



2023-2024
YOUNG
ADULTS IN
CHRISTIAN
MINISTRY
RESOURCE
GUIDE

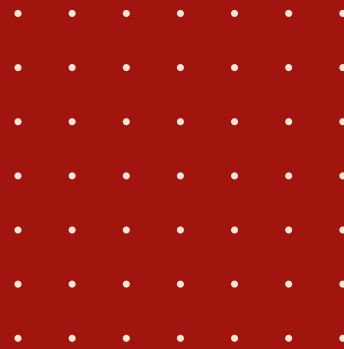


TABLE OF CONTENTS

- ABOUT YACM ORGANIZATION
- WORD FROM THE CHAIR
- QUADRENNIAL GOALS
- MEETING THE STEERING COMMITTEE
- MEETING THE ADVISORS
- WHAT DO OUR COMMITTEES DO?
 - Prayer Cell
 - Scholarship/Budget
 - Membership
 - Constitution
 - Red and Gold
 - Public Relations
- MONTHS OF THE GUIDE
 - March- YACM Observance
 - April- Young, Saved, and Financially Lit
 - May- Young Saved & Building Generational Wealth Through Homeownership
 - June- Young, Saved and Reset
 - July- Young, Saved & Sane
 - August- Young, Saved & Educated
 - September- Young, Saved & Disciplined
 - October- Young, Saved and Surviving
 - November- Young , Saved, and Thankful
 - December - Young, Saved, and Gifted
 - January - Young, Saved, and Renewed
 - February-Young, Saved, and Loving
- WAYS TO REMAIN CONNECTED TO YACM



ABOUT YACM ORGANIZATION

The Young Adults in Christian Ministries was accepted as the third division of the Christian Education Department at the 1986 Convention on Christian Education (Livingstone College, Salisbury, North Carolina). In 1990, history records YACM as officially organized at the Convention on Christian Education at Livingstone College, Salisbury, North Carolina.

FUNCTIONS

The Young Adults in Christian Ministries shall:

- Serve as a policy making body for the young adults of the AME Zion Church
- Cultivate Young Adult membership in the AME Zion Church
- Promote ecumenical involvement on all levels
- Make recommendations in those areas which are Young Adult concerns to the Connectional

STEERING COMMITTEE

- Aid Local, District, Conference and Episcopal units of the Young Adults in Christian Ministries and other Young Adult organizations
- Develop workshops and/or seminars that promote the sharing of information on the problems and concerns that face young adults in today's society
- Provide for the development of leadership skills and abilities among the Young Adults of the denomination. Also, to challenge their involvement in the total ministry of the church.

PURPOSE

To encourage and motivate young adults to maintain committed lives to Christ and practice Christian principles. Provide an atmosphere in which young adults can develop and demonstrate their skills, talents and abilities to the furthering of Christian Education within and throughout the Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church.

GOAL

To develop workshops, seminars, task forces, revivals, retreats, panel discussions and activities that will enrich both the social and spiritual lives of young adults.



WORD FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Young Adults of the African Methodist Zion Church,

Congratulations! You are still here. You are still striving. You are still vying to be the best YOU, you can be! There's a saying we have heard over the past few years, and it's this; "we're in this together." Every time I've heard that I've thought to myself that while we may be in it together, that "together" includes the realization we need to try to accomplish that six feet apart!

This kind of thinking goes so against what the church of Jesus Christ is all about. Of all people, we should be appreciative of the fact that we are "better together," but then again, we were reminded on a daily basis not to be "too together."

During this pandemic, my brain not only hurt, but so did my heart. If there's ever a time where we needed to fellowship and love one another, it was during the past few years, where we all knew first hand what it was like to feel "quarantine," and quite frankly, I was not a fan!

Anyway, we are gathering back together, and becoming CONNECTED! once again and this is something we need to do as the body of Christ and as young adults! We need each other for both emotional and spiritual support.

The Connectional Young Adults theme this year is CONNECTED! That embodies all aspects of retrieving and keeping the young adults across our beloved Zion connected throughout the year and not just at Winter meeting. We have already started the year off with our "Young and Saved" Series. This is a series in which we will tackle tough but relevant conversations that Young Adults deal with on a daily bases like dating, parenting, and social life. But also having conversations and helping to set up financial wealth, residual income, home ownership, etc.

Join us as we get and stay connected this year!

Bro. Dion Harris
Connectional Chairperson
Young Adults in Christian Ministries AME Zion Church





2022-2026 QUADRENNIAL GOALS

OUR QUADRENNIAL GOALS AS YOUNG ADULTS IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES ARE TO **GATHER** IN FELLOWSHIP, GROW IN FAITH, AND GO FORTH TO SPREAD THE LOVE AND MESSAGE OF CHRIST TO THE WORLD.

WE ARE COMMITTED TO CREATING A COMMUNITY WHERE ALL ARE WELCOMED, NURTURED, AND CHALLENGED TO DEEPEN THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD,

TO **GROW** IN THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF HIS WORD, AND TO SERVE OTHERS WITH COMPASSION AND HUMILITY.

AS WE **GO** OUT INTO THE WORLD, WE SEEK TO LIVE OUT OUR FAITH THROUGH OUR ACTIONS, BRINGING HOPE, JOY, AND THE LOVE OF CHRIST TO THOSE WE ENCOUNTER.



