



The National Committee For Youth Ministry of the Serbian Orthodox Church in North & South America

Dear Honorable Clergy, Church Executive Boards, and Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

With the Blessing of the Episcopal Council of the Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America, the Youth Ministry Committee is pleased to announce the Tenth Annual Youth Conference to be held in Washington, DC from Wednesday, June 24 through Sunday, June 28, 2015. The theme of this year's conference is "Orthodoxy Under Attack: How Other Faiths Try To Challenge Your Own!" The conference is open to all high school students. Students are eligible from the summer prior to 9th grade through the summer following 12th grade.

Continuing our effort to provide a variety of experiences for our youth, the facility we have selected for this year's conference is George Washington University in Washington, DC. The college is an excellent location that has all the amenities that we need to have a successful conference full of spiritual and social activities.

This youth conference is an excellent opportunity for parishes in North and South America to send teenagers for spiritual fulfillment and fellowship with like-minded youth. The conference will include presentations and discussions related to important topics that our youth face every day. Recreational and fellowship events will enable our youth to interact with other high school students from throughout North and South America.

We hope that each parish will provide the financial means necessary to send representatives to the youth conference. There is NO LIMIT to the number of participants each parish can send. Each teenager will be required to provide a \$175 registration fee as well as transportation to Washington, DC. All room and board costs will be paid by the Central Church Council.

The following pages contain the registration materials for the youth conference. Please submit one complete packet for each representative you are sending to the conference and return to the Youth Ministry Committee at the following address:

Youth Ministry Committee, c/o Chris Radanovic, 80 Church Rd, Etters, PA 17319

or email completed form to chrisrad@mindspring.com

All registrations must be received no later than June 15, 2015. It is very important that your complete registration be submitted by this date so that the coordinators can prepare for the conference logistics.

We have included a frequently asked questions page to help you prepare for the conference. Please feel free to contact Chris Radanovic if you have any questions about the conference. His home telephone number is (717) 303-3611 and email is chrisrad@mindspring.com.

We are very excited to have this opportunity to facilitate this event. We hope you will support the future of the church by sending youth from your parish to the conference.

The Youth Ministry Committee

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Where and when are we meeting for the conference?

- Out of town delegates should fly into Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (try to make this your first choice) or Washington Dulles International Airport and plan to arrive by 3:00pm local (Eastern) time. Travel arrangements from the airport to George Washington University will be communicated prior to the conference. Return flights should be scheduled no earlier than 3:00pm local (Eastern) time.
- Local participants may be dropped off at George Washington University by 5:00pm. All participants should plan on being at the campus by 5:00pm so that the evening activities can proceed with all in attendance. No participants will be permitted to bring automobiles to the campus. All participants must be dropped off on Wednesday June 24th and must be picked up by 12:00 noon on Sunday June 28th at St. Luke Serbian Orthodox Church, 10660 River Rd, Potomac, MD 20854 (www.svluka.org).
- If you are making other travel arrangements (i.e. rail) please contact Chris Radanovic at chrisrad@mindspring.com to coordinate pickup.

2. Who is chaperoning the youth during this event? The Youth Ministry Committee will provide qualified chaperones. There will be one chaperone for no more than eight youth attendees.

3. What activities will take place at the conference? The conference will include several spiritual presentations and discussions relevant to being an Orthodox teenager. Recreational and service activities in the host city will be organized. Participants will attend church services both on campus and at St. Luke Serbian Orthodox Church.

4. What should the participant bring to this conference?

Clothes & Miscellaneous to pack:

Toiletries: comb, toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, sun screen, deodorant

Clothing: daily change of underwear, socks, other clothes (shorts, t-shirts, etc. for outdoor recreational activities), pajamas, closed toed shoes

For boys: pants and suitable shirts for church services (jeans, t-shirts, and tennis shoes are not acceptable!)

