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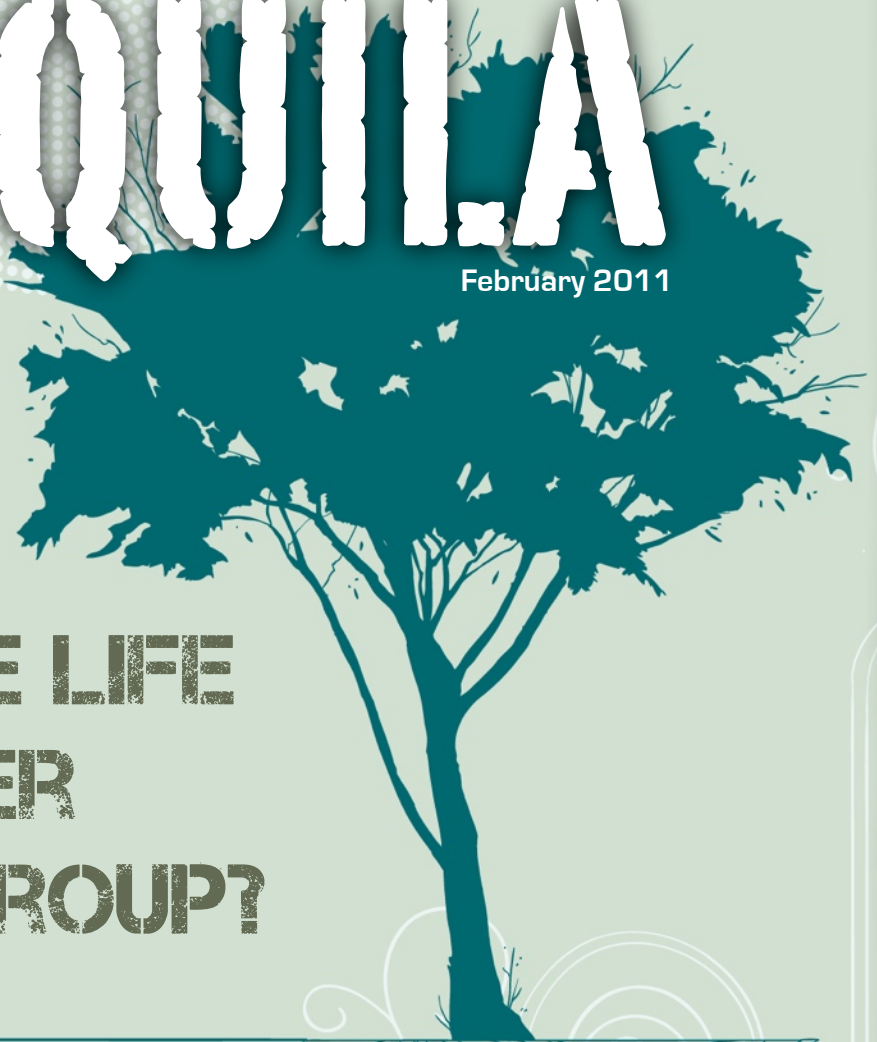
AQUILA

February 2011

IS THERE LIFE
AFTER
YOUTH GROUP?



SUMMIT
rooted



GETTING CONNECTED

An A-Team is an opportunity for District Youth Directors, Leaders, and Ministers to gather to support each other with prayer, accountability and be able to plan district events, and leadership training in a community oriented setting. Together we also allow for a

cross-pollination of creativity to take place moving Youth and Young Adult Ministry to new levels of excellence and creativity fit for an emerging generation.

Contact your District Coordinator to get connected today!

