



Our 29th 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 will be centered on the theme “Rooted In Love” and our key scripture passage Ephesians 3:16-21

“I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ ”

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.

- Basic MSC information
- Online Registration Instructions
- Packing List
- Scholarship Form
- Housing Preference Form
- Workshop Descriptions

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

COVID-19

The pandemic has changed a lot for all of us. Massanetta Springs will continue to monitor conditions and will post and send out updates as changes are made.

A Typical Conference Day	
8:00-8:45 am	Breakfast
9:00-10:15 am	Energizers, Music, Theme
10:15-12:00 pm	Small Groups & Workshops
12:00-12:45 pm	Lunch
1:00-2:30 pm	Afternoon Recreation
2:30-5:00 pm	Free Time
5:00-5:45 pm	Dinner
6:00-7:15 pm	Energizers, Music, Theme
7:15-8:45 pm	Small Groups & Workshops
9:00-10:00 pm	Evening Fun!
10:15-10:45 pm	Devos with Home Group
11:00 pm	Lights Out

Meet our Co-Directors for 2021

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

Mary Stees — K-2 public school music teacher in Bloomington, Indiana

Anna Owens — Associate Pastor for Spiritual Growth in Dayton, OH

July Co-Directors

Caroline Janes — Full time nurse in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit in Charlotte, NC

Important Information Listed Below!!

Please read all registration instructions below in detail, whether this is your first time at the Middle School Conference or you're a seasoned veteran. **The FINAL deadline to register is one week before the start date of your session!**

call the Registrar.

Housing Options

- ⇒ Lodging in **Hotels and Cottages**; includes air-conditioned lodging, linens, meals, t-shirt, and all activities.
- ⇒ Lodging in **Cabins**; bring your own linens and towels, use bath houses, air-conditioned; meals, t-shirt, and all activities included.
- ⇒ Standard Gathered in Person pricing is for Richardson, Hotel Addition, and Cottage lodging. Subtract \$55/participant for lodging in camp cabins.

Gathered in person pricing includes lodging meals from dinner on the first day of the conference to breakfast on the last day.

Refunds

We know times are uncertain, so we have changed our refund policies to reflect that.

For Gathered In Person Options: A full, no questions asked, refund will be given to any cancellation of a participant or group if made more than seven (7) days before the start of your in person session. Within seven days of the start of your session, a full refund, less \$75 will be given. Once the conference has started, there are generally no refunds.

If Massanetta Springs has to cancel the in-person option you have requested, you will be given the option of switching to Gathered at Home, and receiving a partial refund, or cancelling and receiving a full refund.

If federal, state, or local restrictions prevent your group either from coming to Massanetta Springs, or gathering in a meaningful way at home, Massanetta will provide a full refund to your group if restrictions go into place before the start of the event. In the event restrictions go into effect while your session is happening, we will provide a partial refund if requested/desired.

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 \$324/pp. All cabins sleep 8 persons and are air-conditioned. **Please bring your own linens.** The bath house is a short walk from each cabin.

Please note, these capacity numbers are pre-COVID and will most likely change due to the pandemic.

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

ONLINE REGISTRATION IS HERE!!!

Please follow the instructions on our MSC webpage under the "registration" tab. You will need a Group Hold number.

Paper registrations accepted by 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 mail or email your packet to the MSC Registrar at **registrar@massanettasprings.org**. You can still SNAIL MAIL your packets if preferred. Only complete packets will be processed!!!

Checks and Credit Cards

Online payment requires use of a credit card. Payment by check is preferred if you are not paying via online registration. You may secure your space with a credit card # sent in the mail. **You are NOT registered if you send in payment only.**

Scholarships

Scholarships are provided from our 2019 worship offerings. If you need assistance for a youth, please complete and submit the Scholarship Form found on our website (or below) **BEFORE registering your group.** Funds will be distributed as requests are made and typically for \$100.

What are Encounter Groups?

