Multicultural Ministry in the Church and the Academy

30th Annual Conference
Westin O’Hare Airport, Chicago, IL
October 27-29, 2023

www.aymeducators.org
Christian youth ministry exists to share the biblical truths of God’s redemptive love with adolescents and facilitate their journey of becoming genuine disciples of Jesus Christ. As youth ministry educators, we are called to prepare, refresh and challenge current and future youth ministers.

The *Journal of Youth Ministry* is intended to be a peer-reviewed medium through which professional youth ministry educators may share with, encourage, and challenge each other through our various academic and practical disciplines related to youth ministry education. This journal allows us to share research, promote critical thinking, and encourage innovation associated with the practice and theory of Christian youth ministry.

The journal is composed of articles, book reviews, and research reviews. Research articles are peer reviewed. While occasionally essays pertaining to current issues are published, articles most often take the form of research, and/or praxis. Research articles may use theoretical, empirical, quantitative, qualitative, ethnographic, applied or any other accepted method of scholarly research. Exploratory articles focusing on research in progress are also appropriate for the journal. Praxis articles which lay a strong theological, philosophical, or other theoretical foundation for the practice of youth ministry or the education of youth ministry professionals are also welcomed.

The journal is published twice a year in April and October by the Association of Youth Ministry Educators. The editorial board is comprised of the editors and the board members of the Association of Youth Ministry Educators.

**JOURNAL EDITORS**

Dr. Paul Kelly, Senior Editor  
Gateway Seminary

Dr. David Odom, Book Review Editor  
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Dr. Bradley Widstrom, Research Review Editor  
Denver Seminary

Inquiries concerning the journal may be addressed to Dr. Kelly at: paulkelly@gs.edu
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Dear AYME Friends,

Welcome to our 30th Annual AYME Conference!

We are excited to explore the topic of multicultural ministry in the church and the academy. In Revelation 7:9, we see a vision of people from every nation, tribe and tongue worshipping at the throne. That vision is easily blurred by the intense racial and political divides in the faith community and the world. Our conference theme seeks to reclaim that vision of a multicultural and multiethnic ministry. We see this vision as more than aspirational, but something that the people of God are called to live out in their daily lives. This call toward multiethnic/multicultural community represents an authentic expression of God’s kingdom; it is essential to the flourishing of the young people we love and the communities we serve.

We all enter the conference at different places in the journey of multicultural ministry. For those already engaged in multicultural ministry, we hope this conference affirms, encourages, and reminds you that you are not alone. For those who have a deep desire to engage and don’t know how, we hope this conference provides direction and insight on ways to be more intentional in the spaces that you already occupy.

Towards this end, we are delighted to offer a rich array of activities—breakout and plenary sessions, a dessert reception, and a paint & sip—that reflects this theme. Our plenary speakers not only talk about multicultural ministry, but they are deeply engaged in multicultural contexts in the church and/or academy. Our breakout and plenary speakers bring passion, wisdom, and expertise to help us better understand the dynamics of multicultural ministry. The musical and visual art this year offers us a space to process and reflect more deeply on the theme of the conference. My prayer is that you engage in rich conversations that might produce fruit that remains in your teaching, scholarship, administration, ministry, and daily life. Ultimately, my hope is that each person leaves with a more expansive view of multicultural ministry. Even more important, I hope people are so compelled and convicted by the discussion that they recommit to a life of radical love for Jesus, which manifests in their commitment to a love that transcends ethnic-cultural boundaries.

May this time together inspire AYME to live out multicultural ministry rooted in a vision of God’s kingdom that models and invites young people into Christ-centered communities of belonging.

Welcome to Chicago!

Sarah F. Farmer
AYME VP & Conference Chair, 2023

Board of Directors: Brian Hull, Richard Griffith, Tommy Carrington, Sharon Ketcham, Sarah Farmer, Theresa O’Keefe, Kevin Turner, Mark Cannister, Paul Kelly

www.aymeducators.org
GENERAL SESSION SPEAKERS

Michael O. Emerson, PhD, serves as the Baker Institute’s Chavanne Fellow in Religion and Public Policy at Rice University. In a distinguished career spanning three decades, Emerson has published widely in the areas of religion and public issues, most recently serving as the principal investigator of the largest national study of religion and race ever conducted. He is the author of 15 books and nearly 100 other publications. His work focuses on understanding how religion influences public policy and in turn how public policy influences religious communities, both domestically and internationally. As part of the Baker Institute’s mission, he seeks to share his work with policymakers, community members and other leaders. He also seeks to be informed by other professionals to create networks of dialogue and action.