THE THREE GS

GATHER: CREATE A COMMUNITY WHERE YOUNG ADULT CHRISTIANS CAN COME TOGETHER IN FELLOWSHIP AND SUPPORT.

GROW: PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG ADULT CHRISTIANS TO DEEPEN THEIR FAITH AND UNDERSTANDING OF GOD'S WORD.

GO: EMPOWER YOUNG ADULT CHRISTIANS TO SPREAD THE LOVE AND MESSAGE OF CHRIST TO THE WORLD THROUGH SERVICE AND EVANGELISM.



MEETING THE STEERING COMMITTEE

BRO. DION HARRIS- CHAIR is a Young Adult who is passionate about Young Adult Ministry and Christian Education. Hailing from Charlotte, NC, he started his CED Journey working on District and Regional levels. He is the immediate past Regional Chairperson for the Southeastern Region YACM. Brother Dion Harris is a member of Mt. Olivet AME Zion Church where he serves as a traveling minister, Trustee, and YACM Director. Bro. Dion is currently in his 3rd Year of Conference Studies in the West Central North Carolina Conference. Bro. Harris is a graduate from North Carolina A&T State University (B.S.) and Full Sail University (M.S.) both majoring in Marketing and Public Relations. Bro. Harris loves good food, traveling and occasional shopping! He is committed to the task of bringing Young Adults to the forefront of our beloved Zion.



KATRINA BROWN- VICE CHAIR serves as the Vice Chair of the Connectional YACM Steering Committee. Her leadership started as a young girl on the NYC District where she served on the Youth Council. She climbed the ranks and served as New York Conference President. At her local church, she currently serves as the Assistant Director of Christian Education at Varick Memorial in BK, Katrina graduated from Long Island University with Bachelors in Sports Science and received her Masters in School Counseling from Alfred University. Currently she works as school counselor at Benjamin Cardozo High School.



TASHARAH PERSON- TREASURER is a Worcester, Massachusetts native who has an ever-growing passion and zeal for youth and young adult ministry. She was born into and raised by the New England Conference where her church home of 22 years was Belmont A.M.E. Zion Church. Tasharah has served in various capacities under the umbrella of Christian Education over the last ten years. Upon moving, she found a new home in Judah Temple A.M.E. Zion Church under the leadership of Presiding Elder Scot C. Moore. It was at Judah Temple that Tasharah accepted her call to the preaching ministry. She, subsequently, preached her trial sermon on July 17, 2021 and eight months later, received her local preacher's license at the 2022 Baltimore District Conference.

Prior to moving to the Philadelphia-Baltimore Conference in 2019, Tasharah served as the Youth Council President in the New England Conference. Her work in youth and young adult ministry did not stop there as she currently serves as the Baltimore District Director of Young Adults. Tasharah recently concluded her tenure as the Treasurer of the Connectional Varick International Christian Youth Council (2018-2022) and was elected as the Treasurer of the Connectional Young Adults in Christian Ministries Steering Committee (2022-2026) at the 2022 Christian Education Department Winter Meeting. Additionally, she serves on the Mid-Atlantic Episcopal District Communications Team as the virtual hosting coordinator. She was also recently appointed as the Creative Director of Christian Education for the denomination under the leadership of Rev. Patrick Barrett II, Gen. Sec. In addition to her work vocationally and ministerial, Tasharah is a published children's book illustrator and commissioned portrait artist. She is a firm believer that with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, investment of our leadership, and support of our elders, young adult impact and engagement will expand to higher heights and deeper depths.

NICOLE MCLAUHLIN- SECRETARY is a native of Fayetteville, North Carolina. Nicole graduated from Methodist University with a degree in music education, University of NC at Pembroke with a Master's degree in Music Education with a concentration in Voice, and Long Island University with a Master's in Educational Leadership. Nicole is a music educator and private music instructor for over 15 years. Along with teaching in both public and private school system, Nicole has also been an adjunct professor. Nicole is in the music ministry where she is the musical director at St. Charles AME Zion Church. Nicole strongly believes her call is to encourage, build, and uplift young women by showing them how important it is to find their purpose in Jesus Christ. She is a new author and released her first book on December 11, 2017 entitled "Dear Future Bride: Fifty Letters to the Bride to be." She is currently getting ready to release her second book "Dear Future Groom." It is her hope that books will give nuggets of advice for women and men who are in the dating phase of their lives from a biblical perspective.





DOMISHA WILLIAMS- CHAPLAIN has been in Zion since she was a little girl singing in the Choir with her family. She started a dance ministry with her older sister and little cousin, and they danced until her Sister went off to college. She started working at her Mothers Church at Sherman Chapel AME Zion as the Children and Youth Sunday School teacher and dance instructor. She graduated from Jefferson Community Technical College in Louisville Kentucky.

She served as the Kentucky Conference Youth Council President until she turned 22. and stepped in and helped with the Central Regional meetings making sure all the workshops were planned and set for the Youth Department. If you see Domisha you might as well tell her to bring the gloves and mask as she always blesses us with her "Testimony" in Mime Dance. She is currently the Dance Instructor at her Church Spradling Memorial AME Zion for Children, Youth, and Adults.



