

Emerging Adults - A Playlist of Resources

These “playlists” are not literal lists of songs, but instead they are a collection of tools and ideas that a congregation can use to engage with their Emerging Adults (EA’s) with the goal being to support and fully minister to EAs in your congregation and UUism.

Example / Resources - What you can do / more detailed instructions on how to do it.

Responsible - Who might take the lead in implementing the idea

Helpers - Who may be supportive in the effort.

[Re-Imaging Bridging Playlist](#)

*Hopefully you’ve already receive this Emerging Adult [Letter to Congregations](#)

Playlist 1: Your own bridgers

- Care packages (good for bridgers who moved away)

Examples / Resources: Can be found [here](#) or [here](#).

Responsible: religious educator, lay leader, other staff member, youth group

Helpers: entire congregation

- Reunions

Examples / Resources: Get folks together, pick times when more tend to be home.

It might work best between December and early January, you can try summertime too.

You might call it a youth alumni party, or invite the youth too.

Make sure there’s food and some structure so it’s not just awkward mingling.

A little bit of silly fun, a little bit of spiritual depth, check in to see how people are doing.

It can become a tradition, just be clear on the age boundaries (is it the past 4 years of alumni? The past 2 years? What's the line?).

When folks age out you can support them to organize their own reunion as well.

Responsible: religious educator, lay leader, former youth advisor, other staff member

Helpers: current/former youth advisors, former CoA mentors

- Mentors

Examples / Resources: From [Meaning Makers](#). See Playlist 3.

Responsible: religious educator, lay leader, other staff member

Helpers: folx in the congregation willing to serve as mentors, other UUs in other parts of the country where the young person moved to willing to serve as mentors

- Encourage Immersion Experiences

Examples / Resources: Regional leadership schools and gatherings, camps and conferences for young adults:

Meaning Makers, GROW Racial Justice, YA@GA and more.

Get some additional resources [here](#).

Responsible: parents/guardians, religious educator, former youth advisor, minister

Helpers: UUA staff, camp and conference staff, local young adult groups

- Encourage local engagement in UU life

If those bridgers stuck around, skip on down to Playlist 2, but if they moved away, here's what you can do:

Examples / Resources: Make sure they connect with the Emerging Adult Database for starters.

If that doesn't yield much, time to be more proactive.

[Connect them with their local congregation](#) if there is one.

Try the minister, the religious educator, and make a personal introduction.

Check in with the emerging adult, but don't add too much pressure.

Just encourage them to connect if it makes sense and help them if they want it.

Responsible: parents/guardians, religious educator, former youth advisor, minister

Helpers: staff and lay leaders at local congregation, campus ministers, etc.

- Allocate staff hours to Emerging Adults

Examples / Resources: Move toward a staff member with hours devoted to Emerging Adult ministry, engagement, and outreach.

Responsible: Emerging Adult staff, religious educator, other staff

Helpers: former youth advisors

Playlist 2: Emerging Adults Nearby

[Welcoming New Emerging Adults](#)

- Small group ministry
- Invite them to join congregation committees
- Invite them to participate in and lead worships
- Invitation to volunteer in RE or childcare (with nursery, preK, or elementary only)
- Design an event specifically for your EA's

Campus Ministry

Examples / Resources:

- Potluck with everyone connected to the campus
- Sponsor a UU event on or near campus
- Collaborate on [Soulful Sundown Worships](#)
- Organize EA Social Justice initiatives

Responsible: Emerging Adult staff, religious educator, other staff

Helpers: Emerging Adult members and friends, congregational volunteers

Playlist 3: Other Resources

- Pacific Western Region (PWR) Emerging Adult Database. Connects folx with nearby congregations, one another, and with resources and gifts from PWR. Invite EA's to sign up to get plugged in.
- Pastoral Care Network: Canadian Unitarian Council's Young Adult Pastoral Care Network is available to Pacific Western Region Emerging Adults! [Click here](#) for more information.
- [Emerging Adult Letter to Congregations](#). A refresher with tips on how to minister to this important cohort.
- [Sanctuary Boston](#). An amazing multigen community with incredible ideas for worship and welcoming.
- [Worship in a "Box"](#) - Collaborative document with a menu of options to build an engaging Emerging Adult Worship experience