

# Everything Has Changed: Discipling Youth in a Transformed World Youth Minister Training

## A Workshop by the Board of Discipleship

Keynote: Reverend Eric Rucker  
Simpson College Youth Academy director

**How have the challenges facing teenagers and their families changed? How do churches and adult leaders need to adapt in order to help youth grow into adult disciples of Christ today?**

*Mainline churches have traditionally sought to reach youth through models (like youth group and Sunday school) that were successful fifty years ago. But if students and families are living with significantly different challenges and values in 2025, how does youth ministry need to adapt? Join us for an educational session about what is happening with youth – including issues of social media, busy schedules, and mental health challenges – and an exploration of how youth ministry must change in order to disciple Generation Z.*

**Who:** This event is intended to equip adult clergy and lay servant youth ministry leaders who currently work with youth or those who aspire to develop or improve their ministry with youth.

### When & Where:

Ames First United Methodist Church  
516 Kellogg Avenue – Ames, IA

**May 10, 2025**

9:30–12:00pm

Networking Lunch Included

Virtual option available for workshop

St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Cedar Rapids  
1340 3rd Ave SE – Cedar Rapids, IA

**May 13, 2025**

5:30pm – 8:00pm

Networking Dinner Included

Virtual option available for workshop

Register at <https://forms.gle/qT8yTznvMfSkjyBy9> by May 2, 2025

Contact Board of Discipleship Co-Chairs

Rev. Beth Harbaugh – [pastor@stpaulsumcwilliamsburg.com](mailto:pastor@stpaulsumcwilliamsburg.com) or Nicole Smith – [nicole@amesfirstumc.org](mailto:nicole@amesfirstumc.org)  
with any questions