REV. RICK L. LEE -PARLIAMENTARIAN is Young Adult who is passionate about Christian Education and seeing the lives of Young Adults and all of God's people being impacted by the power and ministry of the Holy Spirit. His journey in the ordained ministry began in 2016 when he answered his call to preach at his home church, the St. Paul A.M.E. Zion Church in Detroit, MI, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Eleazar Merriweather. He is currently serving as the proud pastor of the Moore's Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church in Morrilton, AR.

Rev. Lee is a student at the Livingstone College and has worked most of his professional career in the Human Resources and Paralegal fields. Outside of work, he has and continues to serve in various capacities throughout our great connection including: Local Christian Education Director, Trustee, Musician, Choir Director, Midwest Technology Administrator, Tech Support & Project Manager for the Dept. of Church Growth & Development, District Director of Christian Education, Regional Co-Vice President for the Assembly of Christian Educators, and many other roles.

Rev. Lee loves good food, good music & serving in God's Church. His prayer is that he may use his gifts to the upbuilding of God's Kingdom through the power of the Holy Spirit.

BRITTONI JOHNSON- MIDWESTERN REGION CHAIR is an Arkansas native who has an ever-growing passion and love for youth and young adult ministry. She was born and raised in the Arkansas Conference where her church home was Cherry Street A.M.E. Zion Church. Brittoni has served in various capacities under the umbrella of Christian Education over the last ten years. In 2018 Brittoni received her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Jackson State University and in 2021 she received her Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from Mississippi College. Brittoni is currently pursuing her Educational Specialist in Educational Leadership from Arkansas State University. Brittoni currently attends Cathedral A.M.E Zion Church in Jackson, MS where she serves as the director of children. Brittoni also serves as the Midwestern Region Chair for the 2022-2026 YACM Connectional Steering Committee.



RAPUNIZAL BOYKIN - SOUTH CENTRAL REGION CHAIR is a native of Mobile, AL and a part of the Alabama-Florida Episcopal District. She has always had a passion for young people and aiding those in need from a young age.

Rapunizal has served in the AME Zion Church in various ways as a youth and currently. She is a member of Pilgrim Rest AME Zion Church where she is the Secretary of the Christian Education Department. She has previously served on the 2018-2022 VICYC Connectional Cabinet before accepting the South Central Region Chairperson position on the 2022-2026 YACM Steering Committee.

Rapunizal currently works in Higher Education Administration in a local college in Mobile where she is serving the young adult population. In the future, she plans to continue working with young adults in the Church and professionally.



JESSICA PETTIGREW- CENTRAL REGION CHAIR is a Young Adult who has a fire and passion for seeing Young Adults grow in God and seeing God use them for His glory. Her journey into ministry started in 2018, when she answered her calling to preach, at the church she grew up her whole life, St. Paul A.M.E. Zion Church in Detroit, MI. Her pastor and father in ministry is, Rev. Dr. Eleazar Merriweather.

Sis. Pettigrew holds a Masters in Audio Production and is studying Business at the University of Phoenix. She is a Co-chair of the Audio and Tech Team, choir director, singing in the choir, dance ministry at her church, musician, Director of YACM in the Detroit District and Local YAMS Coordinator. She also helps with tech support wherever needed. If you ask, she would say yes. Yes, because she loves to serve in the Kingdom of God.



Sis. Pettigrew loves good music, dancing and loves to make people laugh. She loves serving in God's house and is willing to do whatever for the Kingdom. Her continue pray, is that God continues to use and move her with her testimony, gifts and talents to continue to help Young Adults grow through the Holy Spirit and build up the Kingdom of God.

TREMAINE MILLER- SOUTHEASTERN REGION CHAIR also known as "Tre" is a native of Cassatt, South Carolina and a graduate of Strayer University majoring in Information Technology. He is the CEO/Founder of Tr3mark Studios, LLC that specializes in photography, videography, graphic design and marketing development. As a passionate and driven entrepreneur, Tremaine helps nonprofit and local churches improve their media presence inclusive of social media content and visual communication.



Growing up Non-Denominational, Tremaine is a self-taught musician and has experiences traveling as a band musician. As Tremaine, matured in his work with the Lord, he made a conscious decision to become a member of the A.M.E. Zion Church. Following the leadership guidance of many in the SAED area, Tremaine is an active member in the local church area. Currently serving as the Episcopal Director of Media and Communications for the South Atlantic Episcopal District, Tremaine uses his gifts to glorify God. Tremaine also works as the Rock Hill District YACM Chairperson. During the 2022 CED election, Tremaine was elected as a member of the Connectional Young Adults in Christian Ministries (YACM) Steering Committee and later voted to the office of Southeastern Region YACM Chairperson. In both capacities, Tremaine will continue to assist with the planning of activities to engage young adults for the local and connectional church. He also works diligently to assist in fundraising ideas, and marketing tools to promote young adult ministry.

REV WILLIAM THOMAS DEARMOND JR.- WESTERN REGION CHAIR

accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior at a young age and he answered the call of ministry at the age of thirteen and became heavily involved in the church.