Julian Davis Reid, MDiv, is an artist-theologian who uses words and music to invite us into the restful lives we were created to live. A musician, speaker, and writer, Julian has created the spiritual formation ministry Notes of Rest to invite people to receive God’s gift of rest through Scripture and Black music. Julian also makes original music with several projects, including his own ensemble Circle of Trust, the jazz-electronic fusion group he co-founded The JuJu Exchange, and with fellow Chicaguan Isaiah Collier & the Chosen Few. Julian is a Fellow of Theological Education Between the Times and consults with the grassroots organization Fearless Dialogues. Julian writes about faith, music, Blackness, and rest on his Substack “The Notes of Rest Fellowship,” and his work has been featured in Sojourners, Billboard, and Downbeat.

Elizabeth Tamez Méndez, PhD, originally from Mexico City, is the founder and Executive Director of New Generation3 (NG3). Since 2005, NG3 is dedicated to "Connecting People - Expanding Perspectives - Shaping the Future" through bilingual leadership training, research, practical resources for faith leaders, and consulting on multicultural youth development. With 30 years of global ministry, Rev. Dr. Tamez is a sought-after thought leader integrating developmental theories, practical theology, and design thinking. Focused on bridging academia and real-world ministry needs in multicultural settings, her latest contribution features in InterGenerate’s "All Ages BECOMING: Intergenerational Practice in the Formation of God’s People" from Abilene Christian University Press.

Geomon George, PhD, is the Dean, Co-Director of the MA program and Coordinator of the Thriving in Ministry Initiative at City Seminary of New York. Born in India, he lives with his family in the Bronx, New York. A PhD graduate of the University of Edinburgh, he is ordained in the Indian Pentecostal church over 20 years, and pastor of the International Gospel Church in Norwalk, Connecticut. He also provides leadership to the International Gospel Church, a mission organization involved with church planting in India. His research interests include Diaspora Indian Christianity in North America; Christianity in India; next generation and pastoral ministry. Geomon is an author of many publications, including the book, Religious Pluralism: Challenges for Pentecostalism in India.

D.J. Coleman, DMin, is passionate about joining God in His ministry of reconciliation. Driven by a desire to minister with excellence, D.J. completed his Doctor of Ministry in Church Leadership and Community Witness at Candler School of Theology. There he developed an interactive, seminar-style training to educate and equip church leaders for effective multiethnic discipleship. He has pastored in various ministry areas, from children’s ministry to student ministry to multifaith engagement. He believes every venue in church should be a space for every race and is excited to share about his experience as the leader of an intentionally multiethnic student ministry.

Tashema Davis, MFA, graduated with a master’s in fine art from Ball State University in 2011. Davis taught high school art in public education until 2022. She is now pursuing a new title of full-time artist and art gallery owner. She enjoys painting with various mediums, primarily with oil paints. The majority of her content focuses on the subject matter that she knows the best, the African American woman. Tashema finds time to paint murals, illustrate children’s picture books, paint commissions, and prepare for art shows. Echo Art Gallery was born in 2019. At the gallery, Davis focuses on the community of Marion Indiana and houses local artist work for little to no cost. She hosts classes every week with the goal of helping everyone feel the joy of painting. Tashema would like you to know that Art is for everyone.
Multicultural Ministry in the Church and the Academy

Daily Schedule

FRIDAY, October 27, 2023
4:00-6:00pm      Registration and Exhibits Open
6:00-8:30pm      Dinner Banquet & General Session #1 (La Salle Ballroom)
8:45-10:00pm     AYME’s 30th Birthday Party & First Time Attendee Reception (Madison)

