

Summary of Town Hall Meeting to discuss Youth and Young Families Ministry
March 23, 2025
48 adults, 4 teens, 2 children under 9 in attendance

1. What are we trying to achieve through our Y & YF Ministry and why?

- Intergenerational community
- Offer respite and support to families
- develop leadership skills in our youth
- promote emotional development in our youth
- solid faith formation when children are young
- be inspired by youth involvement
- a safe space and affirming space
- to learn from our youth
- engaging in social justice and outreach
- a healthy community of faith
- a welcoming safe space for families
- social opportunities for youth

Teen's input:

- affirming space
- opportunities to connect with peers
- be involved in services
- talk about faith

2. What actionable goals should we pursue:

- hiring committee with targets
- job description that gets at what we're looking for
- monitoring that the job is done example form a faith formation committee
- include teens on committees/Decision-making
- active recruitment of adult volunteers
- continue stewardship efforts
- continue town hall meetings at regular intervals
- advertise our programs and services to increase engagement
- solicit feedback from youth both current and past
- bring other UC youth here for activities and collaborate with other churches
- involve youth in worship and membership on worship team
- build an outdoor playground
- hire a leader with musical skills and incorporate contemporary music
- support youth-led Outreach efforts
- intergenerational Bible study
- install an intern leader ASAP
- create-space for youth on all committees
- hire a staff person for consistency but also encourage volunteers

- Ministry should determine budget and not vice versa

Teen's response

- start a Bible study
- keep the garden going and share the food for outreach
- help in AV booth
- a youth led band
- to be on committees

Camp

-Should we consider partnering with the town?

- no, we are faith-based
- opportunities for teen leadership and training for our youth
- have congregants volunteer
- important that we reach the community through camp to spread the message of God's love and inclusion
- if it's not broken don't fix it

Teen's view on camp:

- teens love it
- opposed to working with town because we share our religion at camp
- it's magical and popular