

February 4th -- March 25th | Thursdays 6pm-7:30pm central

GROWING YOUNG: A STAR Youth Ministry Initiative Series

REGISTER VIA EMAIL WITH RACHEL MUELLER
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**You are invited to a Fuller Youth Institute Growing Young
Training Series, Small Town & Rural edition!**

WHAT WE KNOW

- We share a love and calling for the church and young people
- We desire deeper connections and networking with other leaders in the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin small town & rural communities and other leaders in our church, as well as a hope for collaboration
- We know that young adults, who were active in their church in high school, are dropping out of church. We know our congregations are asking, where are the young people?
- We know that past research from the Exemplary Youth Ministry Study and similar studies shows that some congregations are not shrinking, they are retaining and involving their young people (ages 15-29) which brings overall vitality to the congregations.
- We hope this series will train leaders to work within the Synodical structures and our congregations to increase the number of youth and young adults involved in the life and leadership of the church
- We pray that because of this leadership training we will create pathways for increased leadership roles for younger people in our church

WHO IS INVITED?

We are inviting youth leaders, parents, grandparents, pastors, and all champions for youth discipleship from small town & rural congregations within a 30-40 mile radius from Grace Lutheran Church in Dodgeville to join in this training series. Designated staff and volunteers are most welcome. Pastors, if you do not have youth ministry staff or volunteers, we strongly encourage you to invite two or more adults of your congregation who are passionate about youth ministry to attend with you. Let's turn, "It's just me," into "I have a team!"

We believe this synergy of leaders will create a stimulating and innovative learning environment for training, discussion, and brainstorming. We can do so much more as a network of people working to develop and grow the faith of our young ones. Our youth aren't just our future, they are our today.

COST

We are asking for \$30 per participating congregations. You can mail a check payable to Grace Lutheran Church (1105 N Bequette St, Dodgeville, WI 53533) or go to our Donation tab on our website (<https://www.gracedodgeville.org/>) to make a one-time donation.

ABOUT

Leaders: Pastor Mark Williamson and Rachel Mueller of Grace Lutheran Church in Dodgeville. Rachel is the director of youth ministry at Grace as well as the coordinator for the STAR Youth Ministry Initiative, which is a pilot project of ELCA Domestic Mission and the South-Central Synod.

This training will run for eight 1.5 hour sessions over zoom. We will create a recurring link and share it with participants closer to the start of the training series. During each session, we will watch a 25-30 minute training video, followed by discussion and training worksheet. There will also be supplemental 5 minute videos showcasing congregations who are successfully Growing Young.

Each session will begin at 6:00pm and end no later than 7:30pm. We will begin Thursday, February 4th, and conclude on March 25th.

Registration Opens on January 11th and closes February 1st. To register, email Rachel Mueller (rmueller.glc@gmail.com) with the name of your congregation and number of participants.

Additional Growing Young Resources for leaders, pastors, and congregations can be found at <https://churchesgrowingyoung.com>.