Emerging Adulthood and Youth Ministry Education

20th Annual Conference
InterContinental O’Hare, Chicago, Illinois
October 19-21, 2013

www.aymeducators.org
Dear AYME Friends,

Welcome to Chicago! On behalf of the Association of Youth Ministry Educators, I welcome you to our annual conference. If this is your first time at an AYME conference, we extend a special greeting to you. It is our hope that you will find a community of colleagues to sharpen your research and inspire your teaching. We intend to facilitate such connections through events such as tonight’s meal, the syllabus sharing session, late night affinity groups, and tomorrow’s trip to the Navy Pier. To all our returning members, we look forward to reconnecting with you.

There are a few things to bring to your attention:

- Please register and receive your packet information in the corridor outside the Louvre Ballroom, 12 — 2 PM.
- Today we begin at 2 PM in the Louvre Ballroom with a brief welcome before moving straight into our first breakout sessions.
- The breakout rooms are located on consecutive floors (424 — 824).
- Tomorrow morning at 9 AM you are invited to gather with us for worship in the Louvre Ballroom.
- All meals are included in the registration fee except Sunday's lunch.
- We established a new nomination process for the AYME board. You will find a sheet in your packet for nominating board members. We welcome your input.
- Don’t miss the Navy Pier and dinner on Sunday. We’ll depart promptly at 2:30 PM.

We encourage you to spend these three days developing connections with colleagues, old and new, and engaging in robust dialogue during plenary and breakout sessions. It is a gift to join together for this time and draw upon our varied backgrounds, research interests, traditions, and experiences. This is an opportunity to be encouraged and challenged by the richness of the Body of Christ as we gather around our common calling to serve youth and the Church.

Please contact any board member during the conference if we can be of assistance.

Peace and hope,

Sharon Galgay Ketcham
Chair, Association of Youth Ministry Educators
Dear Friends,

Twenty years ago a few visionaries gathered to discuss how they might support one another in their work as youth ministry educators. A few years later, the Association of Youth Ministry Educators was born. Whether your first meeting was twenty years ago or is this year, I welcome you. AYME and these conferences have been a blessing in my professional and personal life, and I hope the same will be true for you too.

Our theme this year is “Emerging Adulthood and Youth Ministry Education.” As you have probably noticed, many of our youth ministry students are emerging adults who are trying to navigate an unexplored, new set of pathways to adulthood. That means our work as youth ministry educators may need to change. Our plenary speakers are highly qualified to guide us through this difficult terrain:

Lisa Pearce, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, co-author, A Faith of Their Own: Stability and Change in the Religiosity of America’s Adolescents will explore the realities of emerging adulthood and the challenges of transitioning from late-adolescence to adulthood. David Setran, Associate Professor of Christian Formation and Ministry, Wheaton College, co-author, Spiritual Formation in Emerging Adulthood: A Practical Theology for College and Young Adult Ministry will explore the role of mentoring for navigating the pathways to adult faith.

I would especially like to draw your attention to the response time at the end of plenary session 2 on Sunday night. Instead of the usual respondent followed by questions and answers, we will all be the respondents. Through large and small group discussions, the goal will be to reflect on the theological and pedagogical implications of Pearce’s presentations.

I also encourage you to take full advantage of the exhibits, opening reception, syllabus sharing session, affinity groups, Sunday morning worship, business meeting, and outing to Navy pier. Over the years I have not only learned a lot through these conferences, I have made many friends. I hope you will too.

Please join me in thanking Mike Severe and Ron Belsterling for coordinating an outstanding lineup of research presentations and professional development seminars. The tough part will be choosing which ones to attend! Also, please extend your thanks to Jay Sedwick our conference administrator for his tireless work to help us enjoy great meeting rooms, meals, and accommodations. Jay works year round to make sure the conference facilities provide an enjoyable and enriching experience for us all. Finally, I want to thank the entire board of AYME who have worked hard over the past year to make this conference a success and who will continue working throughout the weekend to help us all.