William began his ministerial trek in 2010 when he preached his trial sermon at Kyles Temple AME Zion Church in May of 2010 under the leadership of Reverend Gloria Clemons-White. He continued his work in ministry serving at St. Stephens AME Zion Church in High Point North Carolina under the leadership of Reverend Henrico White while attending Livingstone College in Salisbury, NC.

In 2016 he returned to Sacramento, California, and was received into Full Connection into the California Conference in June of 2017. It was also in June of 2017 that Bishop Staccato Powell assigned William to be the Pastor in Charge of Victory Center AME Zion Church in Hayward, California. In 2021, Bishop Brian Thompson assigned William as the Pastor in Charge of Stewart Tabernacle AME Zion Church in Fresno, California. By the grace of God, he was ordained an Elder in February of 2023.



REV. DR. BRANDON D. MCLAUHLIN- EASTERN REGION CHAIR

is the pastor of the historic St. Charles AME Zion Church in Sparkill, New York. Since his arrival Dr. McLauchlin has conveyed a central message of ‘Loving God, Loving People’ while leading and fostering the concept of a “giving church”, that encourages members to remain engaged in the process of giving back to the community. Under the leadership of Dr. McLauchlin, St Charles has successfully conducted drives to collect food, socks, pampers and school supplies, the items collected were given to local nonprofits including: People to People, The Martin Luther King Center, The Warming Center, and Loeb House.

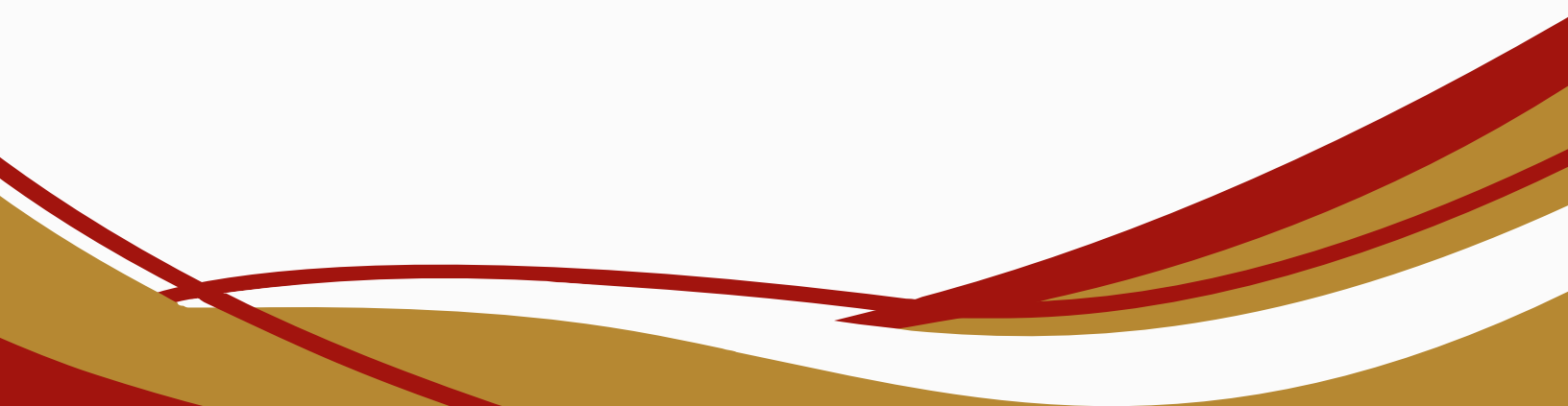
Dr. McLauchlin is a graduate of Fayetteville State University, Fayetteville, North Carolina. His degree is in General Music. He graduated from Campbell University Divinity School, Buies Creek, North Carolina with a Masters of Divinity degree. Additionally, he graduated from Drew Theological School, Madison, New Jersey with a Doctor of Ministry Degree. He currently serves as a professor at St. Thomas Aquinas teaching Race, Religion, and Social Justice.

Dr. McLauchlin has held many positions in the church. He is the director of evangelism for the Westchester District of the AME Zion Church and is now the prayer coordinator of the Northeast Episcopal District.





CORINTHIA HURLEY - MEMBER AT LARGE is a student of Business Administration/Psychology. She is a servant leader with a heart for young adult ministry, who believes that God empowers each of us to work in community to ensure that the "least of these" are afforded the best opportunities through advocacy, policy change and education. She is the mother of 2 amazing children and a proud member of the Mt. Pisgah AME Zion Church in Merced, California. Corinthia answered the call to ministry and preached her trial sermon on October 18, 2020 and continues to follow where God is leading her.



MEET OUR ADVISORS

REV. NATHANIEL COX & LADY MAGGIE COX

Greetings in the wonderfully marvelous name of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ!

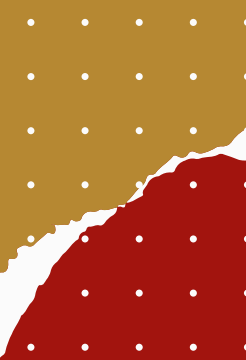
We count it a privilege and an honor to serve with such an amazing group of people. This steering committee is on fire and working extra hard to make discipleship available to all. They are taking bold steps with strategic planning to reach the masses. We are super excited about what God is going to do through this steering committee.