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news & updates

& more

[HTTP://CALPACYOUNGPEOPLE.ORG](http://CALPACYOUNGPEOPLE.ORG)

THE AQUILA

Cal-Pac Conference of The UMC

PO BOX 6006

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626.568.7360 - calpacyoungpeople.org

Editor: Fernando Alcántar

You may subscribe or unsubscribe to the email list, and post a comment or a note in response to any of the items in this edition by sending an email to: aquila@cal-pac.org

CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP
EMERGING LEADERS



11

spirit quest 2011

www.calpacyoungpeople.org



**GO
FISH!**

*april 8-10
camp hess kramer
malibu, ca*

mark 1:17

\$125 · early bird registration · by feb 4, 2010

\$145 · final registration · by march 4, 2011



*junior high event sponsored by
the cal. pac conference of the umc*

11



IS THERE LIFE AFTER YOUTH GROUP?

By Erin Foellmi,
Program Associate

Two weeks ago I had the pleasure of spending the weekend with a wonderful group of young adults in our conference. It was our first Young Adult Summit. We spent the weekend focusing on being Rooted in our faith, studying this verse from Ephesians.

“I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And

I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.” Ephesians 3:16-19



We were blessed to be joined by Bishop Swenson and Rev. Mark Ulrickson, Santa Ana District Superintendent. Dave Roberts led us in our worship music with a wonderful blend of contemporary hymns, familiar favorites, and new music from Dave’s album Invitation. Bishop Swenson, Fernando Alcántar, Leisl Stoufer, Erin Foellmi, and Mark Moore all shared how they have been rooted in their faith. We examined being rooted in Jesus, Scripture, the Spirit, our Wesleyan heritage, and ourselves. Participants served the local community by making bagged lunches, met in small groups for discussions and activities, explored downtown Riverside with a scavenger hunt, and worshiped freely. There was also a highly competitive game of Methodist Jeopardy! It was a wonderful weekend with our young adults getting Rooted in our faith.





During the Young Adult Summit small groups shared interpretations of scripture through drama. In the account of the parable of the lost sheep (Luke 15: 1-7) one of the young adults left church for the beach and the pastor came and brought her back. This is a very familiar story to young adults, although I don't think many pastors are following them to the beach.

In many ways young adults are the lost generation of the church. Congregations have youth programs, children's programs, and family programs.



But what happens in the gap between youth group and starting a family?

Take a moment to honestly think about your church. Think about your worship, programs, and overall mission. Does it reach young, single adults? There are some churches out there that are doing a great job. If you can look around your sanctuary and see more than 10 young adults actively engaged in your church- great job! If not, here are some things to think about...





A lot of what we can do to reach young adults begins when they are still children and youth. Dr. Kara Powell, Director of the Fuller Youth Institute, has been researching what makes faith “stick” in young people beyond high school. They studied 400 young people, all who grew up in active youth ministry programs, in their first three years of college. The Fuller Youth Institute has begun the “Sticky Faith Project”, sharing research and helping congregations transition youth to college.

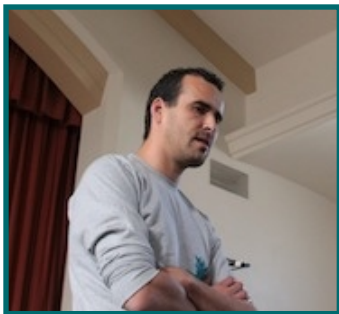
40%

16%

When it comes to preparing seniors for life after youth group, these are probably the two most important statistics you need to know.

Approximately 40% of youth group seniors significantly struggle with their faith and with finding a church after graduation.

Only about 16% of college freshmen felt well prepared by their youth ministries for what they encountered after graduation.



The young adults that did stick reported three major factors in their strong faith.

- 1- They had experienced multi-generational worship. They can recall times they were in worship with those younger and older than them (not just youth church).
- 2- They had served others.
- 3- Someone outside of youth ministry had contacted them within the first six months of graduating.

In practice here is how we can take Powell’s findings and act within our congregations.

- 1- Embrace the youth in worship
- 2- Provide youth opportunities to serve
- 3- Cultivate relationships





The reality is some of these young people may return to the church when they have families of their own, but some may not. It is during the turbulent years of early adulthood when many need a strong faith the most.