Please feel free to contact me at any time during the conference if you have any questions or concerns. I want to do all I can to help each of us have the best experience possible this weekend.

Peace in Christ,

Tom Bergler, 2013 Conference Director
Vice Chair, Association of Youth Ministry Educators
260-388-2973 (c)

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Emerging Adulthood and Youth Ministry Education

2013 AYME Conference Schedule

**Saturday, October 19th**
12 – 2 p.m. Arrival and Registration

2:00 p.m. Welcome Reception and Conference Opening — **Louvre Ballroom**

2:30 p.m. Breakout Session #1

3:45 p.m. Breakout Session #2

5:00 p.m. Syllabus Sharing — **Louvre Ballroom**

6:00 p.m. Breakout Session #3

7:15 p.m. Dinner and Plenary #1 — **Louvre Ballroom**
  Lisa Pearce, *What are the Religious Lives of Emerging Adult Youth Ministry Students Really Like?*
  Respondent: Jana Sundene

9:15 p.m. Affinity Groups

**Sunday, October 20th**
8:00 a.m. Buffet Breakfast — **Louvre Ballroom**

9:00 a.m. Worship — **Louvre Ballroom**

10:00 a.m. Business Meeting — **Louvre Ballroom**

10:45 a.m. Breakout Session #4

11:45 a.m. Lunch on your own

1:15 p.m. Breakout Session #5

2:30 p.m. Depart for Navy Pier and Dinner

7:30 p.m. Plenary Session #2 — **Louvre Ballroom**
  Lisa Pearce, *Failure to Launch: Understanding the Difficult Transition to Adulthood*

**Monday, Oct 21**
8:00 a.m. Buffet Breakfast — **Fresco 21**

9:00 a.m. Plenary Session #3 — **Louvre Ballroom**
  David Setran, *Mentoring at the Hinge: Navigating the Pathways to Adult Faith*

11:00 a.m. Conference ends
Breakout Session #1  Saturday, October 19, 2:30—3:30PM


The assessment of ministry preparation is a constant challenge in an academic setting, especially given the changing landscape of emerging adults. Effective ministerial development is to be holistic that includes the personal, spiritual, academic, and social development of students. Northwest Nazarene Universities’ School of Theology and Christian Ministries has developed a formative pathway called Ministerial Standing. Ministerial Standing provides an objective rubric and portfolio to assess the student’s development annually during their college experience. This presentation will give an overview of this process and how faculty and congregations are engaged in this formative process including the challenges and successes of this process.


As new digital media has become ubiquitous in the lives of emerging adults, it has become a primary medium through which they cultivate and manage their social lives. As a result, it has undoubtedly shaped their understanding of the nature of relationships and their actual interactions with others. This presentation will assess how these technologies are affecting emerging adults’ perceptions and practices regarding relationships by using the cross-disciplinary nature of practical theology to bring recent findings from various disciplines into dialogue regarding the nature and role of relationships in the lives and faith of emerging adults.

Gallery 624: Barry Gane, Avondale College of Higher Education—Adolescent Faith that Sticks.

There are some major contributing factors that predict if adolescent faith will morph into young adult faith. The South Pacific Valuegenesis study (2012) gives insight into what the major contributors are: they include meaningful relationships with adults within their church, and an atmosphere/climate in their church which encourages openness, questioning, and thinking for oneself. Families where the faith of parents is openly shared and a style of parenting which encourages decision making by the child also see positive results. Involvement in the life of the church and especially youth ministry tend to develop an intrinsic orientation to religion, an indicator of adolescent faith sticks into young adult years.

Gallery 724: Darwin Glassford, Rebecca Cobern, University Campus Ministries and Calvin Theological Seminary—Equipping men and women to work with emerging adults.

