

Plenary Session Speaker

Dr. Miroslav Volf is the Henry B. Wright Professor of Systematic Theology at Yale Divinity School and the Founding Director of the Yale Center for Faith and Culture. He is author or editor of 20 books and over 70 scholarly articles, including *Exclusion and Embrace: A Theological Exploration of Identity, Otherness, and Reconciliation* (1996) and *Free of Charge: Giving and Forgiving in a Culture Stripped of Grace* (2005). Dr. Volf is principle investigator for the Templeton-funded *Theology of Joy & The Good Life* project.



Dr. Anne Streaty Wimberly is Professor Emerita of Christian Education at the Inter-denominational Theological Center. She serves as the Executive Director of the Youth Hope-Builders Academy at ITC, a youth theology program funded by the Lilly Endowment. Her publications include *In Search of Wisdom: Faith Formation in the Black Church and Soul Stories: African American Christian Education*. Dr. Wimberly will share Monday's plenary with two AYME members who appreciate her joyful mentorship: **Dr. Sarah Farmer** from Yale Divinity School and **Dr. Richelle White** from Kuyper College



Call For Papers

Please submit proposals by July 1, 2018.
See details at www.aymeeducators.org
or contact Ben Espinoza
(bdallasespinoza@gmail.com) and
Richelle White (rwhite@kuyper.edu).

About AYME

Who are we?

The Association of Youth Ministry Educators (AYME) is a Christian faith-based organization and collegial gathering of professionals committed to developing the next generation of youth ministers.

- We affirm the tenets of the Christian faith as articulated in the Apostle's Creed, and pursue unity while honoring the broad expressions of our faith. (Col. 2:2-3; 1 Cor. 12:12; Eph. 4:15-16)
- Our membership includes teachers, scholars, researchers, and graduate students in the field of youth ministry. This includes those affiliated with institutions of higher education as well as organizations involved in non-formal education such as denominational and para-church organizations.

What do we do?

We gather in order to further the field of youth ministry education through cooperative networking, scholarly contributions, and critical engagement with the varied practices of youth ministry and other disciplines.

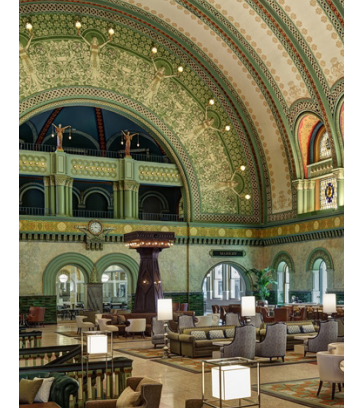
What core values govern our work?

- Service to Christ's church
- Critical thinking and scholarship
- Collegial and collaborative relationships
- Dialogue with people from distinct backgrounds and contexts

AYME Association of Youth
Ministry Educators
A COMMUNITY OF CHRIST-CENTERED SCHOLARS

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255 Grapevine Road, Wenham, MA 01984



Association of
Youth Ministry
Educators

25th
Annual
Conference

St. Louis,
Missouri
October 27-29,
2018



Teachers of Joy:
Grounding Youth Ministry
Education in a Theology of Joy



Teachers of Joy

Not that the value of joy has an expiration date in the adolescent marketplace, but our stress-saturated culture is trending the wrong direction. Young people, particularly susceptible to relentless restlessness, need wise guidance if they are to experience the joy intended for them by our good and gracious God. Our 2018 AYME theme is inviting and timely.

We will gratefully welcome noted theologian Miroslav Volf to kick off our conference in the same year we joyfully celebrate the 25th anniversary of AYME. Under the auspices of the Yale Center for Faith and Culture, Miroslav has convened collaborative scholarship to “restore joy to the center of Christian reflection on the nature of the good life...”

One wing of this ambitious effort has been dedicated to advancing joy for adolescents. Research efforts have undertaken to “examine adolescence as a uniquely opportune and consequential phase of moral and spiritual development with profound implications for long-term prospects of a life of joyful flourishing.” After setting the stage for our time together by framing theological considerations about joy, Miroslav will launch us into the first of many conversations that will characterize this year’s AYME conference at the historic Union Station Hotel in downtown St. Louis.

