



Youth Ministry

Led by Mandy Keithan, Jennifer Nichols and Jodi Slezak

This module is focused on congregation oriented youth ministry rather than focused on district- or cluster-level youth ministry. This grew from the belief that it is the congregations that are central to the religious experience of Unitarian Universalists concerned with youth programming as part of the total life of the congregation.

May 2-4, 2008
Friday 8 PM to Sunday 3 PM

at

First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church
1959 Sandy Lane
Fort Worth, TX 76112
817-451-1505

Sponsored by
The Southwestern Unitarian Universalist Conference Religious Education Committee

LEADERS

MANDY KEITHAN is a UU young adult (more later)

JENNIFER NICHOLS-PAYNE is currently the Program Consultant for the Southwest District and is very involved with youth at local, district and sometimes, continental levels. She loves lay ministry as well as working with youth. One of her three daughters is currently a UU youth.

JODI SLEZAK is our youth leader who has been involved in Youth Ministry for 8 years. She has lead advisor and leadership development trainings for about five years and worked in the Youth Office as a Chrysalis Consultant in 2007. She currently lives in Boston, MA, where she just graduated from Boston University and now works for EF Education, an international company that organizes educational cultural experiences for young people.

SCHOLARSHIPS & TRAVEL SUBSIDIES

Please contact the district office for a scholarship application. To encourage attendance by people who live more than 250 miles away from Fort Worth, some of your travel cost may be subsidized by SWUUC. Please contact the district office for a travel subsidy and/or scholarship application.

PREPARATION

Participants will receive a reader in the mail, and are asked to prepare by reading it through before the conference.

BRING a three-ring binder, some blank paper, pen, and your Reader.

WHO IS THIS FOR? This module is being offered to youth and advisors along with religious educators as well as other relevant people working with youth in various capacities- Ministers, RE Chairs, RE Coordinators, parents, individual congregants. Youth and advisors may take this in lieu of a Leadership Development Conference and advisors in lieu of a basic advisor training.

SITE First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church will provide home hospitality, some sleeping areas at the church, local transportation and catered meals.

IF YOU PREFER A MOTEL instead of home hospitality or sleeping on the floor at the church, a few priced at \$100 a night or less are...

Courtyard by Marriott	1-800-228-9290	2201 W Airport Fwy., Bedford
Baymont Inn & Suites	817-267-5200	1450 W. Airport Fwy
Motel 6	817- 834-7361	1236 Oakland Blvd.
Hotel Trinity Inn & Suites	1-877-936-7896	2000 Beach St.

SCHEDULE

Arrive at DFW airport by 6:00 p.m. Friday, depart after 4:00 p.m. Sunday

FRIDAY – Arrive after 6:30 p.m. and dinner will be available for \$5. Program 8 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY – 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

SUNDAY – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Full attendance (all 15 hours) at the module is required for RE Credentialing credit to be received. We understand that this is a large district, but it is important to be able to be there from the beginning. If you cannot make the starting time, please consider waiting. There will be no less than 14 and no more than 35 participants.

UUA RENAISSANCE PROGRAM: Religious Education Leadership Training

This is a standardized training program of nine different fifteen-hour modules or workshops designed to provide training in:

Philosophy of Religious Education
Curriculum Planning in the Congregation
Training Teachers
Unitarian Universalist Identity
Worship for All Ages

Multiculturalism
Ministry With Youth
Unitarian Universalist History
Administration of an R.E. Program

When participants have completed five modules, or a minimum of 75 hours of RENAISSANCE Training, the UUA sends participants a letter of recognition in appreciation of the time that has been spent in training. A letter is also sent to their churches encouraging local recognition of their commitment and the new understandings, knowledge and skills they have gained. The SW District also recognizes this achievement with a special pin and formal recognition.

While the program is open to everyone interested, the UUA and the Religious Education Committee of the Southwest UU District strongly encourage people working in religious education to participate in the Renaissance Program.

The philosophy of the "Ministry With Youth" Renaissance Module is that youth will experience ministry in Unitarian Universalist congregations when they are respected as community members. As youth are empowered to be full members of UU communities, both they and the community will be strengthened. Youth empowerment does not mean that adults are disempowered or should abdicate responsibility. It is not either/or. Youth empowerment means that the more empowered youth are as youth, the more appropriately empowered adults will be as adults.

The module addresses the following:

- **Characteristics and qualities of youth**
- **Building community**
- **Balanced programming**
- **Youth/congregational connections**
- **Selection, training and support of advisors**
- **Resources**
- **Youth programming structure within congregations, districts and the UUA**

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS April 20, 2008

“Ministry With Youth” REGISTRATION FORM

May 2-4, 2008

Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone day (____) _____ night (____) _____

E-mail _____

Congregation (name and location) _____

Gender: _____

Dietary Preference: Omnivore Vegetarian Vegan

SPECIAL NEEDS (Dietary or otherwise) _____

Role: ___ Youth ___ Adult Advisor ___ DRE ___ Minister Other _____

___ I need home hospitality

___ I will stay at the church

___ I need a map with driving directions

___ I need a ride from DFW Airport

Airline _____

Flight # _____

Arrival Time Friday _____

City of Departure _____

Departure time Sunday _____

REGISTRATION FEE covers all costs

\$175 postmarked by 4/7/08 _____

\$200 postmarked after 4/7/08 _____

\$125 youth rate postmarked by 4/7/08 _____

\$150 youth rate postmarked after 4/7/08 _____

I will have dinner on Friday (\$5) _____

Total Enclosed _____

Write a check payable to SWUUC and mail with registration form to

Connie Nolen
SWUUC Office
6720 Brentwood Stair Rd.
Fort Worth, TX 76112

REGISTRATIONS DUE BY APRIL 20, 2008!