Equipping men and women for ministry with emerging adults is a formidable undertaking. Men and woman working with emerging adults in addition to training in Biblical and theological studies ought to be equipped to address changing understandings of commitment as well as an ecumenism that both fosters community and counts the cost. The paper will engage these themes and suggest why an alternative educational approach rooted in Schon’s reflective practitioner model is needed to equip those desiring to work with emerging adults.

Gallery 824: Professional Development with Ken Castor—Using Prezi.

Are your PowerPoint slides getting stale? Prezi offers educators free licenses to develop innovative presentations for the classroom, to collaborate online, or to even migrate your one-dimensional PowerPoint slides into a dynamic, interactive format. This practical seminar will introduce the basics of Prezi, how to obtain your educators license, and how to use Prezi’s online tools to improve the classroom learning experience.
Emerging Adulthood and Youth Ministry Education

Breakout Session #2  Saturday, October 19, 3:45—4:45PM

Gallery 424: Ron Belsterling, NYACK College

*Youth and Youth Leader Reports on the Consistency of Lifestyles of Christian Youth: A 2013 Research Project Paralleling the National Study of Youth and Religion.*

In July 2013 research was conducted at a national denominational youth conference, using a modified version of Christian Smith’s instrument (see the National Study of Youth & Religion, 2011). Almost sixteen hundred youth (approx. 30% of attendees) and four hundred youth leaders provided feedback considering the religiosity of Christian adolescents. As expected, there were varying levels of consistency in the lives of the students and in the alternative perspectives. Initial quantitative analyses indicate some surprising results. Implications for issues possibly needing more or less classroom emphasis will be discussed.

Gallery 524: Phil Collins and Steve Bird, Taylor University

*Scripture Engagement and Focus on God at 13 Christian Universities.*

Data from 4210 surveys conducted in spring 2013 at 13 Christian Universities is used to look at a variety of aspects of students’ spiritual lives. Collections of questions were joined into indexes that identify students’ spiritual foci (focus on God, focus on others, and/or focus on the Bible), spiritual orientations (religious connectedness, reflective religiosity, ascetic religiosity, and outreach), and kinds and contexts of scripture engagement. This presentation will identify the spiritual orientations and kinds and contexts of scripture engagement that affect students’ focus on God. The session will include ample opportunity for participants to consider possible implications and meanings.

Gallery 624: Megan Brown, Talbot School of Theology

*Factors Contributing to Emerging Adult Church-Based Retention.*

To date numerous studies have been conducted, formally and informally, focusing on church-based attrition and retention issues. More recently, the attendance pattern of emerging adults has become a peak interest for researchers and practitioners with many studies focusing on attrition. This study explores the experiences of emerging adults and seeks to uncover factors that contribute to emerging adults’ decisions to remain involved in the life of the church. Discussing and uncovering such factors may provide affirmation for some churches and aid others in discovering what may need to be done to help increase or reinforce emerging adult retention.

Gallery 724: Don Shepson, Toccoa Falls College

*Mentoring Emerging Adults at Christian Colleges in the Southeast.*

The nature of a professor’s role as a spiritual influence due to pedagogical methods has not been probed adequately. This quantitative study explored whether faculty-student relationships displayed significant differences between pedagogical methods, the presence of faculty mentoring and levels of relational spiritual transformational learning. The study concluded that mentoring and educational methods demonstrate significant differences upon relational spiritual transformational learning scores. Also, mentoring carried significant effect sizes upon relational spiritual formation.

