

Missouri Mid-South Youth Roundtable



CLAIMING OUR VOICES... FOR THE GLORY OF GOD

What is it?

The Youth Roundtable is a new youth leadership group of the Missouri Mid-South Conference, United Church of Christ. The group will meet through on-line forums & in-person 3-4 times a year to engage in the following:

- Meaningful and inviting discussion of issues facing our churches and world in a safe environment of peers
- Finding our individual voices around those issues, to strengthen dialogue taking place outside the group among both youth and adults
- Learning how to engage in constructive and respectful dialogue with others whom we may not agree with
- Leadership empowering and strengthening exercises
- To provide input to the conference around relevant issues and events
- Fun and fellowship to build our group together in respect and love

Am I right for the group?

Are you a youth who recognizes your present AND future importance in the church? Do you believe that your perspectives are of vital importance in the life of our faith communities? Are you committed to active participation in the whole life of our churches and denomination? Do you wish you could find how to express yourself better about issues that concern you? Do you wish to develop your leadership skills? Do you believe that God's Spirit can work through you to help our churches and world? Then this is a group for you!

Why was the Youth Roundtable created?

The roundtable was born out of a concern that although the Church encourages youth participation, often not enough is done to empower youth leadership. The result has been youth programming that often seeks to entertain more than it seeks to honor how God might be speaking through its younger members in potentially earth-shattering ways – ways that could reveal new paths for the life of the Church. It is the desire of the conference's Youth and Young Adult Working Group (YAYA) to change this, working towards the YAYA mission statement goal of ensuring "fair and adequate representation" of youth among the governing voices of our conference by empowering youth to find and claim their voice in the RT, so that they might find and claim their voice in other settings of the United Church of Christ.

How do I get more information?

Interested individuals, youth leaders or parents can e-mail YAYA members, Leah and Ray, at yaya_mms@live.com and/or visit the Youth Roundtable website at www.youthroundtable.weebly.com