SATURDAY, October 28, 2023
7:00-8:00am      Breakfast on your own
8:00-8:50am      Research Presentations 1 (Breakout rooms on the Lower Level)
9:00-9:50am      Research Presentations 2 (Breakout rooms on the Lower Level)
10:00-10:30am    Break & Refreshments (Lower Level Foyer)
10:30-11:20am    Research Presentations 3 (Breakout rooms on the Lower Level)
11:30-12:20pm    Research Presentations 4 (Breakout rooms on the Lower Level)
12:45-1:30pm     Lunch, Business Meeting, Exhibits Open (La Salle Ballroom)
1:30-1:45pm      Break, Exhibits Open
1:45-3:15pm      General Session #2 (La Salle Ballroom)
3:15pm...........  Explore Chicago — Networking and Dinner on your own
7:00-8:30pm      Paint N Sip Event (La Salle Ballroom)
                   Note: Separate pre-registration required

SUNDAY, October 29, 2022
7:00-8:00am      Breakfast on your own & Exhibits Open
8:00-8:50am      Research Presentations 5 (Breakout rooms on the Lower Level)
9:00-9:50am      Research Presentations 6 (Breakout rooms on the Lower Level)
10:00-11:30am    General Session #3 (La Salle Ballroom)
11:30am          Conference Closes — See you in Charlotte for AYME 2024!
THE ADAM KEEHN FOUNDATION EXISTS TO ENCOURAGE AND INSPIRE YOUNG YOUTH PASTORS TO LEAD STUDENTS TO THE GOSPEL OF JESUS

WE FUND TANGIBLE TOOLS TO HELP A NEW YOUTH PASTOR SHARE THE GOSPEL OF JESUS ... TOOLS FOR THE “NEXT ADAM”!

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Local Area Map

Rosemont Area

Nearby Food Options
- Morretti’s Italian Restaurant
- 7-Eleven
- Taco Bell
- Big Chicken
- Stan’s Donuts
- Giordano’s Pizza
- Mobil Gas Convenience Mart
- McDonald’s
- Marriott’s Six1Five5 Restaurant
- Carlucci Italian Restaurant

Rosemont Visitors Website

Rosemont Metro Website

DENVER SEMINARY®
AYME
Scholastic Achievement Award

Each year AYME members serving as faculty members are welcome to nominate students for the AYME Scholastic Achievement Award.

This recognition is intended to provide a special opportunity to honor exemplary students. Each school may nominate one undergraduate, master’s degree, and doctoral degree student for the award.

Award Criteria

- Appreciated by peers and supervisors for their exemplary Christian character and spiritual life.
- Achievement of an excellent academic record.
- Provided excellent leadership in the practice of youth ministry.
- Developed exceptional potential for future youth ministry.

Please submit your request for award(s) by April 15th.
AYME Research Grant Opportunities

The Association of Youth Ministry Educators is excited to announce a variety of research grant opportunities available to our membership. In partnership with both Taylor University and Flagler College, research grants are being made available for this next year to highlight youth ministry research on multicultural ministry and pedagogy.

AYME, a community of Christ-centered scholars, is thrilled to partner with Taylor University and the Missing Voices Project to build on the themes of AYME Conferences – Multicultural Ministry (2023) and Pedagogy (2024) – in elevating our scholars’ contributions to the field of youth ministry in ways that are helpful to the academy and the church.

These research grants range in focus and scope, so please read through the below opportunities carefully and submit your application.

**AYME 2023-2024 Taylor University/Lilly Foundation Grants**

AYME and Taylor University are pleased to announce grants for research relating to multicultural youth ministry and youth ministry pedagogies. The immediate aim of these grants is to inspire and support new social science (empirically based) or theological/philosophical research (text based) which can contribute to the scholarship of youth ministry education. AYME members are encouraged to submit proposals.

We hope to accept:

- Up to four (4) proposals with budgets of up to $5,000.
- As many proposals as possible with budgets of up to $2,500.

Research should be related to multicultural youth ministry or youth ministry pedagogies.