Gallery 824: Professional Development with Brian Baldwin—

*Classroom Strategies for Digital Natives*

Digital Natives and Digital Immigrants often see the world in dramatically different ways, and they often learn from their worlds in equally different ways. Educators who find themselves dealing with both DN’s and DI’s in the same classroom are challenged to teach to minds that are potentially radically different. If some of the research is correct, the DN/DI divide is more like linguistics than not, and this may give some guidance into how to shape a classroom that impacts both Digital Natives and Digital Immigrants.
Emerging Adulthood and Youth Ministry Education

Breakout Session #3  Saturday, October 19, 6:00—7:00PM

Gallery 424: Russell Haitch, Bethany Theological Seminary  
**Issues of Intimacy.**
Emerging adults are not just icons of casual sexuality. They are also exemplars of the search for intimacy. Intimacy involves spiritual as well as physical dimensions. A phenomenological description, based on research by T. Oden and others, yields ten characteristics. But how can ministry pave the way for true intimacy, in an age on individualism? Though individualism may be the problem, an excavation of the individual points toward a solution. Tapping into concepts of transparency (Kierkegaard) and exocentricity (Pannenberg), this paper tries to elucidate how relationality in and with Jesus Christ provides the basis for all other intimacies.

Gallery 524: Steven Bonner & Dean Culpepper, Lubbock Christian University  
**Extended Midadolescence & Entering College Students: Quantitative Evidence of Diminished Logical & Moral Cognitive Development.**
In this paper new quantitative data is presented that suggests why 18-20 year-olds are not attaining the level of logical and moral cognitive development expected of them. The HBVCI was administered to 558 college students. Results show that college freshman and sophomore respondents scored lower than the 20 year-old normed set and are commensurate with high school sophomores and juniors from that normed set. A decline has occurred: college freshman and sophomores have attained the cognitive complexity of high school sophomores and juniors from two decades ago.

Gallery 624: Nathan Chiroma, ECWA Theological Seminary  
**Mentoring as a Supportive Pedagogy in Youth Ministry Education.**
The concept of mentoring has received substantial attention in the literature. This study explored the impact of mentoring in the teaching/learning process in three theological ECWA seminaries and evaluated its impact on both the graduates and the mentors. A qualitative approached was used, applying focus groups and individual interviews to obtain data. The empirical findings of this research reveal that mentoring plays an important pedagogical role in the holistic development of seminary students especially in three areas: spiritual formation, character and ministry formation.

Gallery 724: Jacob Sorenson, Luther Seminary  
**Summer Camp Experience & Faith Formation in Emerging Adults: Implications for the Church.**
Evidence of summer camp's influence on faith formation and vocational discernment is largely anecdotal, but recent scholarship sheds new light on this often overlooked field of ministry. While denominations bemoan the absence of emerging adults, Christian camps are employing tens of thousands of emerging adults who live and work in intentional Christian community for months at a time. This paper examines the research to date surrounding the Christian summer camp staff experience, identifies connections between the summer camp experience and faith formation, and examines the implications for the church as it continues to minister to and with emerging adults.

Gallery 824: Professional Development with Bill Quigley  
**Attracting More Students to your Program.**
This seminar is based upon a proactive relational approach of intentional community outreach and service. Connecting with adults and kids locally and in surrounding communities is key. Academic theory connected with the actual practice of ministry outreach becomes the springboard into developing a growing and effective youth ministry major.
Emerging Adulthood and Youth Ministry Education

Breakout Session #4  Sunday, October 20, 10:45—11:45AM

Gallery 424: Patricia Lyons, St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes Episcopal School

*Where Is God in Harry Potter?*

The stunning popularity of the Harry Potter books and films tells us a lot about the spiritual curiosity and capacity of Harry Potter fans. As millions of young people have embraced this post-modern epic storyline as their spiritual language, the church has struggled in its response to and use of J.K. Rowling’s narrative in faith formation. This session will identify the best practices in adolescent faith development and relates to studies of the use of Harry Potter in faith-based secondary schools and youth ministry programs to inspire and feed the sacramental imagination of youth.

