

SCENIC SOUTH DISTRICT | UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Annual Youth Fall Retreat (known as "NEXUS")



November 2-4, 2018

**INFORMATION BOOKLET**

EVERYTHING PASTORS & YOUTH LEADERS  
NEED TO KNOW!

## What is NEXUS?

“NEXUS” is the annual Scenic South District Youth Fall Retreat. The word “Nexus” actually means “to connect.” This is an exclusive United Methodist event. All United Methodist Churches (from any district) are welcome to come and connect with one another at this retreat! We want to connect our churches and our youth with JESUS and each other!



## Conference @ Camp:

The Fall Retreat is basically a mini-conference with camp style activities thrown in (See “Activities” section). There are four sessions over the weekend with music, games, and messages. Plus, community strengthening things like “Family Gatherings” (which is time set aside to meet with only your youth group).

## Speaker Bio:

The Reverend Candice Renee Austin Wynn is a native of Washington, D.C.. She graduated magna cum laude from Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, Florida, with a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology.

She also received a Master of Divinity degree from Candler School of Theology at Emory University in 2009.

She studied biblical history in Syria, Jordan, Egypt, Israel and Greece. She is an itinerant elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church and is currently the Youth Pastor at one of Outreach Magazine’s top 100 Fastest Growing Church in America, Impact Church in East Point, Georgia (ranked #56). Yet despite these ministry accomplishments, Rev. Candice sees God’s greatest successes in the ministries



*Photo below: 2017 “NEXUS” Fall Retreat.*



she has lead to be the countless youth who have received salvation and who have transformed their life for God's glory. Rev. Candice is married to Maxim Wynn. They are the parents of Mason and Addison "Sunni" Wynn.

## Music Info.:

We are pleased to have Jeff Blake and the Vine Band return to lead us in worship. Jeff is the worship leader for the VINE at First-Centenary United Methodist Church. He also created and runs a campus ministry called "The LOFT" at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga. Jeff is married to the lovely Christy Blake and they have two sons, Brycen & Drew. He has been leading worship for various churches for twenty years and truly has a heart for worship and young people.



## Activities:

Every student will enjoy free time, a low ropes course, and the option of paintball or the zip line / climbing wall. (Your adult leaders must supervise these activities.)

- **Low Ropes Courses** - There are 2 low ropes courses. These can be a team building activity or a friendly competition.
- **High Ropes Course**- Brand new addition to the camp!
- **Paintball** - Ocoee Ridge has two paintball courses! They have all the safety equipment, guns, and ammo you need. They officiate the games and perform pre-game safety instruction.
- **Zip Line / Climbing Wall** - Experience the thrill of a brand new zip line or climb 30 feet into the air on an artificial climbing wall!



## What Students Should Bring:

All students and adults should bring a sleeping bag or twin size bed linens, a towel, a pillow, toiletries, a flashlight, a light rain jacket, shower shoes (cheap flip flops), a bible, and old clothes for activities. (If your students choose paintball as their activity then a long sleeve shirt is recommended.)

It is up to individual youth leaders whether or not you allow your students to bring phones, tablets, etc.. Neither the camp nor the district is responsible for lost or stolen items.

## Cost:

The total cost for each participant is \$135. This includes each participant's registration fees for the retreat, a T-shirt, materials, lodging, meals, and activities.



The registration cost is \$35 per person if paid/postmarked by October 1, 2018. Late registrations will be accepted after the 1st at \$50 per person (\$150 total) but we cannot guarantee T-shirts after October 22, 2018. Registration fees are non-refundable. **Your housing is assigned based on the number you register so it is important to be as accurate as possible.**

Lodging, meals, and activities are \$100 per person and must be paid in full the day of the event. Checks should be made out to "Scenic South District UMC" with "Fall Retreat" in the memo line.

## Important Dates:

Non-refundable \$35 deposit due ..... October 1, 2018  
T-shirt sizes must be turned in by ..... October 22, 2018  
Must turn in your final boy/girl numbers & food allergies ..... October 22, 2018  
*(You may still change your final numbers after this date but by no more than 10%)*  
Final payment & waivers due / 1st day of event ..... November 2, 2018

## Registration Information:

Fill out the enclosed registration form and the photo release form and mail them and a check (again, made out to the "Scenic South District UMC" with "Fall Retreat" in the memo line) to:

Signal Crest UMC  
Attn: NEXUS Retreat Registration  
1005 Ridgeway Avenue  
Signal Mountain, TN 37377

Important Note: The other enclosed waiver form (the Scenic South District) needs to be filled out by each participant's parent/legal guardian (as well as all adult volunteers) and brought with you on the day of the trip. The Scenic South District

Waivers require a notary.

All participants who register by October 22, 2018 get a free T-Shirt (but you must provide exact sizes when you register OR update your sizes by October 22, 2018).