**Grant Timeline:**

- Deadline for proposal submission: November 30, 2023
- Presentation of Research: AYME Conference, October 2024
  All grant recipients are required to attend the 2024 AYME conference to present research papers. Grant recipients are also required to subsequently submit their final research papers to the peer-review process of the *Journal of Youth Ministry* by December 1, 2024.
- Funds will be released at 50% on award of grant and 50% in December 2024 on completion of project.

**Request for Proposal (RFP): Multicultural Youth Ministry and Youth Ministry Pedagogies**

**APPLICATION:** Please respond to the following prompts.

1. **Principal Investigator:** Include Name, Title/Position, and School/Organization
2. **Proposed Project Title**
3. **Description of Project and Projected Outcomes**

4. **Contributing to larger mission of AYME:** Identify how this project contributes to the themes of either Multicultural Youth Ministry or Youth Ministry Pedagogies.

5. **Implementation Plan and Timeline:** Name the stages of the project and when they are expected to be completed.

6. **Methodology:** Describe your research methodology and experience with that kind of research. Describe any technology/tools you expect to utilize in your processes.

7. **Budget:** Identify spending within these categories (plus any additional): Personnel; Equipment; Software; Be sure to include registration fees and related expenses for the 2024 AYME conference.

Submit proposals to Mike Severe at: mcsevere@taylor.edu

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**AYME 2023-2024 The Missing Voices Project & Journal of Youth Ministry Grants**

AYME and The Missing Voices Project (A Lilly funded grant initiative housed at Flagler College) are pleased to announce grants for research writing relating to youth ministry as space for racial reconciliation for a special issue of the *Journal of Youth Ministry*. We are hoping to encourage scholars who are working at the intersection of race and reconciliation, in particular looking at ways that youth ministry might foster friendship across racial difference in and through multicultural expressions of worship, fellowship, and discipleship. Articles that would extend the work of paper presentations at the AYME 2023 conference are particularly encouraged.

**We hope to accept proposals for:**

- Six (6) articles to run in a special issue of the *Journal of Youth Ministry* with awards of $1,000. In addition to articles being published, authors will plan to participate in a podcast interview discussing their article and how their research might shape behavior in the context of youth ministry.
- Up to six (6) book reviews of relevant texts to run in a special issue of the *Journal of Youth Ministry* with awards of $300.

**Request for Proposal (RFP): Race and Reconciliation**

**Grant Timeline:**
- Deadline for proposal submission: November 30, 2023
- Award notification: February 2024
- All book review grant recipients are required to:
  - submit their book review by April 1, 2024.
  - adhering to the *Journal of Youth Ministry* guidelines.
- All article grant recipients are required to:
  - submit their first draft by April 1, 2024 to the peer-review process of the *Journal of Youth Ministry*.
  - participate in a one-hour Zoom call concerning possible practical implications of the article after submitting the draft.
  - participate in a Missing Voices Project podcast concerning their article and research implications.
- Funds will be released at 50% on award of grant and 50% on completion of project.

Submit proposals to Justin Forbes at: jforbes@flagler.edu
Now is the time to combine our efforts.

With over one million young people walking away from their faith per year, TENx10 has made it their mission to turn the tide. This initiative is a collaboration that calls on the entire Christian community to join arms and help faith matter more for 10 million teenagers in the next 10 years - in the spirit of John 10:10. The mission begins October 10th, so it’s not too late to join the movement and help TENx10 advocate for the faith of the next generation.

Join us at TENx10.org

find us: tenx10collab
Preparing Students to Lead Faith Communities in an Increasingly Multicultural World: Insights from Twenty Interviews [Research Paper]

Through a small grant from the Kern Foundation we interviewed twenty leaders of multi-ethnic and multicultural faith communities, seeking to discern current gaps in our preparation of students to serve in an increasingly diverse world. We sought to hear what dispositions, attitudes, skills, knowledge and experiences these leaders believed would best prepare students for engaging ministry in a multicultural/multiethnic world. Our paper presents findings from our interviews.

Modern Day Griots' Speak: Storytelling, Healing, and Pedagogy [Research Paper]

The unfortunate norm of privileged voices dominating the pedagogical narrative perpetuates an unjust, unloving, and divided learning community. Building a more just, loving, and diverse learning community that promotes belonging is possible when a variety of voices contribute to its growth. Lessons from Modern Day Griots teach us that storytelling, healing and pedagogy have the potential to create a learning community that is caring, equitable and values all dimensions of diversity.

