

WATSON YOUTH CONFERENCE PRESENTS

# GATHER US IN:

PEACE, LOVE, & JESUS' RADICAL HOSPITALITY

JULY 23-26, 2023

## Welcome to Watson Youth Conference 2023!

After our successful inaugural year in 2022, we are back to offer three days of engaging worship, Spirit-filled small group discussions, fellowship and fun for all youth in the region!





WATSON YOUTH CONFERENCE PRESENTS

# GATHER US IN:

PEACE, LOVE, & JESUS' RADICAL HOSPITALITY

JULY 23-26, 2023



## FAQs

- **Where is the Watson Youth Conference held?**

*The Watson Youth Conference takes place at:  
**The Y at Watson Woods**  
**9620 Dry Run Road**  
**Painted Post, NY 14870***

- **What age youth can attend?**

*The conference is open to youth who will be in 7<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall of 2023 through those who graduated in the spring of 2023*

- **How much does the conference cost?**

*The conference is \$350 per participant (including chaperones) which includes shared dorm rooms, nine meals, and all activities. Cohorts are encouraged to offer scholarships and to fundraise to offset the cost.*

- **Shared dorm rooms? Who will be roomed together?**

*Youth will typically share dorm rooms with up to 3 other youth from their cohort. Each dorm wing has a bathroom which youth in that wing will all share.*

- **Where do chaperones sleep?**

*2 chaperones will share a dorm room with a private bathroom. Chaperones have the option to pay to upgrade to a private dorm room OR an onsite hotel room.*



WATSON YOUTH CONFERENCE PRESENTS

# GATHER US IN:

PEACE, LOVE, & JESUS' RADICAL HOSPITALITY

JULY 23-26, 2023



## FAQs continued

- **Do participants need to be members of a Presbyterian Church?**  
*Absolutely not! We encourage all youth who are interested in exploring their faith and who share our values of openness, inclusion, and affirmation to join us!*
- **Do youth need to come with a chaperone?**  
*Yes...and no. All participants must be part of a cohort that includes at least **one background-checked chaperone** over the age of 23. However, if a participant does not have a cohort, we will connect them with one. This ensures that all youth have a leader at the conference with whom they feel comfortable.*
- **Does a cohort have to be affiliated with one church?**  
*No. A cohort could be a scout group, an ecumenical church group, or just a few friends who want to share in the Watson Conference experience. Again, all youth who are interested in exploring their faith and who share our values of openness, inclusion, and affirmation are welcome to join us!*
- **What if a youth has special dietary needs?**  
*The registration form includes questions about special dietary needs, which will be accommodated as best as possible by the Watson kitchen staff.*



WATSON YOUTH CONFERENCE PRESENTS

# GATHER US IN:

PEACE, LOVE, & JESUS' RADICAL HOSPITALITY

JULY 23-26, 2023



## FAQs continued

- **What if a youth is neurodivergent?**

*We welcome neurodiversity! We recognize that some youth may need to pace, scribble, or fidget during chapel time and small groups. We even provide fidget gadgets and a quieter space outside the chapel for those who need it. Youth are encouraged to engage in discussions but will never be forced to interact beyond their own comfort level.*

- **Do youth have to participate in all the activities at the conference?**

*Morning plenary, small group time, and evening worship are mandatory. All other activities are optional. Youth are welcome to use their free time to nap, read, play games (D&D was popular last year!), or just sit and enjoy the beautiful grounds.*

- **What is morning plenary?**

*Morning plenary is chapel time that includes energizing music (some kids even dance!), prayer, and a dynamic keynote speaker who will set the tone and theme for each day.*

- **What is small group time?**

*Small groups are clusters of 8-12 youth who will gather twice daily to discuss their conference experiences, explore scriptural themes in the context of their own perspectives, and examine their faith understandings through a variety of games and activities. Small groups are determined by age/grade. Youth are encouraged to engage in discussions but will never be forced to interact beyond their own comfort level.*



WATSON YOUTH CONFERENCE PRESENTS

# GATHER US IN:

PEACE, LOVE, & JESUS' RADICAL HOSPITALITY

JULY 23-26, 2023



## FAQs continued

- What if I still have questions not answered here?

*Please reach out to the Watson Planning Team convener with any other questions or concerns:*

***Rev. Michelle Allen***  
***[pastor@eastavonchurch.com](mailto:pastor@eastavonchurch.com)***

- I'm in! How do I register?

*Registration link: <https://forms.gle/sv2oX4esapo3g47z9>*

*Please send check payment WITH PARTICIPANT NAME(S) IN THE MEMO to:*  
***The Presbytery of Genesee Valley***  
***1049 Wegman Rd.***  
***Rochester, NY 14624***