

## Welcome, Introductions, Prayer – Tracy Wood

### **YAMA 2019.01 Young Adult Advisory Minutes 2018**

**Voted:** To approve the 2018 minutes

### **YAMI 19.01 NAD Young Adult Ministries Strategic Planning**

#### **NAD 2020 Vision Query – Review**

Wood read the one-sentence mission statement of Youth and Young Adult Ministries: *The mission of the department is to provide resources and training that support union leaders, mentor conference leaders, and serve church leaders to develop Seventh-day Adventist children, teens and young adults in their faith, hope and wholeness in Jesus Christ.*

The over-arching multi-year goal for Young Adult Ministry is to develop union and conference level Young Adult Ministry structures with resources and leaders-trainings that are accessible online through our department websites, our social media platforms, Adventist Learning Community, and Advent Source following our department's digital strategy.

Past Goals of the Young Adult Ministry Program:

- 2016 – Gathered a network of YAM leaders from around the NAD and developed two YA focus groups.
- 2017 – Developed resources following our digital strategy that built union and conference-level YA ministry.
- 2018 – Developed Growing Young Adventists initiative of leaders/presenters in collaboration with other departments.

Present Goal of the Young Adult Ministry Program:

- 2019 – Develop YA Leaders mentor initiative to host 150 leaders, pastors, and administrators at GC session 2020.
- Wood noted that we will come back this and discuss whether we still want it as our goal, or if there is a better place to focus our attention this year.

Future Goal of the Young Adult Ministry Program:

- 2020 – Create a support ministry for young adults serving in the armed forces, in collaboration with AMC
- Some leaders are asking to move this up to 2019 because they see a need for it

#### **NAD YA Budget Overview**

The NAD has budgeted \$100,000 for Young Adult Ministry, with a separate \$100,00 for Public Campus Ministry:

Question: Will funding increase at the NAD level?

- It will not. The division budget is guided by decisions from union leaders. The NAD budget is not designed to pass funding back to unions or conferences. It is set-up for training and resource development.

Comment by Brad Forbes from Advent Source:

- Note that there are funds available for resource development, and that he also writes grants to fund resources. However, these funds can only be obtained with advanced planning. He cannot write a grant for a project that is needed in three months. If we can get far enough ahead in planning our resources, we can fund them.

# Minutes 2.26.19

## NAD Young Adult Advisory

Phoenix, AZ

10:00 AM -1:00 PM

### **Officers**

Chair - Tracy Wood, NAD

Coordinator - Benjamin Lundquist,  
NAD

Rec. Secretary - Rachel Scribner,  
NAD

Ex-officio - Armando Miranda Jr.,  
NAD

Ex-officio - Vandeon Griffin, NAD

Ex-officio – Pako Mokgwane, GC

### **Attendees**

Arrais, Andre

Boismier, Marilyn

Bondurant, Frank

Campos, Michael

Case, Steve

Casey, Todd

Chavez, Eric

Coicou, Jonathan

Craig, David

Douglas, Kory P.

Douglas, Tyrone

Dunkley, Kenia

Eberhardt, Wendy

Ferguson, Benji

Floyd, Tim

Forbes, Brad

Heinrich, Eddie

Hoskin, Rosemary

Hoy, Darriel

Jean, Makenzy

Johnson, Henry

Keele, Don

Khabbaz, Joseph

Kirk, Matthew

Lang, Rob

Marquez, Milton

Martin, Allan

Marton, Edward

Moody, Helvis

Noble, Natalie

Notice, Lyle

Pickell, Ron

Rodriguez, Juan  
Rogers, Ken  
Sager, Denison  
Scott, John M.  
Silva, Nelson  
Smith, Kyle A.  
Wade, Roger  
Wahl, Brian  
Weeks, Jeremiah  
Whitlow, Dan  
Wines, Jeff  
Yeagley, David  
Ziesmer, Becky

Question: What is the status of the resources we developed in 2017

- Many of those resources were for Growing Young Adventists, and we will see more on that in the GYA report
- There are still more resources to build out in the Young Adult Life and Public Campus Ministry areas

Question: How are we going to accomplish resource development when we are pastors with other jobs?