Social Justice and the Gospel: A House Divided Cannot Stand [Research paper]

The Evangelical church is in crisis. The current fracture point of the crisis is its relationship to social justice. Evangelicals have no theology for social justice. This paper will present a clear theology for social justice by demonstrating it as an integral part of the Good New Gospel message presented to Abraham and confirmed by the Apostle Paul.

Mixed Messages: Reflections on Multiethnic Identity and Narratives in the Classroom [Research Paper]

Drawing upon the work of Gloria E. Anzaldúa and Paul Ricoeur, this paper presents a personal and scholarly reflection on the author’s multiethnic adoptee identity and how this informs his pedagogy in the higher ed classroom, particularly in teaching youth ministry courses. The paper unpacks Ricoeur’s concepts of “narrative identity” and “social imagination,” and how these concepts can be applied for both multiethnic educators as well as youth ministry practitioners.
Schiller
Andy Jung, LaTasha Nisbett, and Steve Argue, Fuller Theological Seminary/Fuller Youth Institute
Emerging Adult Transitions: Clarifying Where Young Adults Need the Most Support [Research paper]
Over the past twenty-five years, discourse around emerging adulthood has become more nuanced as factors such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, orientation, education, family systems, socioeconomic status, spirituality, etc., impact emerging adults’ experiences, especially transitions. Fuller Youth Institute’s research, generously funded by Lilly Endowment, enabled us to identify seven key transitions among emerging adults. We will present findings from our nationally representative survey of 1,044 emerging adults in the United States who self-identify as Christian and report experiencing a significant shift or change in their twenties.

Streeter
Thi An Hoa Nguyen, LHC, Boston College
Negotiating Identities and Traditions in the Context of the Vietnamese Catholic Immigrant Family [Research paper]
Immigrant parents are concerned that their children might lose their original identity. This paper argues that Cội Nguyên (the origin, the original starting point) can enrich the Christian theological category and immigrant families to recover from their loss of culture and origin. The paper addresses how Cội Nguyên, when interpreted as a cultural resource, enriches immigrant families. It offers constructive practices for accompanying immigrant families to ground their identity in Cội Nguyên.

State
Jacob Sorenson, Sacred Playgrounds
Similarities and Differences in Ministry Priorities Among Mainline and Evangelical Summer Camps [Research paper]
Christian summer camp is often misunderstood and maligned in spite of its strong record of success in building character, faith, and life skills. Surveys of more than 400 camp directors reveal the similarities and differences in their perceptions and ministry priorities. These clarify the common priorities and strategies of camp ministries and reveal how leaders in the Mainline Protestant and American Evangelical camping traditions can learn from one another’s strengths to benefit the church.

Washington
Dave Rahn, TENx10 Collaboration
Trued Empowerment and Multicultural Youth Ministry [Research Paper]
The familiarity of home cultures can mask powers seeking to damage young people. But Jesus is Lord. In his Kingdom no culture is impenetrable because no power is greater than love. Culturally discerning leaders can help teens embrace their self-emptying, power-upending, immersive identity as Christ’s disciples. Leveraging an exposure advantage necessary for this Kingdom refit, multicultural youth ministry can provide adolescents a platform for Spirit-trued empowerment that results in unity beyond diversity and testifies that Jesus is, indeed, Lord.
The Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion seeks to enhance and strengthen education in theology and religion in theological schools, colleges, and universities in the United States and Canada.

OUR MISSION

We convene groups of scholars in-person and online to cultivate growth in teaching and the teaching life. Our workshops, colloquies, and roundtables center the experiences of new educators and marginalized people in the academy and allow colleagues to learn from and support one another.

GATHERINGS

We provide funds for projects that enhance teaching and learning in religion and theology that focus on the following: improving teaching and learning practices in and beyond the classroom; nurturing supportive environments for teachers and learners; and connecting the classroom to the wider society.