Also, because boys and girls will be roomed separately we must have a breakdown of boys and girls ahead of time. If your numbers change (which they usually do) then please send us a quick email at [registrar@nexusretreat.com](mailto:registrar@nexusretreat.com) and adjust your numbers.

## Venue & Lodging:

We will stay at Ocoee Ridge Camp. This is a new facility and they have added a high adventures course this year! The whole camp is at the top of a mountain and has stunning views on every side. There is a basketball court, sand volleyball court, a Gaga ball court, a climbing wall, a zip line, two low ropes courses, and two paintball courses.

They have two very large climate controlled bunk houses. Each bunk house has 24 rooms which can accommodate up to 16 people per room. Each room has it's own entrance and a large bathroom. Each bathroom has two private toilets, two sinks in the open area, and three private showers.

Boys and girls will be housed separately. **Your lodging will be assigned to you based on the number you register and your break down of boys and girls.** Groups with less than 10 per room may have to share with another church. Please contact us at: [info@nexusretreat.com](mailto:info@nexusretreat.com) if you have questions about this.

There is a spacious dining hall that can easily accommodate all of our groups at the same time. There is also a large assembly hall where the sessions will be held.





## Meals:

The meals are cafeteria style with a youth friendly menu. Please let us know if you have any students with special dietary restrictions or food allergies by October 22, 2018! Send questions or details to: [registrar@nexusretreat.com](mailto:registrar@nexusretreat.com).

## What Youth Leaders Need To Know:

Youth Leaders: We have done the work for you! For the most part, you just have to show up with your students and enjoy what is going on!

- You are not responsible for any of the programming for the weekend. You simply make sure your students know where to be and when to be there.
- Family gatherings- Your group will meet together each night for a private “family gathering” so that you may talk about your day and how your students have been impacted.
- You will be responsible for:
  - 1) getting your group to the sessions,
  - 2) the conduct of your students,
  - 3) making sure you have a 5:1 adult to youth ratio (“Safe Sanctuary” rules)
  - 4) conducting the “family gatherings” after each nightly session
  - 5) keeping & dispensing your youth group’s medications (if any)
  - 6) supervising your group’s activities- including free time

## Directions To Ocoee Ridge:

The address for your GPS: 252 Frey Road, Ocoee, TN 37361

Warning: Old GPS devices or outdated maps may lead you the wrong way. It is better to use the following directions:

**Directions from Chattanooga, TN (approx. 45 miles):**

From I-75 North take exit 20 for the Cleveland by-pass, bear right and travel on by-pass for 6 miles. Take the Ocoee exit (US 64 East) and travel 9.2 miles. Turn right onto Old Federal Road and travel 2.1 miles. Then turn left onto Horns Creek Road and travel 1.8 miles. Then turn left onto Frey Road. Follow this gravel road up the ridge to camp.

## Example Schedule:

### FRIDAY

6pm-7pm ..... Registration  
7:00pm ..... Dinner  
8:00pm ..... Leader Meeting  
8:30pm ..... SESSION #1  
(music, message, family gathering)  
11:30pm ..... Lights out

### SATURDAY

8:00am ..... Breakfast (All Groups)  
9:15am ..... SESSION #2  
(music & message)  
11:30am ..... Lunch (All Groups)  
12:20pm-1:50pm ..... Activities #1  
Group A- Paintball OR Zip & Climbing  
Group B- Low/High Ropes  
Group C- Free Time  
2:05pm-3:35pm ..... Activities #2  
Group A- Free Time  
Group B- Paintball OR Zip & Climbing  
Group C- Low/High Ropes

3:50pm-5:20pm ..... Activities #3  
Group A- Low/High Ropes  
Group B- Free Time  
Group C- Paintball OR Zip & Climbing  
6:00pm ..... Dinner (All Groups)  
7:30pm ..... SESSION #3  
(music, message, family gathering)  
Midnight ..... Lights out

### SUNDAY

8:00am ..... Breakfast  
9:00am ..... SESSION #4  
(music & message)  
10:00am ..... Clean up  
10:15am ..... Load up  
10:30am ..... Head for home!

## Promotion Materials:

Digital copies of all the forms and Hi Resolution copies of the “Nexus” logo are available upon request. Request copies via email: [info@nexusretreat.com](mailto:info@nexusretreat.com)

## Still have questions?

Contact us at: [info@nexusretreat.com](mailto:info@nexusretreat.com)





**Scenic South District  
United Methodist Church**

Street Address: 4315 Brainerd Rd., Chattanooga, TN 37411

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 80353, Chattanooga, TN 37414

Phone: 423.629.0333 Fax: 423.622.8360

Email: [chatdist@holston.org](mailto:chatdist@holston.org)