Adults and youth are divided into 22 Encounter Groups based on workshop choices and balanced 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.

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 registrar@massanettasprings.org or FDOO (540) 434-3829

Online Registration Instructions Check List

If registering the "old way," please return to the registration webpage and download the 2021 registration packet. The following steps should be used as a checklist to help you fully complete your online registration.

- Step 1: The church leader must submit a google form (on our webpage) or call the registrar 540-434-3829 to provide group information and numbers to reserve a spot for the group. We will then generate a "Group Hold Code" and send it to the church leader. The hold will last until April 12, 2021. After this date, all unregistered spots will open for those on the waiting list. Holds places after April 12 will last for two weeks.
- Step 2: Parents/guardians will be able to register their youth (completed 5th-8th) and adult advisors will be able to register themselves using our online registration platform, Campwise, **once the church leader has given them their group's unique "Group Hold Code."**
- Step 3: The church leader can log into Campwise and view details about participants once they have registered and can view the remaining bill for the group.
- Let everyone know of the dates, packing list (next page), and how much it will cost to go to the conference: the registration fee of \$375 for standard lodging or \$320 for lodging in Cabins (bring your own linen for cabins). **Our registration fees are fully inclusive of all meals, housing, conference shirt, and programing.** Groups will need to provide their own transportation.
- Make sure 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). If this will absolutely not be possible, please contact the registrar and we will try to partner you with another group.
- If you are in need of **scholarship assistance**, please fill out a scholarship form and send to the Registrar (registrar@massanettasprings.org) **before** you register. After confirmation on scholarship request, make sure you deduct the amount rewarded from your total fee.
- Please complete and return the **Housing Preference Form** (in this packet) by emailing a copy to the MSC registrar at registrar@massanettasprings.org. **Please note that we may not be able to accommodate all requests. 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.**
- There are three required forms your parents/youth and adult advisors will encounter while registering online: **Covenant Form, Media Release Form, and Waiver.** These **must** be completed to participate in the Middle School Conference - per participant, youth and adults.

Payment Policy - Please read carefully as our policies have changed.

For Gathered at Home AND Gathered in Person options: 75% payment for your total number of expected participants is due to Massanetta Springs no later than April 12 for registrations occurring before that date. 75% payment for registrations occurring after April 12 is due within 5 business days of registration.

- While we encourage full payment at least seven (7) days prior to arrival, we know things may be changing right up to the last minute. So full payment for all participants is due upon arrival at Massanetta Springs for your Gathered In Person Experience.
- Please note: With the possibility of restricted capacity for gathered in person options likely, failure to meet payment deadlines may result in your reservation being cancelled and your allocated slots given to those on the waitlist.

THE OFFICIAL DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS 1 WEEK BEFORE THE SESSION START DATE.

- If paying off-line, write one check payable to Massanetta Springs, Inc. for the complete fees of all registrants. Please include a note indicating which church and city you are from.
- If mailing materials, please try to mail everything together (covenants, photo releases, housing preferences, and check) to *Massanetta Springs 712 Massanetta Springs Road, Harrisonburg, VA 22801 ATTN: Middle School Registrar*. Materials can also be sent through e-mail to our Registrar at registrar@massanettasprings.org or faxed to 540.433.6118 (**e-mailing—please scan as a pdf only in one file if possible**).

Questions? Email us registrar@massanettasprings.org or contact us by phone (540) 434-3829

Massanetta Middle School Conferences 2021 Packing List

Welcome! We are excited that your church has chosen to participate in the 2021 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 completed 5th-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!