GRANTS

We offer blogs, podcasts, an academic journal, videos, syllabi, and webinars as both resources to enhance one’s teaching and teaching life and outlets to share one’s insights with a wider audience.

RESOURCES

Exclusively funded by Lilly Endowment Inc
Academic Presentations 3
Saturday, October 28 @ 10:30-11:20am

Schiller
Henry Zonio, Asbury University
Protestant Youth Attitudes on Race and Religion [Research paper]
Drawing from Bandura’s Social Learning Theory, this paper explores how discussions of racism in religious education influence youth’s agreement that an essential purpose of religion is to “help get rid of unfair treatment of minority races” as well as their views on whether racism is a function of personal characteristics or structural issues. This study analyzes data collected from youth in 5th-12th grades who regularly attend Protestant churches in the U.S. (n=351).

Streeter
Tony Gryskiewicz, Southwestern Assemblies of God University, Assembly of God World Missions
Church Models that Move Diversity [Research paper]
The Purpose of this basic qualitative study was to understand and describe how youth leaders perceived the effectiveness of their youth ministry in engaging multicultural teenagers in Europe. Data were collected from 24 participants in 13 European countries. The findings discovered four church models that helped or hindered participants’ ability to engage ethnically and culturally diverse youth. Based on the findings, implications for practice are offered to those who wish to engage culturally diverse teens.

State
Laura Widstrom, Olivet Nazarene University and Mike Severe, Taylor University
Youth Ministry On the Margins: Contrasting Four Approaches to Disability and Trauma Informed Ministry [Research Paper]
Potentially, the largest unreached people group in the world are those with disabilities. At-risk, adolescents with trauma, disabled teens, and those in foster care are at the margins of society, the church and youth ministry. What models are present for youth ministry students and pastors to equip them to work with disability, trauma and children in foster care? This paper will outline the need and the four main philosophical approaches to disability ministry with youth.

Washington
Theresa O’Keefe, Boston College, and Chris Kiesling, Asbury Seminary
Book Highlights
Two AYME members share the themes of their recently published books. O’Keefe presents on Formative Theological Education, an edited collection from her colleagues at the School of Theology and Ministry at Boston College, published fall 2023 by Paulist Press. Kiesling presents his work Discipleship for Every Stage of Life, set to come out in February 2024 from Baker Academic.
The Journal of Youth Ministry is seeking article and book review submissions for a special issue in 2024 on the theme of “The Missing Voices Project,” focused on multicultural youth ministry in both church and academic settings.

The goal is to highlight diverse perspectives from practitioners, educators, and researchers to help shape inclusive youth ministry in today’s diverse world.

There are funding opportunities sponsored by The Missing Voices Project at Flagler College - up to $1000 for accepted articles and $300 for book reviews. This call represents an opportunity to share your insights, be part of change, and advance understanding of best practices for multicultural youth ministry.

**WHY PARTICIPATE?**

Have questions? Reach out to Carmelle at CCaldwell@Flagler.edu

Flagler College | Saint Augustine, Florida
Schiller
Tommy Carrington, Taylor University and Impact 922 Ministries
An Examination of Multicultural Youth Ministry in the United States: A Practitioner’s Perspective for Teaching Youth Ministry to Practitioners [Collaborative engagement]
It is estimated that over 80% of the United States population currently live in urban and/or multicultural contexts. However, most youth ministry college curricula are focused on ministry to those who work in culturally homogenous settings. This paper will look at youth ministry in multicultural contexts, examine its current trends, and offer suggestions for incorporating multicultural youth ministry concepts and courses in colleges and seminaries, in order to address issues pertinent to the future of youth ministry.

Streeter
Kadeem Massiah and Virginia Ward, Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary
Urban Contextualization for Youth Ministry (Creating spaces of belonging for youth of color) [Research paper]
Creating spaces of belonging for youth of color requires intentionality, sensitivity, and knowledge of the real-world issues they encounter. Urban youth ministry presents new and changing challenges consistently. Urban centers demand youth ministry to be pragmatic, relevant, and cutting edge. What ways can we address the needs of urban youth ministry allowing space for a fast-growing population in our nation? Through our research we have been able to gain insight into steps towards best practices.