Gallery 524: Mark Cannister, Gordon College

*Moratorium Matters: Creating a Fertile Environment for Faith Formation.*

When the faith formation of adolescents is a priority in youth ministries we value the disequilibrium in their lives as formation necessitates questioning, exploring, and wrestling with contradictions. This paper explores the intersections of identity development and faith formation while seeking to understand the importance of providing adolescents with space to wrestle with their faith in the midst of a caring faith community. Attention is given to Marcia’s theory of identity formation in light of Smith’s research on the religious lives of adolescents and emerging adults. Special consideration is given to developing healthy environments that fosters adolescent faith formation.

Gallery 624: Ron Bruner and Dudley Chancey, Oklahoma Christian University

*Why You Should Teach an Intergenerational Ministry Course in your Youth Ministry Curriculum.*

Some see intergenerational (IG) ministry as a resource-consuming fad; others hope it might improve existing ministries. Over two years, Bruner and Chancey have incorporated IG components— theological and theoretical modules, research projects, and ministerial interventions—into existing youth ministry courses at Oklahoma Christian University. Consequently, Bruner and Chancey have added a graduate IG ministry survey course that develops competence in four interrelated IG areas: theology and theory, spiritual formation, decision making, and community formation. Projected outcomes include enhanced youth ministry theology and practice, improved resiliency for students, and better connectivity among age-segmented ministerial domains.

Gallery 724: Arthur Canales, Marian University


This paper addresses four emerging models of leadership that Christian communities may want to adopt to help them assess and articulate a more vibrant and dynamic youth ministry. In particular, this essay will demonstrate that authentic Christian leadership for youth ministry is much more than teaching young people about pastoral and liturgical skills, but requires a lifestyle that empowers adolescents to become responsible and genuine leaders in their schools, churches, neighborhoods, and communities. The four emerging models can be integrated into youth ministry on the prescriptive level through various pastoral and pedagogical strategies, and they are specifically designed for adolescents as they embark on emerging adulthood.

Gallery 824: Professional Development with Rowan Lewis

*Using Educational Technology for Transformative Learning.*

This seminar will present the ways in which “transformative learning practices” were incorporated into the use of digital educational technologies for the training of youth ministry students. The advantages and disadvantages of utilizing technology toward the learning and formation of youth ministry students will be discussed using specific delivery and assessment examples, student work and feedback.
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Breakout Session #5  Sunday, October 20, 1:15—2:15PM

Gallery 424: Gord Nickerson, Josiah Venture
*Engaging College Students in Disciple Making Youth Ministry in a Global Context.*
Informed estimates show that a majority of trained evangelical youth workers are in North America serving a minority of the world’s youth. Studying global engagement needs to be a high priority in any youth ministry education. The purpose of this DMin research project is to determine principles and best praxis using the data to develop a college level course motivating, educating, and preparing students to engage in disciple making youth ministry in a global context. This presentation will explore and address significant findings of this research, specifically competencies and characteristics necessary to engage effectively in global youth ministry.

Gallery 524: Theresa O’Keefe, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry
*Competing Value Worlds: The Felt Reality of Emerging Adults.*
Using Robert Kegan’s subject-object relations this paper proposes a framework of interpreting actions of emerging adults reported by recent empirical studies. By paying attention to what the emerging adult is responding – immediate concrete demands of the environment, or consequences beyond that of their own immediate reward – we might recognize an emerging adult as functioning at a “second” or “third order” of consciousness. Within either scenario, ministers gain some direction: help the actor see the values and the world that inspires it; or help them see the ideology that informs and inspires the value world.

Gallery 624: Mark Senter, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School
*A History of Professional Youth Ministry Education.*
This paper will trace the development of the formal education of professional youth ministry educators. After a brief survey of non-formal youth ministry educational systems, the paper will explore college and graduate schools from the YMCA, through the Master of Arts program pioneered by Young Life, to Youth Ministry majors in Christian colleges and seminary doctoral programs. Implications will be drawn for further thought.