Could your teaching (your students...their young people...your family or church) benefit from a joy upgrade? That’s what we’re planning and praying for. Colleagues you know will offer current research insights. We will explore how joy prevails in communities of adversity and celebrate the relationships of joy that accompany mentoring. And as we enjoy a riverboat cruise dinner together we’ll see if we can hear the mighty Mississippi ‘clap its hands in glee’ (Psalm 98:8).

Schedule

Saturday, October 27

- 1:00 p.m. Registration and Exhibitors Open
- 2:00 p.m. Opening Plenary/Worship Session
Miroslav Volf, Yale Divinity School
Becoming Practical Theologians of Joy
- 3:30 p.m. Break & Exhibitors Open
- 4:00 p.m. Academic Presentations #1
- 5:00 p.m. Academic Presentations #2
- 5:45 p.m. Break & Exhibitors Open
- 6:15 p.m. Dinner/Plenary Session
Miroslav Volf with Angela Gorrell
A Conversation About Joy
- 8, 9, & 10 p.m. Fire and Light Show, Lake
- 8, 9, & 10 p.m. 3D Laser Light Show, Grand Hall

Sunday, October 28

- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast on your own
- 9:00 a.m. Plenary/Worship Session
Frank Bell, Special St. Louis Guest
Prevailing Joy—Straddling Adversity and Complacency
- 10:30 a.m. Break & Exhibitors Open
- 11:00 a.m. Academic Presentations #3
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch and Business Meeting
- 1:15 p.m. Break & Exhibitors Open
- 1:45 p.m. Academic Presentations #4
- 2:30 p.m. Discover St. Louis Together
- 5:00 p.m. Mississippi Riverboat Dinner Cruise
An Open Mic of Joy
- 8, 9, & 10 p.m. Fire and Light Show, Lake
- 8, 9, & 10 p.m. 3D Laser Light Show, Grand Hall



Monday, October 29

- 7:30 a.m. Breakfast on your own
- 8:30 a.m. Academic Presentations #5
- 9:30 a.m. Closing Plenary/Worship Session
Anne Wimberly, Richelle White, and Sarah Farmer
Mentors of Joy



Special Monday morning drawings to enhance your teaching. You must be present to win.

Making It Happen

1. Register online at www.aymeducators.org or send in the registration panel with a check payable to AYME.

Spouse Coming Too? There is no cost for registration. We do ask that spouses pay \$30 for dinners, and \$20 for lunch at the conference.

Refund Policy: You may request a full refund of registration fees prior to September 15, 2018.

2. Make your Hotel Reservation at St. Louis Union Station directly through the AYME website or by calling 314-231-1234. Request the special rate of \$139/night for single or double occupancy. The cut-off date for this room price is October 3, 2018 as long as rooms are available. Room price includes complimentary guestroom Wi-Fi service.



Need a Roomate? Email David Odem at dodom@nobts.edu. He will reply with the name of a possible roommate. When contacting the hotel please give them the name of your roommate. (It is assumed that you are staying at the hotel both Saturday & Sunday nights.)

3. Airport to Hotel Transportation

The St. Louis Metro provides rail service from the Airport Station to the Union Station for \$6.50 roundtrip. It is a short 5-minute walk from the station to the hotel. See AYME website for details.

GO BEST EXPRESS provides roundtrip shuttle van service to/from the airport/hotel for \$40.50 round-trip with the AYME discount if booked by October 26, 2018. See AYME website for details.

General Conference Questions?

Contact: Mark Cannister
mark.cannister@gordon.edu

Registration

Register online (aymeducators.org) or complete and mail the form below with your payment.

Name: (include Dr., Mr., Ms., etc.) _____

Institution: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Additional registrants from this organization being paid for here: _____

Register by September 15th and receive a \$10 discount on your registration!

Registration fee includes \$90 AYME membership dues for 2019.

_____ Registrations @ \$275 = _____
(\$285 after Sept. 15)

OR

_____ I can't attend the conference but wish to pay for my 2019 AYME membership @ \$90 = _____

Make Checks Payable to AYME

Mail To:
AYME, c/o Dr. Mark Cannister
255 Grapevine Road
Wenham, MA 01984

CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS

If you need assistance toward the registration cost, funds are now available. Applications are available at aymeducators.org.