury Hills. The Immerse Team will provide some suggestions and lead some group activities. Groups will not be allowed to leave camp. .
- **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.