For girls: skirt and blouse, or dress (dresses and blouses should have sleeves; skirts and dresses should be knee length. Nothing short)

**Please do not send valuables -- jewelry, etc. -- with your teenager. We will not be responsible for its security.

**Remember that this is a spiritual conference. Inappropriate clothing is a distraction to the other participants and will not be allowed.

5. What should the participant not bring to this conference?

- Linens: George Washington University provides bath towels, face cloth, sheets, pillow, pillow case, etc
- Automobiles – Out of town participants will meet at the George Washington University campus. Local participants must be dropped off and picked at the campus. No personal participant cars will be permitted on the campus.
- Any Items Harmful to Other conference Participants
- Food – all food will be provided by the university

6. Where is the conference campus? The conference will be held at George Washington University. The George Washington University website is: www.gwu.edu. Driving directions to the university will be provided after the registration period is completed.

7. How do I contact the conference administrators in case of an emergency?

The emergency contact for the conference will be Chris Radanovic, the secretary of the Youth Ministry Committee. In case of emergency please call Chris on his mobile phone at (717) 841-6794. Chris will be present throughout the entire conference.

8. What time should I schedule my travel arrangements for?

Flights arriving at Ronald Reagan National or Dulles International airports on 6/24 by 3:00pm local (Eastern) time and leaving Washington on 6/28 no earlier than 3:00pm local (Eastern) time.

Keep this page for reference. Please only return the following registration form pages.

Youth Conference Registration Form (page 1)

The Youth Committee requires that the following be completed in its entirety and returned with the registration packet.

Participant Name: _____ Participant Email Address _____

Address: _____
Number/Street City State Zip

Parent Names: _____ Home Phone: _____

Parent Email Address _____ Work/Cell Phone: _____

Emergency Contact Name/Number: _____

Participant Birthday: _____ Gender (circle) Male / Female

Parish Name _____ City: _____ State: _____

Please indicate travel plans (circle one): Air / Automobile / Other

Name of Family Physician: _____ Phone: _____

Name of Family Dentist: _____ Phone: _____

Is the participant covered by family medical/hospital insurance (Yes/No): _____

Insurance Carrier/Plan Name: _____ Group #: _____ I.D. #: _____

Medical Allergies: _____ Food Allergies: _____

Other Allergies (include insect stings, hay fever, asthma, animal dander, etc.): _____

Medications Being Taken (meds brought to the conference must be in their original labeled pharmacy container):

Med (#1): _____ Dosage: _____ Specific Time Taken Daily: _____ Reason: _____

Med (#2): _____ Dosage: _____ Specific Time Taken Daily: _____ Reason: _____

Med (#3): _____ Dosage: _____ Specific Time Taken Daily: _____ Reason: _____

Special Needs (Include any special needs the committee should be aware of): _____

I, _____, give my permission for _____
(Parent/Guardian Name) (Participant Name)

to attend the Youth Conference of the Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America to be held at the facilities of George Washington University in Washington, DC and to be transported by conference organizers to all conference activities.

Parent Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Participant Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Parish Priest Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Youth Conference Registration Form (page 2)

Please read the paragraphs below and sign the consent and/or responsibility waiver. This is necessary not only for your teenager to attend the Youth Conference, but also for us to operate the conference.

The person herein described has permission to engage in all conference activities except as noted. I hereby give permission to the Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America to provide routine health care, administer over-the-counter medications, administer prescribed medications, and seek emergency medical treatment including ordering x-rays or routine tests.

I agree to the release of any records necessary for treatment, referral, billing, or insurance purposes. I give permission to the Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America to arrange necessary related transportation for my teenager. In the event I cannot be reached in an emergency, I hereby give permission to the physician selected by the Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America to secure and administer treatment, including hospitalization, for the person named above. I understand that my insurance coverage for my teenager will be used as primary coverage in the event medical intervention is needed. I further understand that I will be responsible for expenses not covered by my insurance.