1 John 2:14 says, I have written to you, fathers, because you know Him who has existed from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong and vigorous, and the word of God remains [always] in you, and you have been victorious over the evil one [by accepting Jesus as Savior]. One thing that we love about this passage is that there is a commonality between the fathers and the young men. They both know God. It doesn't matter if you accepted Christ as your Savior in 1963 or 2023, we can agree that we know him. Here is where things get tough... We both know God, however the young are strong, vigorous, and victorious. Fathers and mothers, we need your wisdom. We need your knowledge of God. Young adults, we need your strength and victorious testimony of overcoming and becoming. If we can get the seasoned saints to collaborate with the young saints, with the help of the Holy Spirit, we would be on one accord. Be secure enough in your knowing of God to allow Him to take care of you and your concerns.





COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS



BUDGET COMMITTEE/SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

SIS. TASHARAH PERSON, CHAIRPERSON

The responsibility of the Budget Committee is to develop financial growth strategies and monitor the financial obligations of the organization. Thus, it is vital to identify and implement fundraising possibilities that will ultimately contribute to the General Fund, in addition to establishing a standard budget that aligns with the goals and vision of the Young Adults in Christian Ministries. Such possibilities include: YACM merchandise sales, membership promotion initiatives, the encouragement of offerings, and the pursuit of grants. Regional chairpersons will submit the names of their elected regional treasurers as connectional budget committee members upon the close of their respective regional meetings.

The Scholarship Committee is responsible for identifying methods to encourage academic education and workforce development among young adults. This includes the design of scholarship and microgrant award processes. The YACM Scholarship Committee seeks to award a \$1,500 scholarship at the 2023 Winter Meeting to a young adult applicant who demonstrates academic excellence, spiritual maturity, and intellectual leadership.

The Budget and Scholarship Committees' goals support our vision to:

- Be profitable
- Be accountable
- Be helpful
- Be reliable
- Be auditable

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

REV. RICK LEE, CHAIRPERSON

Memberships help to ensure that the Connectional Young Adults in Christian Ministry has the funds and resources to implement programming, training, scholarship and other ministry initiatives that serve to impact the lives of young adults throughout our Connection. Memberships are essential to the success & permanence of our efforts to create credible, committed, Christian disciples amongst our target demographic. The Membership Committee works to ensure that young adults are connecting with and supporting the Young Adult Ministry through establishing a membership program. The Committee is responsible for developing, maintaining and proposing adjustments to the program as the need may arise. It is comprised of a team of young adults throughout our Connection who volunteer to work on the committee.

Any young adults who feel called to work in this area of Young Adult ministry are encouraged to reach out to the Membership Chairperson to discuss opportunities to become a part of this vital Committee.

RED AND GOLD COMMITTEE

BRITTNI JOHNSON, CHAIRPERSON

The purpose of the Red and Gold Committee is to plan fun and innovative fellowship activities to help young adults develop relationships with peers who share similar values and beliefs, which nurture and strengthen their faith, thereby creating communities of support. Our focus activity is the annual Red and Gold Fellowship held in December during Truthville.

If you would like to get involved and become a member of the Red and Gold Committee, please get in touch with the committee chair Brittni Johnson for more information.

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

REV. RICK LEE, CHAIRPERSON

Our Constitution governs the organization and activities of the Connectional Young Adults in Christian Ministry. It establishes the structure, purpose and activities of our ministry. The Constitution Committee is the subject matter expert on matters pertaining to the Constitution. The Committee also works to ensure that the Constitution is updated and sufficiently structured to ensure it will empower the organization to remain relevant and effective in meeting the needs of young adults throughout our connection. To that end, the Committee from time to time may propose additions and/or adjustments to be considered and voted upon by the Y.A.C.M. membership.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

REV. WILLIAM DEARMOND, CHAIRPERSON

Our Public Relations Committee helps to inform the public about our organization. We serve the organization through traditional media advertising campaigns, sponsorships, product placement, social media campaigns, social education, and social responsibility. We advise by means of media relations for Crisis Communications in regard to Public Affairs and Strategic Communications and Advertising.



MONTHS OF THE GUIDE



MARCH-YACM OBSERVANCE MONTH

KATRINA BROWN, VICE CHAIR

On the third Sunday in March, it is encouraged that the local church celebrates the involvement of young adults. To promote the event, young adults from your community should be invited to service, regardless of membership. Young adults (22-40) should lead all areas of worship. If possible, have a young adult minister deliver the sermon. The attire should be young adult driven (casual Sunday). The music and the elements of worship should be designed by and with young adults in mind. We have created a program that can be incorporated into any worship service.

This year's theme is "Share the Faith!" We have been endeavoring to "Share the Faith" through young focused programming. Engaging with the YACM through our Facebook page. "Share the Faith" is an action phrase. We can not share something we don't have or believe in. We must have faith in order to share it. What does your faith like? Do you only have when things are going good and life is moving smoothly? Or do you have when your life is a wreck and it seems like God is nowhere to be found?

Matthew 9:37 Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few." It is our endeavor as the Connectional Steering Committee to provide support and resources to churches as it is our goal to bring souls to Christ. There is no one size fits all philosophy. Jesus did not approach everyone the same. He meets his people where they are and we need to meet people where they are. While we share the faith, you are acknowledging that our differences are what make us strong and enable us to serve the kingdom of God.