Going back to our lost sheep story. Shouldn't we be more like the shepherd? Running after the young adult who decided to go to the beach? This is the call to each of us today, reach out to the lost and forgotten.... Or better yet, as Powell's research shows, give them a home they don't want to leave.

Erin Foellmi
Program Associate
Cal-Pac Center for Young Leaders

YOUTH ALIVE

HAWAII

AM I A ... **life**
savior

LUKE 9:24

MARCH 24-27, 2011

TWO SIMULTANEOUS LOCATIONS:

OAHU & MAUI

COST: \$150.00

WWW.CALPACYOUNGPEOPLE.ORG



HIGH SCHOOL EVENT SPONSORED BY THE CAL-PAC CONFERENCE OF THE UMC



Making a difference in our generation



Do you want a 2011 Youth Service Fund grant?

Youth Service Fund (YSF) is a fund created by youth and for youth.

Each year the youth of our Annual Conference offer grants from our Youth Service Fund for youth related projects.

The applications are reviewed, and recipients are selected by our Conference Council of Youth Ministries (CCYM).

All projects must be for the benefit of: young people, and priority will be given to those projects that are youth-led first.

Applications can be found at the amazing website for our young people: www.calpacyoungpeople.org.

Applications are due by **February 25, 2011** and will be reviewed at the March CCYM meeting.



From Youth to Youth
Youth Service Fund
2011

"Get the word out. Teach all these things. And don't let anyone put you down because you're young. Teach believers with your life: by word, by demeanor, by love, by faith, by integrity. Stay at your post reading Scripture, giving counsel, teaching. And that special gift of ministry you were given when the leaders of the church laid hands on you and prayed—keep that dusted off and in use."

1 Timothy 4:12 (The Message)

CONFERENCE BULLETIN BOARD

30 HOUR FAMINE

Santa Ana District World Vision 30 Hour Famine

March 18 – 19, 2011

Host Site: Spurgeon United Methodist Church
1025 W. Memory Lane, Santa Ana, CA 92706

Contact person: Greg Robbins

714-542-3551 or spurgeonyouth@sbcglobal.net

Tentative times: Friday, March 18 at 6 p.m. till Saturday,
March 19 at 7 p.m.

Bible studies, Interactive TRIBE
Game, service project(s),
activity and worship centers and
more!

All to Help Save Kids' Lives!



BROWN BAGGIN' IT 2011

THE RAT RACE

Brown Baggin' It is an annual overnight Santa Barbara District Event taking place for the 3rd year. It combines leadership training workshops, and fun group activity that changes every year (i.e. broom hockey, bowling, rollerblading).

When: Saturday, March 5—Sunday, March 6, 2011.

Time: 2:00pm—10:00am

Where: United Methodist Church of Westlake Village
1049 S Westlake Blvd
Westlake Village, CA 91361

Schedule: Seminar and Workshops 2:00pm – Dinner 6:30pm –
Rollerblading 9:00pm

Lodging: UMC Westlake Village

Cost: \$15 per person (covers food and bowling)

Workshop Themes:

Time Management

Emotions

Where do youth belong?

Stereotypes

Goal setting and follow through

Consequences of the "wheel" (finding help off the wheel)

History of Methodism and you

What's Next?

Contact: Rev. Brian Long

805-497-7884 ext. 220

Brian@umcwv.org

NATIONAL EVENT



You think you are ordinary? Think again.
Throughout the Bible, God chooses seemingly ordinary
people to do extraordinary things. The Story of God is
filled with unlikely heroes.

YOUTH 2011, more than a gathering

It's a *community* to know that you are not alone.

YOUTH 2011, more than a concert

It's a *communion* with our extraordinary God.

YOUTH 2011, more than an event

It's a *commission* to change your life and your world.



calpacyoungpeople.org/events/brownbaggin