I understand all reasonable safety precautions will be taken at all times by the Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America and its agents during the conference. I understand the possibility of unforeseen hazards and know the inherent possibility of risk. I agree not to hold George Washington University and the Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America, their clergy, its leaders, employees, and/or volunteers liable for damages, losses, disease, or injuries incurred by the subject of this form.

I hereby give my permission to take field trips while attending the conference.

I agree that my teenager will abide by all the rules and guidelines set forth by the Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America for the safety and good health of the conference participants. I also agree that if my teenager has to return home due to discipline violations, it will be at my own expense.

I agree to indemnify and hold harmless, George Washington University and the Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America, their clergy, their leaders, employees, and/or volunteers from any expenses, losses, claims, or damages incurred as a result of the acts or omissions of the subject of this form. I hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America, their clergy, officers, directors, employees, staff, and volunteers from any and all expenses, claims, costs or attorney fees incurred as a result of claims, actions and/or suits brought by me, my teenager or on my behalf or on my teenager's behalf or by anyone else as a result of any accident or injury occurring to me or my teenager.

I give permission for my teenager to participate in all conference activities, except the following (please list reason for each activity denied): _____

The health history provided above is correct and complete as far as I know. The person herein named has permission to engage in all conference activities except as noted.

It is my intention that the Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America be treated as acting in loco parentis if the person herein named is a minor. Further, it is my protected health information pursuant to the privacy regulations promulgated pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996. I hereby agree (pursuant to 45 CFR 164.510 (b)) to the disclosure to conference representatives of the protected health information of the person herein described, as necessary: (i) to provide relevant information to the conference representatives related to the person's ability to participate in conference activities; and (ii) in the case of minors, to provide relevant information to the conference representatives to keep me informed of my teenager's health status.

In the event I cannot be reached in an emergency, I hereby give permission to the physician selected by the conference coordinators to secure and administer treatment, including hospitalization, for the person named above. This completed form may be photocopied for trips out of the conference.

Participant Initial Here: _____

Parent Initial Here: _____

Youth Conference Registration Form (page 3)

I understand that the following conference guidelines and regulations apply to all conference participants. Participants will not be permitted to attend the conference if this form is not signed and returned.

1. The Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America strictly prohibits alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, tobacco products, fireworks, or any items harmful to other conference participants. If your teenager is found having any of the above he/she will be sent home immediately.
2. Any inappropriate, violent/aggressive, or unchristian behavior may result in your teenager being sent home immediately; these behaviors include, but are not limited to:
 - Violence towards another youth participant, chaperone, worker, or director.
 - Inappropriate "touching" or fondling of another conference participant (male or female).
 - Disrespectful behavior (swearing, cursing, yelling in anger, etc.) shown toward participants, chaperones, directors or workers.
 - Leaving the dormitory at night after "lights out".
 - Food, candy, or drink in the dormitories.
 - Radios, stereos, boom boxes, and walkman tape players are not allowed at the conference. Use of cell phones or iPods during the scheduled events of the conference will not be permitted.
 - Disrespect shown during the Church services including laughing, talking, or not participating will necessitate one warning, then dismissal.
 - Use of dormitory phones for social calls.
 - Theft of property.
 - Vandalism of property will not be tolerated. If your teenager is involved in any of this you will be held financially responsible.
 - Rooms should be kept neat and presentable by participants. Please stress to your teenager to be respectful of others property.
 - Any additional conference facility costs above and beyond the provided amenities will be the financial responsibility of the parents/participant. This includes telephone charges, food purchases, gift/other purchases, and any unforeseen purchases made by the participant.

We reserved the right to search luggage, lockers, and bed areas at any time.

Participants please note, in signing below, you agree to adhere to the rules and guidelines of the Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America.

Participant Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Parents please note: in signing below you are agreeing that your teenager will adhere to the rules and guidelines of the Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America. Your endorsement is your consent for inspection of prohibited articles. Your signature also affirms that you have gone over these items with your teenager. Your teenager will not be permitted to attend the conference unless this form is signed and returned to us.

Parent Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____ Date: _____