



Youth Ministries  
UK Mission Area,  
Ethel Road  
Leicester,  
LE5 5PE.

## **The United Methodist Church, UK Mission Area Youth Coordinator.**

**According to the Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church Section V1, Paragraph 1201**

There shall be a Division on Ministries with Young People of the General Board of Discipleship.

### **Paragraph 1202,**

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of the Division on Ministries with Young People is to empower the young people as world-changing disciples of Jesus Christ, to nurture faith development and to equip young leaders.

And all that is enshrined in the Book of Discipline between paragraphs 1201 and 1212

### **QUADRANIAL THEME**

Therefore, GO.....!!!! Matthew 28:19

### **Background**

Research shows that 59 % of teens stop being involved in church's life after the age of 15, either temporarily or permanently, and the unchurched segment among the youth has increased in the last decade from 44% to 52%, mirroring a larger cultural trend away from churchgoing youth. When asked what has helped their faith grow, "church" does not make even the top 10 factors. In other words their faith is growing by hook and crook.

The youth need a place to congregate and want opportunities to do things with friends. Youth is not only the future, but God's gift to the Church and society at large. Parents want their children involved with activities under the watchful eye of an adult they trust.

### **Jesus' Twelve Disciples (were young persons)**

The names of the twelve disciples of Jesus are Simon Peter, Andrew, James (the son of Zebedee), John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James (the son of Alphaeus), Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot.

First, Scripture teaches Jesus was about 30 years old when He began His public ministry (Luke 3:23). In Jewish culture, disciples (or students) were generally younger than their teacher. Therefore, it is likely the disciples were under 30 years of age. Jesus also referred to them as "little children," possibly indicating they were several years younger than He.

Second, many of the disciples worked as fishermen. James and John specifically left their father in the boat to follow Jesus (Matthew 4:21–22). This means they were old enough to work full-time. They were likely at least teenagers by this time, since they could leave home to follow a rabbi.

Third, Peter is noted as already married when he began following Jesus. His sick mother-in-law is mentioned in Matthew 8:14. This means Peter was at least old enough to be married; at the very least.

## **The church is safe in the hands of the young people**

And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.  
Matthew 16:18

### **Responsibilities for the Youth Coordinator**

The Youth Coordinator, is an individual mandated to spiritually grow the youth of the church by spending a lot of time with young people, reaching out to offer spiritual guidance. This is done by imparting the teachings of their faith through prayer, events, activities and mission trips that appeal to youth while encouraging them to be faithful followers of Jesus Christ and his church, the United Methodist Church.

To succeed in this field, a Youth Coordinator must relate well with the youth and be able to hold their interest in church-related activities. The Coordinator must also model the characteristics that are important to the church in their personal and professional lives. The best way to keep the youth involved at church is to have an active, vibrant youth group. The Coordinator may organize the youth group and schedule Bible studies, youth group parties, outings such as community activities and mission trips and accompany the youth on these foreign trips.

### **Acting as a Confidante**

The Youth Coordinator can be a source of counselling for troubled teens and young adults looking for answers on how religion fits into their lives. (S)He acts as a counsellor and adviser, as well as simply offering a listening ear at times. (S)He must be able to maintain confidence and give advice in a way that doesn't alienate youth. However, (s)he must also set appropriate boundaries and follow proper procedures to avoid any misinterpretation of his/her actions and maintain a respectful relationship always..

The church can also send the youth pastor for training in maintaining good and expected standards in-keeping with what is currently obtaining in the land that we find ourselves in. (S)He also provide feedback and input to the senior pastors.

### **Teaching Church Programs**

The Youth Coordinator organises formal and informal Bible studies, for example with modern day technology, Bible studies can be conducted over individuals who are far afield and still yield the results of developing a sound knowledge of Jesus Christ and have a personal relationship with Him. Technology has overwhelmed our lives. Instead of shunning it, we should embrace and welcome it, but carefully. Let us encourage our youth to use modern day means of communication to evangelise today's world.

In a way the youth pastor can act as the administrator for an effective Bible Study program throughout the Mission Area.

### **Following What the Church Teaches**

The Youth Coordinator needs a solid knowledge of the Bible and their church's teachings. Parents who attend a church want to know that their youth coordinator has the same values and beliefs that they do, and that they want their children to have. He/she has to walk the walk as well as talk the talk on doctrinal issues which are the source of the truth about Jesus Christ and His church.