- We work with others such as Steve Case and Rachel Scribner – people who are not pastoring and have the skills to create those resources.

## **YAMI 19.02 Young Adult Life**

### **YA Focus Group Report & Planning 2019**

There are three major focus groups in Young Adult Ministry. They are: Public Campus Ministry focus group, Growing Young Adventists focus group, Young Adult Ministry focus group.

Wood: We are intentionally shaping our focus groups into something different than they have been in the past. We want to create a network of mentoring and connections.

- Focus group meets every two months
- There is a designated representative from each union on the focus group who gives a report each meeting.
- Despite there being just one union rep, we want to have YA leaders from every conference in the focus group. We want union leaders to be intentional about finding conference representatives.
  - In large conferences, where there is more than one conference youth director, it's easy to add the designated young adult leader to the YAM focus group
  - In medium conferences, where there is only one youth director, it would be great if the director can join in on the focus group. Or, you may need to designate a pastor as the focus group rep.
  - In smaller conferences, where there is one youth director who may also be a pastor or have other conference assignments well, it can be hard for that leader to find time for the focus group. It may be better to designate a passionate local pastor as the conference focus group rep.
- The group is open, anyone can join. Adding young adults to the group is encouraged.

Growing Young Adventists Focus Group:

- This group also meets every two months
- It is more developed than the Young Adult Ministry group, and has more representatives

Focus Group Planning:

- A schedule of the online meeting times for the Young Adult Ministry focus group in 2019 will be sent out.

### **YA Leader Development**

YA Life Summits and ALC were not discussed.

Playbook 2020 Adventist Youth Ministry Training Grid:

- AYMT Youth & Young Adult Grid has an “Young Adult Life Track, and a “Growing Young Adventists” track.

- The workshops are not listed because we are still creating them.
- This is not intro-level training. These will be “train the trainers” workshops for these ministries.

Question: Can a local church Pastor come to these events and learn about Growing Young?

- They can, but they will not learn the basics. It might be helpful for a local pastor who already has been working with Growing Young and wants to learn about the conference level part of the ministry.

*Comments from the Advisory:*

- It would be helpful to create a Youth Ministry University based on the AYMT training.
- Growing Young only works if we are nominating Young Adult Leaders to be involved. Senior Youth Leadership is a training program for us to empower Young Adult leaders.

### YA Resources Development

- The magalogue has been updated
- A website overhaul is coming soon
- Young Adult Life has free resources available
  - The drop cards have access codes for 8 GB of resources at [youngadulthoodlife.digital](http://youngadulthoodlife.digital).
  - Take as many cards as you would like back to your union.
- Young Adult Life now has Spanish training
  - Go to [nextstepsSPANISH.youngadulthoodlife.com](http://nextstepsSPANISH.youngadulthoodlife.com) or [proximspasos.youngadulthoodlife.com](http://proximspasos.youngadulthoodlife.com)
- Webinar Series:
  - Ben Lundquist is working on a series of Zoom Webinars on Young Adult Ministry.
  - Webinars are currently planned for March, April, and May of 2019.
  - More info can be found on the NAD Young Adult Ministry Advisory page on Facebook.

Note from Allan Martin: In Young Adult ministry, we develop resources with Young Adults, rather than for them. Young adults in each union are probably developing many resources. Examples are Humans of Adventism and Project Re: Fresh. Martin would love to hear what each union’s young adults are doing so he can tell others about the resources they create.

### YAMI 19.03 Growing Young Adventists

Growing Young is an answer to the question of why Young Adults are leaving. Researchers looked at what drives them away, and where they go when they leave. Growing Young endeavors to change the culture of the Adventist church so it is not toxic to Young Adults.