Gallery 724: Daniel White Hodge, North Park University
*No Church In The Wild: Cultivating the Theological Messages in Hip Hop for Youth Ministry among Emerging Adulthood.*
Hip Hop is more than just music and illicit lyrics. Using Jon Michael Spencer’s Theomusicological methodology (1991) combining descriptive, normative, and predictive processes to engage the secular, profane, and sacred, this paper explores the socio-theological connections within Hip Hop culture to cultivate ministry among the emerging adult population. This paper argues that Hip Hop provides a contextual and indigenous form of ministry possibilities for the emerging adulthood population. The findings suggest that a Hip Hop theology provides a space for emerging adults to wrestle with God, life, pain, suffering, and Christ; thus, the significance of such an emerging ministry option.

Gallery 824: Professional Development with Darrell Pearson
*Managing Your Major.*
This seminar will present the ways in which "transformative learning practices" were incorporated into the use of digital educational technologies for the training of youth ministry students. The advantages and disadvantages of utilizing technology toward the learning and formation of youth ministry students will be discussed using specific delivery and assessment examples, student work and feedback.
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**restaurants** Schiller Park

**Browse Category:** Restaurants

**Sort By**
- Best Match
- Highest Rated
- Most Reviewed

**Cities**
- Schiller Park
- Rosemont
- Cook County
- More Cities

**Distance**
- Bird's-eye View
- Driving (5 mi.)
- Biking (2 mi.)
- Walking (1 mi.)
- Within 4 blocks

**Price**
- $  
- $$
- $$$
- $$$$  

**Features**
- Open Now 3:29 PM
- Good for Groups
- Full Bar
- Takes Reservations
- More Features

**Category**
- American (New)
- American (Traditional)
- Steakhouses
- Italian
- More Categories

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1. **Fresco 21**
   - 28 reviews
   - $ - Mediterranean, Breakfast & Brunch, Tapas/Small Plates

2. **Gibsons Bar & Steakhouse**
   - 226 reviews
   - $$$ - Steakhouses, American (Traditional)

3. **The Capital Grille**
   - 112 reviews
   - $$$$ - Steakhouses, American (Traditional)

4. **Villaggio**
   - 15 reviews
   - $$$ - Italian

5. **Chicago Fire Oven**
   - 38 reviews
   - $ - American (New)

6. **Maria's Mexican Restaurant**
   - 114 reviews
   - $ - Mexican

7. **My Big Fat Greek Restaurant**
   - 50 reviews
   - $ - Greek

8. **Hofbräuhaus Chicago**
   - 151 reviews
   - $$ - German, Breweries

9. **Crowne Plaza Ohare**
   - 39 reviews
   - $$ - Hotels, Restaurants

10. **Prasino**
    - 12 reviews
    - American (New)

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**restaurants Schiller Park**

Browse Category: Restaurants

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11. Park Tavern Rosemont
- 117 reviews
- $5 - Gastropubs, American (New)

12. McCormick & Schmick’s
- 71 reviews
- $5 - Seafood

13. Toby Keith's I Love This Bar & Grill
- 149 reviews
- $5 - American (Traditional)

14. Adobe Gilas
- 102 reviews
- $5 - Mexican, Bars

15. Cafe Nucci
- 8 reviews
- $5 - Italian

16. Freshii
- 7 reviews
- $5 - Salad, Soup

17. Maoz Vegetarian
- 4 reviews
- $ - Vegetarian, Middle Eastern, Gluten-Free

18. Fogo de Chao Rosemont
- 2 reviews
- Brazilian, Steakhouses

19. South Philly Steaks & Fries
- 2 reviews
- $ - American (Traditional)

20. Chicago Burger
- 2 reviews
- Burgers
CHICAGOLAND FUN!

Join us Sunday afternoon for a visit to Navy Pier! Enjoy spectacular views of the Chicago skyline and cap off the day with Chicago-style deep dish pizza!
Mark your calendars now !!!
for the
2014 AYME Conference

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Hilton Crystal City — Washington, DC

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