### **Aims and objectives for a two-year program, for the UMC Youth Ministry from the Youth Coordinator's office**

- 1. To inculcate a Christ-like culture in our youth and,**
- 2. To help the youths develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ towards making disciples for Jesus Christ.**
- 3. To help the youth to take responsibility of the life of the church and carry it forward.**

## **Covid19 and post-Covid19**

*Here we are as the youth*

- ✓ *The coronavirus pandemic has changed our lives in unimaginable ways over the recent past.*
- ✓ *Regardless of when we start to move out of lockdown, it is likely that we won't be returning to normality for quite some time*
- ✓ *But what could life look like once the pandemic has finally passed, and what will be our 'new normal'?*
- ✓ *The coronavirus may be here to stay and part of our life. So what do we do?*

### ***Lessons from the lockdown***

| <b><i>Covid1 Practices</i></b> | <b><i>Biblical 'understandings'</i></b>  |
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| <i>Stay at home</i>            | <i>Go, my people, enter your rooms and shut the doors behind you; hide yourselves for a little while...<br/>Isaiah 26:20<br/>Love thy neighbour. Matthew 22:39</i> |
| <i>Wash your hands</i>         | <i>Cleanliness is next to godliness</i>  |
| <i>Sanitise</i>                | <i>Joshua told the people, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you." Joshua 3:5</i>   |
| <i>Putting on masks</i>        | <i>Keep your mouth free of perversity; keep corrupt talk far from your lips.<br/>Proverbs 4:24</i>   |

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| <i>Social distancing</i> | <i>Stay away from a fool, for you will not find knowledge on their lips.<br/>Proverbs 14:7</i>                      |
| <i>PPE</i>               | <i>Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes<br/>Ephesians 6:11</i> |
| <i>Do the essentials</i> | <i>Do no harm. Do good. Stay in love with God</i>   |

### **3 Simple rules by John Wesley**

*John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist Movement, had three simple rules that he lived by.*

- *Do no harm*
- *Do good*
- *Stay in love with God*

*Sounds simple right? It should be simple, but unless you have tried to live by these 3 rules do not judge the person who has tried and had fallen short.*

| Objectives  | Action plan  | Readings  | Personnel   |
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| <p><b><i>Black lives matter</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <i>To help the youth understand that they are as important as any human being.</i></li> <li>✓ <i>To understand that God is the chief architect of human diversity (colour, ethnicity, race, age, gender etc</i></li> </ul> | <p><i>To hold Zoom Conference discussions with the Mission Area youth to measure their understanding of issues going on in the in the world.</i></p> <p><b><i>You Matter!</i></b></p> <p><i>Following the George Floyd incident in USA, this is an opportunity for us to check in, share experiences, thoughts &amp; support each other</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>1. Your feelings are valid.</i></li> <li><i>2. Media selection - dealing with negative information</i></li> <li><i>3. Dealing with people who don't understand</i></li> <li><i>4. Speak up!</i></li> </ol> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b><u>Titus 2:15</u></b><br/><i>These, then, are the things you should teach. Encourage and rebuke with all authority. <b>Do not let anyone despise you.</b></i></li> <li>✓ <b><u>1 John 3:7</u></b><br/><i>Dear children, <b>do not let anyone lead you stray.</b> The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.</i></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>-Youth Coordinator</i></li> <li><i>- DS &amp; Pastoral team</i></li> <li><i>- CYM Chair</i></li> <li><i>- Sunday School teachers</i></li> <li><i>-internet facilities.</i></li> </ul> |

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|  | <i>5. You are not alone - stay connected</i>   |  |   |
| <b>Studies</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>To establish the humanity of Jesus.</i></li> <li>2. <i>To establish the divinity of Jesus</i></li> <li>3. <i>Identify how one can develop a relationship with Jesus</i></li> <li>4. <i>Explain how one can be a 'Disciple of Jesus.</i></li> <li>5. <i>Bible Study on the Gospel of John.</i></li> </ol> | <b>Teaching and discussions</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Jesus' humane birth and growth (the historicity of Jesus)</i></li> <li>2. <i>How does divinity rest on Jesus? Where does the controversy about his divinity emanate?</i></li> <li>3. <i>How can one develop a relationship with him</i></li> <li>4. <i>What does it mean to be his disciple at a young age?</i></li> <li>5. <i>Engage on Zoom for discussions</i></li> <li>6. <i>Study the Gospel of John.</i></li> </ol> | <i>The birth and growth of Jesus Christ</i><br><br><i>Luke 1 &amp; 2</i><br><br><i>Matt 1 &amp; 2</i><br><br><i>John 1 &amp; 6</i><br><br><i>Gospel of John.</i> | <i>-Youth Coordinator</i><br><br><i>- DS &amp; Pastoral team</i><br><br><i>- CYM Chair</i><br><br><i>- Sunday School teachers</i><br><br><i>-internet facilities.</i> |
| <b>Praise and worship</b>  |  |  |   |



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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Establish praise and worship teams at every level of the MA, centred on the youth</i></li> <li>2. <i>Train the youth in instrumentation.</i></li> </ol>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Hold auditions to identify talent, after Covid19</i></li> <li>2. <i>Hold workshops to train and build a praise team for the MA, after Covid19</i></li> <li>3. <i>Encourage the same for Charges and locals, after Covid19</i></li> </ol> | <p><i>Psalms 137</i></p>  | <p><i>Youth Coordinator</i></p> <p><i>DS &amp; Pastoral team</i></p> <p><i>CM Chairs</i></p> <p><i>CYM Chairs</i></p> <p><i>Trainer</i></p> |
| <p><b>Mission Trips</b></p> <p><b>Immediate Community</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Identify program requirements of youth in the community during Covid19 without exposing themselves</i></li> <li>2. <i>Identify what Jesus say about the community during Covid19 without exposing themselves</i></li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Involve youth to identify what they can do for the immediate community without exposing themselves</i></li> <li>2. <i>Involve them in planning the activities</i></li> <li>3. <i>Implement without exposing themselves</i></li> </ol>    | <p><i>1 Samuel 15:18</i></p> <p><i>And he sent you on a mission....</i></p> | <p><i>Youth Coordinator</i></p> <p><i>DS &amp; Pastoral team</i></p> <p><i>CM Chairs</i></p> <p><i>CYM Chairs</i></p>                       |