Martin presented some sources of activities and updates on the GYA initiative.

- [facebook.com/GrowingYoungAdventists](https://facebook.com/GrowingYoungAdventists)
- [facebook.com/groups/GrowingYoungAdventists](https://facebook.com/groups/GrowingYoungAdventists)
- [instagram.com/gya\\_nad](https://instagram.com/gya_nad)

### GYA Focus Group Report & Planning 2019

An attendee commented that the Growing Young initiative is a great way to help your church be a place where young adults want to be.

### GYA Leader Development – Timeline, Summits

Reports from unions and conferences who held GYA summits:

- Pacific Union Conference held a growing Young summit. Registration was poor, attendance was excellent.
- Southeastern California Conference did a lot with growing young. They had a summit which was a needed boost for churches who had started the initiative a couple of years before, and then fallen by the wayside.
- Kansas City had a Growing Young summit, good attendance. They would have liked even more attendees, but it was a great start for the Midwest.
- North Pacific Union just launched its first Growing Young cohort and had a summit with Jeff Wines. This is the fourth cohort Lundquist has worked with, it is a proven model, and it works. NPUC wants to make all their resources and information available to other unions, so they are empowered to start their own cohorts.

Martin: The goal is not just to create more training events. The goal is local church penetration.

Comment: it would be nice to standardize the language – we need to explain what “conference, summit, and training” means so that when a conference says they had one of those, we get a picture of what happened.

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Martin: It's when the administrators in a conference or union get excited about Growing Young that the project really takes off. Communicate, share what you are doing, help it spread to others

Wood: Martin is correct. The reason Growing Young has spread so quickly across the division is that the president and officers at the NAD are excited about it. We need to be intentional about spreading the word, going to others' offices, talking about what we are doing. This is culture transformation, not just a program.

Martin shared the Growing Young Adventists Strategic Progression:

- 2016-2017 - Certified Speaker Training
- 2018-2019 - Training Events & Summits
- 2019-2020 - Collecting Stories
- June 2020 - Capstone Celebration

### Training

Fuller Youth Institute has an excellent training and certification program for Growing Young. They will certify you and equip you with all the resources. It is very helpful

However, you can also learn about Growing Young from the existing book. Martin will even share the audio book for free – send him an email.

Wood: If you read the book and do the assessment, you are prepared, even if you do not have a certificate.

Comment: The training does make you much more articulate – it's easier to speak about this topic after that immersive experience.

### GYA Resources Development

Hundreds of pages of resources on the website:

- Martin puts all the Growing Young Adventists resources up on [growingyoungadventists.com](http://growingyoungadventists.com).
- Leaders can ask Martin if they need help locating resources.
- They should contact Lundquist and David Yeagley for some photos that have been used recently.

Foreign Languages:

- Resources in Spanish are in progress, but we don't have an exact timeline. We are working to get permission to translate the book into Spanish.
- We do have the GYL "wheel" slide in Spanish and in several other languages already.

GY Assessments:

- Assessments for individuals, churches, and teams are available for a fee at [churchesgrowingyoung.com/assessment](http://churchesgrowingyoung.com/assessment).

- Conference and union leaders can adapt the local church model to assess their conference and union offices and work to change the culture there.

Question: Can Fuller create a specific assessment for assessing conference office culture? It seems different enough that it may be worth the effort.

- Martin: We don't want to customize assessments because we use the aggregate data for research. and customization would invalidate the research results. However, any church or conference is welcome to add additional questions or parts to the survey using Survey Monkey, for example, so the customized data is kept separate from the research data.
- Wood: It is very possible to use the same concepts, and switch in your head from church to conference. It's not difficult. The conference youth director is the youth pastor, the president is the senior pastor, the conference treasurer is the church treasurer, and so on...

