

Quad Training Notes – Young Adults

Developing Youth and Young Adult Leaders

Of all ordained pastors in UMC 979 are under the age of 35.

910- Elders

69- Deacons

25% of all candidates for deacon are under the age 35

*Practical Ideas to get Young People involved:

- Invite them to serve on conference committees of interest to them. Be mindful of meeting times (don't schedule during school if a youth is expected to be there)
- For young adults- offer specific events not linked to youth events
- Life Skills events- encourage holistic living
- Be mindful of ways credibility and identity can be diminished by folks who are older.

Resources:

- Young Adult Network
- The 'Source (training event)
- umcyoungclergy.com
- explorethecall.com

Youth and Young Adults in Congregational Development

Healthy Young People's Ministry Development

- Identifies needs of community
- Must involve cross section of people- involve people who are not currently involved in order for them to take ownership.
- Acknowledge reality

Entire Annual Conference faith community needs to own youth and young adult ministry- not just those hired or involved in it.

Questions to ask:

- What is the current situation of your young people's ministry?
- Leadership?
- Organization?
- Issues?
- Vision?

Division on Ministries with Young People:

Goals of DMYP

- Empower young people as world changing disciples of Christ
- Nurture faith development
- Equip young leaders (leadership development)

These are my notes, not including the general sessions. I think what we heard over and over again is that youth and young adults must be involved in the entire life of the church. We need to give young people the opportunity to lead after they have been trained to be leaders. However, this leadership does not only need to take place in the youth group, but in all areas of the church. Young people have important things to say and the church must be willing to listen. Young people are not just the leaders of tomorrow, they are the leaders of today.

When young people are presented with important issues- such as global health, they get on board. The church needs to be intentional about involving young people in these discussions.