



Something to Start With

2008-2009

Training to Last a Lifetime

The Youth Newsletter of the Iowa Annual Conference
2301 Rittenhouse Street
Des Moines, IA 50321
Phone: 515-974-8912
Fax: 515-974-8962
deedee.sobotka@iaumc.org

I'm writing this article in the midst of an office in complete disarray. What started out as a harmless idea of rearranging my workspace over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend dissolved into a 6 hour marathon stretching over two days of emptying out and moving an obesely overweight desk, weaning myself from three boxes of books, trying five different bookshelf configurations before finally settling on the one that fits the space best and running computer, telephone and electrical cords in several temporary directions. I finally have a working telephone and computer hooked up and a confusing combination of boxes, books, contents of desk drawers and too many knick knacks to confess to strewn over the floor of my office.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE	Page
Youth Strike for Christ	2
The 'Source	2
The 'Source con't	3
District Youth Coordinators	4
Youth Worker Movement	4
TRAX: Youth Ministry Essentials	5

In the course of packing and unpacking boxes I came across lots of lost treasures and forgotten mementoes and the memories that go with them. One of the more interesting finds was a folder that contained certificates, notes and other information from many of the continuing education events that I've attended over the past 15 years in ministry. I experienced a renewed level of learning as I flipped through pages of notes and remembered lectures and presentations and workshops and small group discussions on a host of ministry related topics. I was reminded of how important those training events have been for me. They have provided me with vital skills. They have stimulated my theological thinking. They have challenged my preconceived ideas. They have given me valuable knowledge without which I, quite frankly, wouldn't be who I am today.

This edition of "Something to Start With" is chockfull of training opportunities for 2009 that will be available for adults working in youth ministries - most of them at very low or **no** cost. I hope that you'll look over these opportunities, find one or two or several that interest you and plan to attend. Hopefully there a things here that will benefit your ministry and training that will last a lifetime.

Eric

Coming Soon!!

Youth Strike for Christ

More information on Page 2

"If we pray, we will believe.
If we believe, we will love.
If we love, we will serve."

Mother Teresa

Good News from Iowa UMC Youth

Tired of bad news? Do you like reading "feel good" stories that warm your heart? We want to devote a portion of this newsletter to showcase the great things that are happening with our youth. Send your stories to DeeDee at the address listed below and she will make sure that they are included in the next newsletter!

Iowa Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church
c/o DeeDee Sobotka
2301 Rittenhouse St.
Des Moines, IA 50321

Or email your stories to
deedee.sobotka@iaumc.org

Youth Strike for Christ

COMING SOON! A FAITH BUILDING EXPERIENCE FOR
7TH — 12TH GRADE YOUTH!

When: February 6-8, 2009

Where: Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, Des Moines, IA

Guest Speaker - Bishop Trimble

Band for the week - VOTA (formerly Casting Pearls)

Keynote Speaker - Bob Stromberg

Price:

Early Bird Registration - \$159 per person
(postmarked before Jan 1, 2009)

Regular Registration - \$189 per person
(postmarked after Jan 1, 2009)

REGISTRATION DEADLINE is Jan 15, 2009

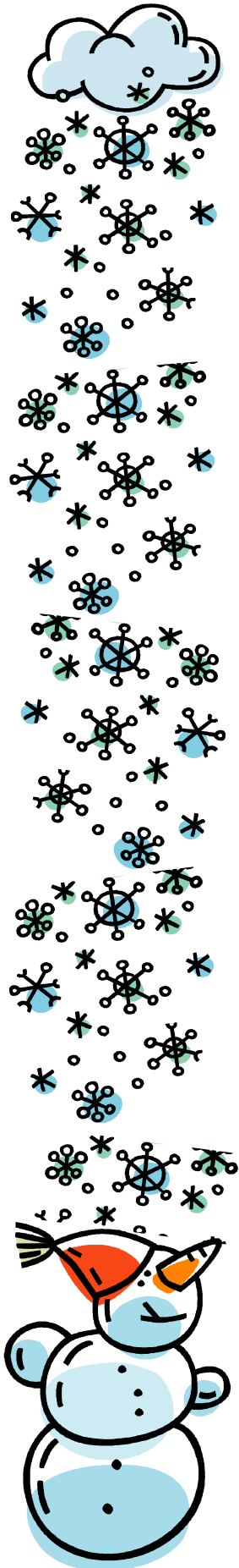
This year at Youth Strike for Christ there will be several Adult Training workshops provided as part of the event. There will also be an opportunity for adults who are not already participating in Youth Strike to attend the training portion of the event. Check out the Youth Strike website in mid December for updates about adult training opportunities.

Interested in being a small group leader?
Registration and information are online.

For complete registration and event details visit us at
www.youthstrike.com



The 'Source is a networking and training opportunity sponsored by the General Board of Discipleship for all adults who work with youth and young adults. This coming year, the focus of training at *The 'Source* will be Spiritual Formation. Choose from 11 locations. For Friday evening and all day Saturday you will be able to feed your own soul in the presence of God and explore ways to nurture people in your ministry as well! Taking time for your own education and renewal is important. The *'Source* offers you just this opportunity! Check the website for more details (www.gbod.org/thesource) or contact Blake Thornell, bthornell@gbod.org, 615-340-1780 for more information! Scholarships in the amount of \$25 to attend any "Source training in 2009 are available to Iowa Conference adults in youth ministry. Contact Eric Guy for more information on scholarships.



THE 'SOURCE

For Adult Workers With Young People

Training for Adult Workers with Young People

Expanded to meet your ministry needs. The 'Source is a networking and training opportunity for all who work with young adults and youth!

