

youth ministry: **now** a colloquium@Yale 2012-13



Join us for a series of luncheons and lectures on the foundations of youth ministry

Our youth have God-given yearnings: for community characterized by unconditional love and acceptance; for ecstatic experiences that lift them out of the regrets and anxieties of daily life; for constructive ways of reflecting on existential questions; and for guidance on the ways of life that lead to authentic human flourishing. How can we learn to be the leaders who our kids will trust to walk with them on this path?

The very survival of our particular Christian traditions, not to mention the fulfillment of our Christian mission, demands that we attend urgently and passionately to the Christian formation of our young. For

our young people to be the future of the church, we must fully welcome adolescents into the present of the church as well. This requires that we reflect deeply and act urgently on the theological foundations, the cultural contexts, and the best practices of exemplary youth ministries. This year the **Youth Ministry: Now** colloquium continues with a series of lunchtime sessions focused on the principle foundations of youth ministry. We invite you to join the conversation as we listen and learn from one another.

—The Rev. Skip Masback, YDS '94
 Director, Adolescent Faith and Flourishing Program at the Yale Center for Faith and Culture



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Presented in partnership by the **Yale Center for Faith and Culture**, **Berkeley Divinity School**, and the **Youth Ministry Initiative**

This educational opportunity is offered without cost through the generous support of the Youth Ministry Initiative.



Yale Center for Faith & Culture

Berkeley
 The Episcopal Seminary at **YALE**

Save the dates!

- October 2..... Dr. Andrew Root
- November 6..... Dr. Chap Clark
- December 4..... Dr. Rodger Nishioka
- January 8 Rev. Harold E. Masback, III
- February 5..... Dr. Roland Martinson
- March 5 Rev. Michael Bird
- April 2..... Dr. Andrew Root
- May 7 Rev. Dr. Thomas Troeger

- 12:00pm Lunch available
- 12:30pm Presentation
- 1:30pm Networking & conversation

Where:
 Yale Divinity School
 409 Prospect Street
 New Haven, CT 06511

The series is free and open to all. Come to hear one presentation or come for all. Please RSVP to kelly@youthministryinitiative.org to reserve a box lunch at the luncheon(s) you elect to attend.



DR. ANDREW ROOT

Associate Professor and Carrie Olson Baalson Chair of Youth Ministry and Family Ministry, Luther Seminary

October 2, 2012
Ministering to Youth Growing Up in a Screen-Based World

The church is different for a generation of people raised in the digital age. With so much time and attention focused on the computer, TV, iPad

and cell phone, how do young people experience spiritual life in a “hyper-real” world and how can we minister to them?

April 2, 2013
Practicing Discernment with Youth

Almost every youth worker has been confronted by the question, “What does God want me/us to do?” We all pray that our ministry and the lives of our youth are aligned with God’s will. How do we begin to understand God’s will and know when it is God leading us and not just our conscience or something else? This presentation will explore a process of discerning with young people the action and direction of God in their communal and individual lives.



DR. CHAP CLARK

Vice Provost for Regional Campuses and Strategic Projects, Professor of Youth, Family and Culture, Fuller Theological Seminary

November 6, 2012
Sticky Faith: The Church and Today’s Adolescent

There is no question that life is changing, and changing rapidly. As a consequence, for lots of

reasons, we live in an increasingly adult-centric society that without thinking, relentlessly subjects children and adolescents to the pressures of adult-driven agendas. Like no time in history, today’s youth grow up knowing that the only way to survive is as a tribe apart—and it’s our systems and structure, even in the church, that contributes to this increasing isolation. In this lecture, we’ll discuss the ways that we can connect with our youth and provide the foundational support they need to reflect on their dreams, their relationships and their lives.



DR. RODGER NISHIOKA

Benton Family Associate Professor of Christian Education, Columbia Theological Seminary

December 4, 2012
Bible Study That Transforms

Information is important. We live, after all, in the so called “information age.” But ultimately, we engage young people with the Bible not simply for information but for transformation. This lecture

will focus on practices of opening the Bible with young people in ways that change lives and liberate.



THE REV. HAROLD E. MASBACK, III

Director of the Adolescent Faith and Flourishing Program, Yale Center for Faith and Culture and Senior Minister, The Congregational Church of New Canaan

January 8, 2013
Transformation Through Pilgrimage: Planning and Leading Mission Trips that Build More than Houses

Youth long for experiences that will take them

outside of their cramped, every day experience and connect them with something larger than themselves, with the transcendent love of God. In this session we’ll explore the theory and praxis of planning and leading mission trips as pilgrimages. We’ll explore the nuts and bolts “best practices” that prepare the ground for mission trips in which our young people are “pilgrims not tourists, learners not teachers, listeners not talkers and receivers not givers.”



DR. ROLAND MARTINSON

Academic Dean and Carrie Olson Baalson Professor of Children, Youth and Family Ministry, Luther Seminary

February 5, 2013
Kids Need More than Each Other and a Pied Piper

At its best, youth ministry develops generative, intergenerational Christ communities that cultivate transformative faith and life in each other

and make a difference in God’s beloved world. How do you create intergenerational practices that work? We’ll explore together how to bridge the generational divide in our ministry to our youth.



THE REV. MICHAEL A. BIRD

Rector, Christ Church, Bronxville, NY

March 5, 2013
Nurturing Spiritual Habits with Youth

Youth don’t so much want to be lectured about God as they want to experience God and have a relationship with God. This experience comes from walking with God each day, not just on Sunday mornings. What are the spiritual disciplines,

practices and traditions that help bring us closer to God and how do they work for today’s youth? We’ll explore ways to support our youth in developing and following their own “rule of life.”



THE REV. DR. THOMAS H. TROEGER

J. Edward and Ruth Cox Lantz Professor of Christian Communication, Yale Divinity School

May 7, 2013
Preaching Across the Generations

Good preaching is good preaching—to any age group, but bringing a message to young people requires particular attention to several fundamentals of effective communication. One of the

nation’s leading preachers and teachers of preachers will help us reflect on the importance of crafting messages that are fully embodied, that engage multiple intelligences and that are attentive to the different stages of cognitive development among our listeners.