Training Presentation Slides:

- Steve Case has created several different training models, the most successful is the one-day training model with six sessions. Martin notes that this is all open source, leaders can do anything with it that they would like.
- The training slides, and a brochure template will be available soon from Advent Source.

New Parenting Book from Fuller Youth Institute

- The next book coming out from Fuller is "Growing With: Every parent's Guide to helping teenagers and young adults thrive in their faith, family, and future."
- The companion materials for the book are available for free at [growingwithbook.com/adventist](http://growingwithbook.com/adventist), even for those who did not pre-order the book.

Comment from Lundquist: He will work to create and share a selection of year-long implementation strategies for Growing Young, since attendees said that would be helpful.

## YAMI 19.04 Senior Youth Initiatives

### Senior Youth Leadership

AYMT Youth and Young Adult Grid

- The GC has created a Master Guide equivalent for Young Adult ministries, called Senior Youth Leadership.
- We need to contextualize the training for the NAD. There will be some adaptations.

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Comments from GC Associate Youth Director Pako Mokgwane:

- The GC doesn't believe in just dropping programs on divisions.
- They want to listen, to meet the NAD needs with their programs.
- He also commented on Growing Young. He hopes it can become a worldwide initiative with NAD help.

### **Global Youth & Young Adult Day**

We call it this because it was always intended for young adults. The event was named "Global Youth Day," because other divisions call young adults "senior youth." Now that we understand this, the NAD has renamed the event so our members understand its original target age.

*Comment from the Advisory:*

- Could the NAD create a Global Youth Day T-shirt so shirts would be more affordable? Last year the GC created a Global Youth Day store with shirts for sale.

### **NAD One Year in Mission Proposal**

One Year in Mission (OYiM) is a proposed program for young adults, aged 18-35, to take one year for full time evangelism in the cities where they live, working with the guidance of the conference OYiM coordinator.

Wood is working with the union directors to propose some options that could make this program more accessible. The proposal would take away housing issues so young adults can live at home while they serve

## **YAMI 19.05 Additional Items**

### **Share Him Report & Planning: Jeremiah Weeks**

Share him is a donation-funded department of the Carolina Conference that sponsors and mentors Young Adults, aged 18-35, on a mission experience to another country. The Young Adults become guest preachers for small evangelistic series in another country. Divisions and unions have helped with the cost of past trips.

Goals of the Share Him Experience

- The Goal is to spark a desire to follow God's leading in these young adults' hearts. Weeks has found this preaching experience to be helpful even for those who are led to a calling other than preaching.
- Share Him works to keep young adults connected with local group leaders so growth can continue back home.

- The stories that the Share Him group tells most often are not from the mission trip. They are stories from the 2-4 years afterwards, and the growth these young adults experience with their mentors.

### **Continuing Education**

#### **180 Symposium**

- Wood: The 180 symposium is becoming more and more important.
  - They have round table discussions that lead to initiatives.
  - The topic this year is Gen Z. They aren't children any more, they're high schoolers, and we need to address their needs.
- If it fits in your calendar, please come.
- Request – could the symposium be live streamed
  - We have asked them, but more requests might help it to happen

### **Intergenerational Church Doctor of Ministry Cohort**

- Case: There's a new DMin cohort starting this fall at Andrews University. It's for people who are in full time ministry, and it lasts four years, not counting the project, which is a ministry of some kind.
- The Youth and Young Adult concentration has been closed-down, as it didn't have enough participants. Instead there is a new intergenerational church concentration, that will cover many of the same concepts.
- Registration is now open.

### **Adventist Youth Institute Project**

Wood is working to create an Adventist Youth Institute: A collaborative network of entities that will develop resources from research and train leaders to disciple children, youth and young adults to become disciplers.

- Wood: We need this project to provide the Youth and Young adult ministry training that our seminarians currently do not receive.
- The organization is led by NAD Youth and Young Adult Ministries, and is a collaborative effort between CYE, SDATS, and the NAD.

### **Closing Prayer – James Black and Manny Cruz**