State
Karen Jones, Huntington University, and Paul Kelly, Gateway Seminary
Global Youth Values and Faith Development [Research paper]
Lan and Wang write, “Values are abstract life goals, reflecting what is most important in people’s lives. Values can guide behaviors and form a decisive evaluation of people, events, and the self.” Religious values affect life decisions for adolescents. What they hold as most important is likely to change the practice of their faith. The current study has been developed to examine the values of adolescents (ages 12 to 19) from diverse settings and to compare them with faith practices.
Schiller
Tom Bergler, Huntington University, Megan Brown and Robin Bell, University of Northwestern, Tommy Carrington, Taylor University, and Sharon Galgay Ketcham, Gordon College
Bringing Culturally Diverse Voices into the Youth Ministry Classroom: A Panel Discussion [Collaborative engagement]
Panelists will discuss questions like, “What books by and about people from diverse cultural backgrounds have you used in your courses?” “What were the strengths and weaknesses of each?” “What assignments have you used to promote student learning about these topics and how well did they work?” “What resources do you wish were available?” Workshop attendees will be encouraged to talk about their own teaching experiences relevant to the topic.

Streeter
LaTasha Nesbitt and Jennifer Bradbury, Fuller Youth Institute
Redefining Ministry for Young People [Research paper]
Well-established youth ministry models have historically centered on White, middle-class, and often mega-church models. The assumptions about youth ministry often include a Sunday or Wednesday night in-person gathering at the local church led by a paid youth pastor. For churches that do not fit the well-established models to expand their impact, our study highlights exemplary ministries that have not synced well into the traditional well-established model. We aim to highlight how these outstanding ministries have effectively discipled their young people in holistic and community-integrated ways and the practices and leadership postures they have implemented to lead successful ministries.

State
Leslie Long, Oklahoma City University
Called to Ministry: The journey of LGBTQIA+ Students [Research paper]
When LGBTQIA+ individuals feel a strong call to ministry, many are encouraged by their churches to move forward, often because they remain closeted. Many have not been open with their sexual orientation because they do not feel safe in their religious communities. Scripture, tradition, reason, and experience will be used to explore how we engage, accept, or deny a person’s call to ministry. The stories of former students who answered their call despite the prohibitions will be told.
Schiller
Tammie Grimm, Wesley Seminary
The World Is in My Classroom! Now What? Lessons Learned from Teaching Global Theological Education Online [Collaborative Engagement]
When it is no longer necessary for a student to secure visas and financial funding to attend seminary? What adjustments need to be made to address the unique opportunities and challenges that come when previously underrepresented students are in your classroom? This session will share lessons learned and invite dialogue amongst those present for the sake of better serving diverse student groups when teaching a global student population.

Streeter
John DeCostanza, Jr and Tara Segal, Dominican University
Creating the Conditions for Thriving: Culturally Engaging Collegiate Ministry at a Catholic, Hispanic-Serving Institution [Research paper]
Educators and ministers at Dominican University have designed Ministry en lo Cotidiano, a faith justice fellowship engaging Latine communities in Chicago. The program has given rise to similarly structured experiences. Following a short presentation detailing the social locations of the programs (their cultural, theological and epistemological frameworks), the young adult fellows and the University (as a Catholic, Hispanic-Serving Institution), ministers will explore the ways that these high-impact practices are culturally engaging and practice recommendations emerging from them.

State
Ron Hunter, D6 Family Ministry
The Somebodies Behind Martin Luther King, Jr. [Research paper]
Martin Luther King transformed into a racial reformer because of the somebodies in his life. As a result, he communicated to audiences how to change their worldview. King’s worldview-leadership style offered cognitive and emotional suppositions to challenge centuries-old engrained presuppositions within both Caucasian and African-American cultures. By following King’s approach, leaders today can help organizations and cultures not desirous of change to undergo cultural shifts.
The Denver Seminary Doctor of Ministry program is not just a degree; it’s a transformational journey that will challenge your heart, mind, and soul while strengthening your understanding and practice of ministry.

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Join Us Next Year in Charlotte, NC
2024 Annual Conference
October 18-20

www.aymeducators.org