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 (book or electronic)	Clothing for warm weather play - t-shirts and shorts/capris
Hat and/or Sunglasses	Swimsuits, towels, <u>and a shirt and shorts for slip-n-slide!</u>
Water bottle	Heavy Duty Sandals (teevas/chacos) or Tennis Shoes/Sneakers
Toiletries	<i>(you cannot wear flipflops to conference events, just the pool!)</i>
Sunblock	Jacket, sweater/sweatshirt
Alarm & time keeping device MIGHT BRING	Rain coat or umbrella
Flashlight	Prescription medication
Camera	Money for items in gift shop
Pencil/Pen and Notebook	Money for closing worship offering (MSC scholarships for 2022)

SHOULD NOT BRING

Ø tank tops, tanks with low armholes, A-shirts, spaghetti strap tops, tube tops, halter tops, crop tops, overly baggy pants, short-shorts, dresses/skirts (this is for all genders - you will be involved in high energy activities and these fashions will prevent you from participating fully and comfortably - dress for play!)

Ø speedos or bikinis Ø skateboards or scooters Ø rollerskates/rollerblades Ø alcohol or illegal drugs, tobacco products of any kind Ø weapons of any kind, flammables

Ø lots of money

Ø unnecessary technology like tablets and laptops Ø other unnecessary valuables

Cell phones are permissible **for adults only during the conference - and only for taking pictures and keeping time!** Middle Schoolers can use their cell phones outside of scheduled conference activities.

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 will prevent them from actively participating in the conference. Please think about this when packing!

2021 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: 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.** Spaces limited. Subtract \$55/participant for lodging in camp cabins.

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. Please note we may not be able to accommodate all requests (e.g. married couples may need to split up so that everyone can fit).

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 like dorm 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.

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CONNECTING BATH

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2021 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 2019 Middle School Conference worship offerings have been designated to provide scholarship assistance for youth who need financial assistance for attending the 2021 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 17-20 _____ June 22-25 _____ July 8-11 _____ July 13-16

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: Program Director
(hannaha@massanettasprings.org)

712 Massanetta Springs Road, Harrisonburg VA
22801 Phone- 540-434-3829 Fax- 540-433-6118

Date _____

Amount _____

Email Confirmation _____

Approved _____

2021 Middle School Conference

Rooted In Love

Workshops

While you are no longer able to select your top choices for workshops, we still want to share them with you so you know what to look forward to!

<p>1. Extravagant Dimensions</p>	<p>This craft and art workshop is inspired by the The Message translation, “And I ask him that with both feet planted firmly on love, you’ll be able to take in with all followers of Jesus the extravagant dimensions of Christ’s love.”</p>
<p>2. Gardening with God</p>	<p>We are to be "rooted in love" which begs us to question: how are we rooted in loving God's creation? We can learn a lot from the roots of creation and perhaps do some hands-on planting of our own.</p>
<p>3. Soul Tending</p>	<p>This spirituality center will help us focus on tending our souls as we explore our relationship with God and what it means “to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.”</p>
<p>4. Ask and Imagine</p>	<p>Love connects us across cultural boundaries. How can we use a “lens of love” in responding to new things and meeting new people.</p>
<p>5. Digital Footprint</p>	<p>How can we be a positive presence on social media. How can we advocate for things we care about and have healthy boundaries, rooted in love.</p>
<p>6. Limitless Love</p>	<p>Test your limits through improv and drama, take risks, learn to help each other, know what it feels like to have both feet planted firmly on the ground in a supportive and caring environment. There are no limits to God's love!</p>
<p>7. “How Deep is Your Love”</p>	<p>Using music and movies to unpack the theme of being “rooted in love” - we will learn more about how God empowers us with love to accomplish more than we could ever imagine.</p>
<p>8. Deep and Wide</p>	<p>The floor is Lava in Stewart! Teamwork is essential. “And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.”</p>
<p>9. Grounded and Growing</p>	<p>Roots in self care are so important for growth and ones relationship with God. Remember: “I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being”</p>
<p>10. Diggin’ In</p>	<p>Are we rooted in good creation care practices? What does the science teach us? Enjoy a science-y scavenger hunt around Massanetta where you will learn more about how God's creation works and what it needs to thrive.</p>
<p>11. Full in the Fullness of Love</p>	<p>How can we live into the Christian life in today's world, with today's current events, being rooted in Love?</p>

