



# Association of Youth Ministry Educators

A COMMUNITY OF CHRIST-CENTERED SCHOLARS

Dear Friends:

Please join us as a sponsor or exhibitor at the 26th Annual AYME Conference in St. Louis, Missouri, October 19-21, 2019 at the **Minneapolis Marriott City Center Hotel**, 30 South 7th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55402

**Who we are?** 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 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

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**Dr. Mark Cannister, Executive Administrator**  
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**Our Annual Conference:** Attending the AYME conference provides educators with a spectrum of opportunities to both enrich your professional life and contribute to the field of youth ministry education. Many exhibitors have also expressed how the conference is a professional opportunity for them because of their connections to emerging adults. Thought leaders from colleges, seminaries, and para-church organizations attending the conference represent thousands of emerging youth leader across the country.

**Conferences Theme:** *Faith Formation Trends That Impact Youth Ministry Education.* Dr. Richard Flory from USC bring us the latest NSYR research and give us a chance to reconsider our assumptions of young people through the unfolding findings of this cohort of adolescents, which NSYR has been tracking over the last decade. Dr. Jena Sethi from Search Institute will be speaking on a new research project with young people on faith formation and relationships.

**Exhibitor Space:** The hotel facilities are outstanding and exhibits will be in the ballroom with plenary session. Tables will be the standard 6' long x 30" wide. Exhibit space is open throughout the conference providing maximum opportunities for connecting with educators.

**Connecting with Delegates:** Exhibits are always open in the ballroom and we have designated breaks for delegates to connect with exhibitors (see conference schedule on brochure). We also suggest that exhibitors: 1.) Bring giveaways or collect business cards in a bowl/box for a drawing. (bring 3x5 cards for people who don't have business cards with them) and 2.) bring order forms that offer a discount when ordering at the conference or by mail before Thanksgiving (or offer a discount code to order online by Thanksgiving).

**Registration:** There are several opportunities for your organization to display at the conference and we strive to ensure that you will receive a strong return on your investment. We will include a hyperlink on the conference registration web page for all participating organizations, a full-color advertisement in our conference program for those who choose options 3-6, and complimentary advertisement in the *Journal of Youth Ministry* for those who choose options 4-6. Please see the **Sponsor and Exhibitor Opportunities** descriptions.

As you plan for this fall's conference, please contact me if you have are any questions. With a great location, superior program, and low pricing we believe this will be the most well-attended AYME Conference ever and we would love for you to join us.

Blessings,

*Mark*

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