As adult workers, we are called to participate in the life-changing, soul-shaping work of God in the lives of youth and young adults. This year's focus is Spiritual Formation. Time at the 'Source will allow you experience and explore a variety of spiritual practices that can be utilized for effective ministry.

Come to the 'Source! This yearly gathering for people, who work with young adults and youth, is a place for you to gain skills that will enhance your spiritual leadership capacity and increase your personal growth. Through workshops, small groups, worship and plenary times you will gain knowledge, inspiration, and the practical tools needed to help guide the young people with whom you are in ministry.

Schedule

Friday

6:00 p.m. Registration
6:30 - 9 p.m. Spiritual formation through Scripture
Networking time

Saturday

8:30 am - 12pm Teaching & Experience Time

What is spiritual formation?
Can you be a Methodist and do spiritual practices?
Spiritual Types
Using and understanding spiritual practices -
Making it real and relevant

12 pm - 1:15pm Lunch

1:15 pm - 5:30pm Small group time (dialogue and workshops)

Saturday Afternoon/Evening

DMYF staff available for specific conversation, dinner and consultation

Dates and Locations

Nashville, TN	January 23-24, 2009 (pilot event—Free)
Ann Arbor, MI	February 20-21, 2009
Fullerton, CA	March 13-14, 2009
Orlando, FL	April 24-25, 2009
Sioux City, IA	May 15-16, 2009
Kansas City, MO	May 29-30, 2009
Denver, CO	August 28-29, 2009
Boston, MA	September 18-19, 2009
Baltimore, MD	September 25-26, 2009
London, KY	October 16-17, 2009
New Orleans, LA	December 11-12, 2009

Cost

\$59, includes Friday and Saturday plenary and small group times as well as lunch on Saturday. Participants are responsible for their own travel and lodging.

Registration

For registration and more information about the event, visit us online at www.gbod.org/thefsource.

District Youth Coordinators

Central District - Alice Burress
alice@jordancreekchurch.org
515-277-8825

East Central District - Phil Rogers
OKduckman@aol.com
319-363-2058

North Central District - Robin Thomas
trose@netins.net
515-928-2525

South Central District - Bob Morris
centralumap@iowatelecom.net
641-672-2564

Northeast District - Steve Braudt
waterloodcym@aol.com
641-939-7446

Southeast District - (vacant)

Northwest District - Steve Swenson
swensg@yahoo.com
712-758-3680

Southwest District - Lauri Greenlee
lauri@metc.net
641-322-5167
614-322-5180

Conference Youth Coordinator

Bob Morris
centralumap@iowatelecom.net
641-672-2564



Youth Worker Movement

The YWM is all about the hearts and souls of youth workers through...

Relationships

- Connecting YW's around the Nation!
- Gatherings
- Discussion Board
- Conference communities

Creativity

- Bring Movement back to denominational churches through inspired youth ministry
- Share your best original Program Ideas
- Learn from the ideas of other YW's

Knowledge

- Online training: Podcasts, e-Articles, etc...
- Training Gatherings

Support

- Free active Memberships
- Covenant memberships: mentor Groups, Extensive Training and Job bank-resume posting
- Huge Discounts: Youth Specialties, Cokesbury, YLO and many more

Youth Worker Movement
PO Box 331927
Nashville, TN 37203
Phone: 615.263.0530
Fax: 615.469.3239
Info@YouthWorkerMovement.org

Visit us Online and join the YWM! www.youthworkermovement.org

Coming this January...TRAX: Youth Ministry Essentials

Great youth ministry training is often hard to find, not very affordable for groups to attend together, and inconveniently located. A new youth ministry training series is coming soon that will address all three of these difficulties, and—more importantly—will offer you a strong foundation for your ministry with youth.

Called TRAX: Youth Ministry Essentials, this modular approach to training adults in youth ministry will begin in January, 2009 and continue throughout the next few years. Each module is independent of the others, so you can take them in whichever order you wish. The four themes are...



Call – understanding your call & spiritual gifts
Quad – youth ministry through a UMC lens
Lead – curriculum, management, & leadership fundamentals
Safe – providing safer settings and ministries

These trainings will be held periodically in various quadrants of the state, so over a year or two you will have multiple opportunities to attend the sessions without having to drive several hours. Each training is about 6 hours long, costs \$25 per person/per training, and includes lunch, the training materials, and other surprises. Initial dates include...

January 17 – North Central District (Lake City)
February 28 – South West District (Greenfield)
March – East Central District (TBA)
April – Central or North Central District (TBA)

All of the trainers have been specially selected from around the state, and they are excited to bring you this series. Tim Gossett, a UMC-certified youth leader from Ames helped create much of the material and serves as the coordinator of the trainings.

Watch your mail for more information, and visit us on the web at www.maketyme.org. Registration will begin soon!



Saint Paul School of Theology in Kansas City is sponsoring a Youth Workers Gathering, April 24-25, 2009. The title for the gathering this year is "Youth Ministry in a Technological World." For more information see the website. <http://www.youthology.com/home-page/youth-workers-gathering-2009.html>. Scholarships to attend this event in the amount of \$25 (half the early registration fee) are available to Iowa Conference adults in youth ministry. Contact Eric Guy for more information on scholarships.

Thanks to all who came to Youth Service Fund Day at Adventureland. As a result we had nearly 620 people and raised close to \$1700. This money will go towards projects, programs and initiatives that support ministries with youth.

**United Methodist Church - Iowa Area
2301 Rittenhouse Street
Des Moines, IA 50321**

**Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
P A I D
Des Moines, Iowa
Permit No. 2906**