Some Suggested Activities:

- Social Media Picture Challenge
- Young Adult-Led Service
- Game Night
- YACM Outing (bowling, sip and paint, brunch,,)
- Young Adult-Focused Bible Study
- Just a safe space for Young Adults to convene and be with one another



"Our faith becomes stronger as we express it; a growing faith is a sharing faith." – Billy Graham

APRIL- YOUNG, SAVED AND FINANCIALLY LIT

KATRINA BROWN, VICE CHAIR

Financial literacy is the ability to understand and effectively use various financial skills, including personal financial management, budgeting, and investing. The meaning of financial literacy is the foundation of your relationship with money, and it is a lifelong journey of learning.

“For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you.” 2 Corinthians 9:10 NLT

To be financially lit, we must be good stewards of what God has given us. It is our goal during this month to teach young adults how to be financially lit. Whether you are looking to buy a home, getting married, preparing for a baby or just want to get better with money, April is a great month to get started. There are many resources out there to help you become more financially lit.

Here are a few tips that you can use:

- Talk to a financial professional
- Be honest with yourself about your financial situation
- Keep a budget
- Subscribe to financial newsletters. For free financial news in your inbox, try subscribing to financial newsletters from trusted sources
- Listen to financial podcast
- Read personal finance books
- Track your spending
- Pay off your debt
- Plan for retirement
- Plan for emergencies

THERE ARE SO MANY RESOURCES OUT THERE THAT CAN HELP WITH YOUR FINANCIAL LITERACY JOURNEY.

“The single biggest difference between financial success and financial failure is how well you manage your money. It's simple: to master money, you must manage money.”

MAY- YOUNG SAVED & BUILDING GENERATIONAL WEALTH THROUGH HOMEOWNERSHIP

CORINTHIA HURLEY, MEMBER-AT- LARGE

Home ownership is the American dream, it's what we all strive towards growing up. Our parents and society tell us that when we grow up we will get a good job, buy a house, have a family and live happily ever after . However, for so many who look like us this never becomes a reality; and the dream is never realized. While the U.S Homeownership rate increased to 65.5% in 2021 and Asian and Hispanic Americans experienced the largest homeownership rate gains over the last decade and Asian Americans reached an all time high 62.8%. The rate amongst African Americans lags significantly 44% and has only increased 0.4% in the last decade; which is 29 percentage points less than White Americans 72.7% . We endeavor to educate young adults on how to close that gap and not only achieve their American dream but to also build wealth for generations to come!

A few tips to help you on your Homeownership journey;

1. Get your financial house in order;

- Gather pay stubs/ proof of employment
- Tax documents/ bank statements
- Asset & Debt information
- Get pre- approved
- Know your credit score
- Determine how much you will use as a down payment

2. Work with a reliable Realtor and Lender

- When looking for a realtor/ lender get referrals from family, friends and colleagues, also search for any reviews
- Research mortgages available to first time buyers
- Research first time buyers down payment assistance in your area

3. Tour homes

- Tour as many homes as possible both online and in person
- Research the neighborhoods / school districts
- Be sure to visit the neighborhood at different times to make sure it's right for you

4. Make an offer but inspect the property

- Make sure your offer is contingent upon an inspection
- Schedule an inspection to identify major property issues like foundation, roof, HVAC, plumbing and even electrical
- Any issues found during inspection can help you to determine if you want to move forward at all or negotiate a better price

JUNE- YOUNG, SAVED AND RESET

RAPUNIZEL BOYKIN, SOUTH CENTRAL REGION CHAIR

It is important that we take time to come back to the foundation of who we are. Often we get overwhelmed with life's challenges and problems, but we must stay steadfast in prayer, grounding, and mental health. We would like to encourage young adults to manage stress, emotions, and set realistic goals. We want to recenter and focus on what is important to our lives. We want to share meditation tips, prayers to stay grounded, and best practices on self-care. Self-care is very important. Even the scriptures discuss the need for rest, reset and refresh.

Psalm 23:2-3 says "He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.3 He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake."

In our culture, rest is viewed as something that is wrong and that we should always be booked, busy and stressed. Busyness is viewed as productivity and rest is laziness. Reset is necessary in order to move forward. "Rest is anything that connects your mind to your body"- The Nap Ministry When you are busy, your mind is not connected to your body. Many of our body, minds and spirits are disconnected because we don't spend time resetting in order to be refreshed. Everything needs to be reset. When our computers stop working, we unplug it to reset and refresh it. So why do we believe that we aren't worthy of the same thing?

Ways that we can reset:

- Take time to read your scripture and meditate.
- Eat healthy, regular meals and stay hydrated.
- Make sleep a priority.
- Stop and breathe for 2 mins.
- Create a mindfulness journal.
- Host a retreat where the focus is on self-care and ways to reset (in person or virtual).
- Host a self-care/reset event once a quarter with your local young adults.
- Get regular exercise. Just 30 minutes of walking every day can help boost your mood and improve your health.

"You become what you digest into your spirit. Whatever you think about, focus on, read about, talk about, you're going to attract more into your life. Make sure they're all positive."