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| <p>3. <i>Get involved in activities and life of the community during Covid19 without exposing themselves.</i></p> <p><b>Far and wide</b></p> <p>1. <i>Visit Israel in the summer of 2022</i></p> <p>2. <i>Visit places in the United Kingdom and Europe</i></p> | <p>4. <i>Plan for a trip to the Holy land.<br/>(tow year plan)</i></p> <p>5. <i>Plan for trips for in and around UK and Europe<br/>(tow year plan)</i></p> |   |  |
| <p><b>Technology for Jesus</b></p> <p><b>Making disciples through internet interaction</b></p> <p>1. <i>Use the internet and social media</i></p>   | <p>1. <i>Youth to identify the advantages of using the internet, and how to safeguard these advantages</i></p>   | <p><i>Therefore...GO</i></p> <p><i>Use the modern technology to propagate the word.</i></p> | <p><i>Youth Coordinator</i></p> <p><i>DS &amp; Pastoral team</i></p> <p><i>CM Chairs</i></p> |

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| <p><i>for the propagation of the gospel.</i></p> <p>2. <i>Create and play games</i></p>  | <p>2. <i>List the rules for using the internet positively.</i></p> <p>3. <i>Hold some Bible activities on the internet</i></p> <p>4. <i>Create and play internet games</i></p> |  | <p><i>CYM Chairs</i></p> <p><i>IT specialists</i></p>   |
| <p><b>Camping</b></p> <p><b>Jesus goes out camping</b></p> <p>1. <i>Hold discussions on issues about life</i></p> <p>2. <i>Play games, after Covid19</i></p> | <p>1. <i>Go camping</i></p> <p>2. <i>Ask the youth things they would like to do</i></p> <p>3. <i>Program the activities</i></p>  | <p><i>John 6: 1-15</i></p> <p><i>Matt 14:13-21</i></p> | <p><i>- Youth Coordinator</i></p> <p><i>- DS &amp; Pastoral team</i></p> <p><i>- CM Chairs</i></p> <p><i>- CYM Chairs</i></p> <p><i>- Presidents</i></p> <p><i>- Advisors</i></p> |
| <p><b>Transition JSS- UMYF</b></p> <p>1. <i>To help graduates of JSS transition smoothly into UMYF</i></p>   | <p>1. <i>Develop a program to help the transition</i></p> <p>2. <i>Train teachers and mentors</i></p> <p>3. <i>Monitor transitions</i></p> <p>4. <i>Graduation days</i></p>    | <p><i>Joel 1:3</i></p> <p><i>1 John 5:21</i></p>       | <p><i>Youth Coordinator</i></p> <p><i>CYM Chairs</i></p> <p><i>JSS teachers</i></p> <p><i>UMYF leaders</i></p> <p><i>DS &amp; Pastoral team</i></p> <p><i>Advisors</i></p>        |

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| <p><b>University Students</b></p> <p><i>1. Help students at whichever University remain connected to the Church, starting with the September 2020 students.</i></p> | <p><i>1. Link universities with the nearest local church</i></p> <p><i>2. Develop a form for information (about which student is where)</i></p> <p><i>3. Local churches to locate and contact student(s)</i></p> | <p><i>Psalms 34:11</i></p> <p><i>1 Thess 2:7</i></p>     | <p><i>Youth Coordinator</i></p> <p><i>DS &amp; Pastoral team</i></p> <p><i>CM Chairs</i></p> <p><i>CYM Chairs</i></p> <p><i>UMYF leaders</i></p> <p><i>Advisors</i></p> |
| <p><b>Youth church leaders</b></p> <p><i>1. Create parallel church leadership from the youth at all levels (shadow leaders)</i></p>                                 | <p><i>1. Identify youth members into the shadow structure</i></p> <p><i>2. Encourage all levels to elect youth into church leadership</i></p>  | <p><i>1 Kings 2:1-4</i></p> <p><i>Jeremiah 1:5-8</i></p> | <p><i>Youth Coordinator</i></p> <p><i>DS &amp; Pastoral team</i></p> <p><i>CYM Chairs</i></p> <p><i>UMYF leaders</i></p> <p><i>Advisors</i></p>                         |

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| <p>2. <i>Have youth as part of the main leadership of the church at all levels, instead of just being a shadow leadership, starting with the 2021 leadership</i></p> |  |  |  |
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Compiled by

***Mr N Mhondoro***

UMC UK MA Youth Coordinator