— Germany Ken



JULY- YOUNG, SAVED & SANE

REV. WILLIAM DEARMOND- WESTERN REGION CHAIR

There are many things that we as young adults go through that cause issues and circumstances in our lives. Today we face depression, anxiety, and other mental health disorders that go untreated and are sometimes not even acknowledged. It is important to know that you can have God and a therapist and thrive in today's society.

During July, it is our goal to assist YA in an effort to be Young, Saved and Sane. We hope to give our young adults a better understanding of things in their emotional wheel that they may not understand or know how to cope with. Tools to comprehend and goals to overcome these oppositions will be discussed for hopes of a better now and an even better future.

John 14:27 says "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful."

While we are leaning on Jesus and trusting him to be our sources of peace. We also know that he has gifted mental health professionals with the ability to assist us with working on and aligning our peace and faith. One does not work without the other. Even Jesus took time to get his mind together in preparation for the largest task of his life. What makes us think that we are better than Jesus.

FIVE TIPS TO

IMPROVE YOUR MENTAL HEALTH



PHYSICAL

Exercise (think "baby steps!"... even a short walk helps), drink lots of water, see your doctor, eat foods that make you healthier, take time to stretch throughout the day



MINDFUL

Try yoga, meditation, make a list of three things you are grateful for, engage in random acts of kindness, spend time in nature or outdoors when possible



SOCIAL

Try something new and creative, call a friend/family member, send a card/note, organize lunch/dinner over video chat with friends or family



EMOTIONAL

Focus on the present moment, not what might happen; increase positive self-talk—be a cheerleader for yourself or a friend, find activities that relieve stress and tension, journal, try therapy or support group



MENTAL

Try something new and creative, call a friend/family member, send a card/note, organize lunch/dinner over video chat with friends or family



AUGUST- YOUNG, SAVED & EDUCATED

NICOLE MCLAUHLIN, SECRETARY



August is a month where many people of all ages are preparing to go back to school. Whether it is primary age students all the way to adults entering graduate level studies. Usually, around this time of year, stores are having back to school sales and churches are planning back to school drives to help congregants prepare for a successful year of school. Helpful tips and strategies are given to students to use throughout the year by parents, caregivers, and educators. During the month of August, we will empower young adults to not only have the practical tools for success in their studies, but how to remain spiritually steadfast in the word of God in their journey as a student.

SOME SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES:

- Back to School Drive
- Back to School Prayer Kickoff Worship Service and Prayer
 - Wear school colors or para to represent your school
- Study Session Time at Coffee Spot
- YACM First Day of School Selfie on Social Media Page (Whether you are in school or teaching/administration, etc.)
- Sharing My Faith 101 Session: How to evangelize or share my faith to my classmates?
- Post your favorite highlight of your first month of school

BACK TO
SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER- YOUNG, SAVED & DISCIPLED

REV. RICK LEE, PARLIAMENTARIAN

September is our Christian Education Observance month where we highlight Christian Education throughout our denomination. A central focus of the Christian Education is the continual development of credible, committed, Christian Disciples. This embodies the mission of the Church given by Christ in His commissioning of us to go & make disciples. We acknowledge that the discipleship journey is not a one-size-fits-all experience. This journey towards spiritual maturity may vary from generation to generation, and even from person to person; but we all still have a responsibility to grow. While many young adults have disconnected from traditional church practices and activities, they still have a desire & hunger to know God and to grow spiritually. During the month of September we will explore how young adults can be disciplined in ways that are engaging, impactful and relevant to where they are in their everyday lives.



OCTOBER- YOUNG, SAVED AND SURVIVING

BRITTONI JOHNSON, MIDWESTERN REGION CHAIR



October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Our goal throughout the month is to increase awareness of the disease and stress the importance of mammograms as the best tool to screen for breast cancer, the second most common type of cancer among women. Knowing how your breasts normally look and feel is an important part of your breast health. Although having regular screening tests for breast cancer is important, mammograms do not find every breast cancer. This means it's also important for you to know what your breasts normally look and feel like, so you'll be aware of any changes in your breasts.

The most common symptom of breast cancer is a new lump or mass (although most breast lumps are not cancer). A painless, hard mass that has irregular edges is more likely to be cancer, but breast cancers can be also soft, round, tender, or even painful. Other possible symptoms of breast cancer include:

- Swelling of all or part of a breast(even if no lump is felt)
- Skin dimpling
- Breast or nipple pain
- Nipple retraction(turning inward)
- Nipple or breast skin that is red, dry, flaking ,or thickened
- Nipple discharge(other than breast milk)
- Swollen lymph nodes under the arm or near the collarbone(Sometimes this can be a sign of breast cancer spread even before the original tumor in the breast is large enough to be felt.)

Providing helpful tips and strategies are given to women and men for early detection, lowering risk factors, and highlighting survivor stories.

October is also Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and we will also use this month to bring awareness as well as advocate for the end of domestic violence. We want to be able to provide YA with the necessary tools and support to combat domestic abuse. To educate yourself further on the signs and/ or how to help. You can check out the websites below.

<https://www.thehotline.org/>

<https://ccdvd.org/helping-someone-you-know/#>

<https://www.rainn.org/news/how-support-someone-who-experiencing-domestic-violence>



NOVEMBER- YOUNG , SAVED, AND THANKFUL

DOMISHA WILLIAMS- CHAPLAIN

November is the Month of Thanksgiving. We give thanks for the blessings God has bestowed upon us. This month our focus is to not only thank our family and friends, but to also Thank God for everything he has done for us. As we get ready to gather for Thanksgiving we want to remember the ones who are considered homeless and needy,

for the word says, “The Godly care about the rights of the poor; the wicked don’t care at all.” Proverbs 29:7 NLT So as young adults, I challenge us All to find

a charitable organization where we can volunteer our services and show our Light throughout the month.

During this time of Thankfulness, take some time to reflect on the things you are grateful for.

Reflection:



DECEMBER - YOUNG, SAVED, AND GIFTED

DR. BRANDON MCLAUHLIN- EASTERN REGION CHAIR

The Advent Season focuses on how to prepare our hearts for Christ's birth in the world as it is today. This is a special time for believers to remember the special gifts of HOPE, PEACE, JOY, and LOVE. During this month, we will not only focus on the precious gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love that Christ gives us everyday - but the gifts that Jesus has blessed us with so that we can offer back to him for his glory.

SOME SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES:

- Young Adults to read the advent series for worship service
- Young Adults posting videos on Social Media for how they can share hope, peace, joy, and love in their context.
- Young Adult Focused Bible Study on Spiritual Gifts
 - What is my gift?(Survey)
 - How do we use the gifts God has given to be used for his glory
- Young Adult Gift Exchange (gifts bought must be centered around Hope, Peace, Joy, Love)



JANUARY - YOUNG, SAVED, AND RENEWED

TASHARAH PERSON- TREASURER



Twenty twenty-four.

The start of a year represents newness. It is a time to glance at where we were, and envision, prepare for, and pray over where we are headed. We are launching into this new year with the expectation of a mighty renewal. In so doing, our January declaration is that we are “Young, Saved, and Renewed”.

This can be the opportunity to begin a devotion, initiate days with prayer and meditation, pray over a fasting period, focus on self-care and spiritual care, cleansing the mind, body, and soul of unhealthy habits. Take a moment to stop and consider: what in my life and ministry has been working? What can I do to sustain that? What has not been working? What can I do to change that?

Embrace this season of renewal by actively cleansing and modifying old actions and behaviors. In your example, inspire others to do the same. Together we will explore healthy ways to renew ourselves: spiritually, emotionally, mentally, and physically.

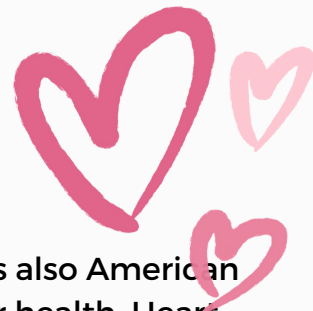
SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES:

- Vision boarding
- Zumba class
- Health and wellness workshop
- Nutritious cooking class
- Meditation and yoga workshop
- Weekly calls with prayer/accountability partners



FEBRUARY -YOUNG, SAVED AND HEART HEALTHY

BRITTNI JOHNSON, MIDWESTERN REGION CHAIRPER



February is a month is most known for Valentine’s Day, but February is also American Heart Month, a time when all people can focus on their cardiovascular health. Heart disease is the No. 1 killer for all Americans, and stroke is also a leading cause of death. As frightening as those statistics are the risks of getting those diseases are even higher for African-Americans. The good news is we can improve the odds of preventing and beating these diseases by understanding the risks and taking simple steps to address them.

It is our goal to use the month of February to encourage Young Adults to take care of their hearts literally and figuratively.

Some Suggested Activities:

- A Love Your Neighbor Campaign
- Social Media Campaign
- Photo Challenge
- Hold a Blood Drive
- Valentines Gala
- Hold a Faith and Fitness event and share literature about the importance of physical activity in preventing heart disease. Conduct a taste test and cooking demonstration using heart-healthy recipes. Teach students, staff and families how to manage stress. Offer a stress management workshop or meditation or yoga class.
- Plan “date night” fellowship activities
- Plan fellowship activities for singles
- Create a fitness challenge
- Wear red on National Wear Red Day



WAYS TO CONNECT WITH US

YACM Steering Committee Directory

Name	Office	Email
Dion Harris	Chair	djharris2012@gmail.com
Katrina Brown	Vice Chair	nycyouthdistrict@gmail.com
TasharahPerson	Treasurer	tasharahp@gmail.com
Nicole McLauchlin	Secretary	nmclauchlin143@gmail.com
Rev. Rick Lee	Parliamentarian	rl.onkeyz@gmail.com
Domisha Williams	Chaplin	domishawilliams21@yahoo.com
Tremaine Miller	South Eastern Region Chair	millertremaineamez@gmail.com
Jessica Pettigrew	Central Region Chair	yacmcentralreg23@gmail.com
Rev. Dr. Brandon McLauchlin	Eastern Region Chair	bdmclauchlin@gmail.com
Rapunizel Boykin	South Central Region Chair	rboykin12@gmail.com
Rev. William T. DeArmond Jr	Western Region Chair	chair@westernyacm.com
Brittini Johnson	Midwestern Region Chair	brittnij14@gmail.com
Corinthia Hurley	Member -At- Large	Chinastar415510@gmail.com



YOUNG ADULTS IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES



