

Resource Library for Children and Youth Ministry

Horizon Texas Conference

Table of Contents

How to Use This Guide
Tougher Topics
Recommendations for Hiring Practices
Bibles and Scripture Resources
Curriculum Options
Podcasts
Blogs
Apps
Videos
Your First Two Years In Ministry
Children's Books to Read to Them
Connectional Resources: The United Methodist Church
Book List: Deconstruction
Games
Book List: Gender/Sexuality
Resources For Parents of Trans Children
Resources for Supporting Trans Students
Resources for Abortion Care and Support
Book List: History/Wesleyan
Book List: Leadership
Book List: Leadership
Book List: Multigenerational
Book List: Multiracial
Online Training
Book List: Parenting/Family Ministry
Book List: Pastoral Care (Mental Health, too)
Book List: Prayer (and Holy Practice)
Productivity Tools
Book List: Practice
Book List: Research on Their Lives
Book List: Special Needs Ministry
Book List: Storytelling (Preaching)
Book List: Studies
Book List: Theology
Volunteer Resources
Book List: Young Adults

How to Use This Guide

This resource library is designed to support parents, volunteers, and ministry leaders. It includes curated books, tools, curriculum, and support resources for children and youth ministry.

Note: Tougher Topics and Resources are found here

Things that require more immediate response

Recommendations for Hiring Practices

Bibles and Scripture Resources

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) — 11th grade reading level
From National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA - The goal of the NRSVue is to offer a readable and accurate version of the Holy Bible to the global English-speaking community for public worship and personal study, for scholarship and study in classrooms, and for informing faith and action in response to God.

Common English Bible (CEB) — 8th grade reading level
The Common English Bible is committed to the whole church of Jesus Christ. To achieve this, the CEB represents the work of a diverse team with broad scholarship, including the work of over 120 scholars—men and women from 24 faith traditions in American, African, Asian, European and Latino communities. As a result, the English translation of ancient words has an uncommon relevance for a broad audience of Bible readers—from children to scholars.

Helpful for meeting reading level, but know that this is interpretation, not translation:
The Message — 4–5th grade reading level
From Eugene Peterson - The goal of The Message is to engage people in the reading process and help them understand what they read. This is not a study Bible, but rather ""a reading Bible."" The verse numbers, which are not in the original documents, have been left out of the print version to facilitate easy and enjoyable reading. The original books of the Bible were not written in formal language. The Message tries to recapture the Word in the words we use today.

The Path – Not assigned, but selected stories from 11th grade reading level
The Path is the story of the Bible, excerpted from the New Revised Standard Version, so that it is clear and easy to read. Follow the path of God's love all the way from the beginning to the end, from Adam's creation to John's revelation.

Children's Bibles and their reviews
You can also see the Faithful Bible Project's work here and here.
Current recommendations:

- The Book of Belonging - Mariko Clark
  Ages 6-10, neutral pronouns for God, historically accurate skin tones
- Children of God - Storybook Bible - from Archbishop Desmond Tutu
  Ages 3-7, masculine pronouns for God, skin tones vary based on the illustrator
- The Peace Table - Teresa Kim Pecinovsky, Chrissie Muecke, and others
  Ages 5-10, neutral pronouns for God, historically accurate and culturally diverse skin tones

Bible Reading Apps/Websites that might help for youth ministry

- https://feed.bible/ - offers tool kits and reading plans
- Our Bible App - offers themed works and reading plans

Curriculum Options

- Short term/one-off
- Cokesbury - *not guaranteed UMC*
- Dandelion Marketplace
- Grow - *has UMC presence in writing; discount via email with Rev. David (contact Christine)*
- Orange - *has UMC presence in writing; discount available via conference site license - requires 5 churches*
- Sparkhouse
- Illustrated Ministry

Podcasts

- The Bible for Normal People
- Pray As You Go
- Springtide Research: The Voices of Young People
- POD Strangely Warmed
- Everything Happens with Kate Bowler
- Rethinking Youth Ministry
- On Being
- Women in Youth Ministry
- Festival of Faith and Writing: Rewrite Radio
- Evolving Faith

- Almost Heretical
- Holy/Hurt
- Mess Makes Meaning
- Growing Together
- The Listening Chair
- Raising Teens
- Faith in an Anxious World
- Youthscape

Blogs

- Building Faith
- Ministry Incubators' Big Ideas

Apps

- Mind Shift for evidence-based anxiety treatment
- Calm for Meditation - site links to request a free subscription application page

Videos

Young People Address General Conference 2024

Your First Two Years In Ministry

Highly Recommended, in order:

Title	Author	Year
The Godbearing Life, Revised Edition: The Art...	DeWald, Creasy Dean, Foster	2023
What Every Child Should Experience	Discipleship Ministries	
Wholehearted Faith	Held Evans	2021
Christianity the Wesleyan Way	Germano	2020
Let Your Life Speak	Palmer	1999
State of Religion and Young People Exploring...	Springtide Research	2023
Woven	Miller	2023
Sustainable Youth Ministry	DeVries	2008
and/or Sustainable Children's Ministry	DeVries	2018
Almost Christian: What the Faith of Our...	Creasy Dean	2010
Between the Listening and the Telling	Yaconelli	2023
Blessed to be a Blessing	Hadley	2016
Family-Based Youth Ministry	DeVries	2004
and/or Faithful Families	Traci Smith	2017
3 Big Questions That Change Every Teenager	Powell, Griffin	2021
Building Spiritual Muscle	Short, Wilterdink	2016
What Do I Believe About What I Believe?	Bradbury	2022
Womanist Midrash	Gafney	2013
The Good Ancestor	Krznaric	2020
So You Want to Talk About Race	Oluo	2018
Stages of Faith: The Psychology of Human...	Fowler	1981
Faith Beyond Youth Group	Powell, Bradbury, Griffin	2023
To Know as We Are Known: Education as a...	Palmer	1993
Faith Development and Pastoral Care	Fowler	1987
Growing With	Argue, Powell	2019

Title	Author	Year
Adolescent Development		
Faith Development and Pastoral Care	**Fowler**	**1987**
Growing With	**Argue, Powell**	**2019**
Raising an Emotionally Intelligent Child	Gottman, Declaire	1998
Saying is Believing: The Necessity of Testimony...	Drury	2015
Souls in Transition: Religious and Spiritual Lives	Smith	2009
Stages of Faith: The Psychology of Human...	**Fowler**	**1981**
They Like Jesus but not the Church...	Kimball	2007
The Whole Brain Child: 12 Revolutionary Strategies...	Siegel, Bryson	2012
You Lost Me: Why Young Christians are Leaving...	Kinnaman, Hawkins	2016
Calling		
Called	Robb	2019
Let Your Life Speak	Palmer	1999
Children		
Blessed to be a Blessing	**Hadley**	**2016**
Children and Prayer: A Shared Pilgrimage	Cloyd	1997
Children Ministry and the Spiritual Child	Turner	2023
Children's Ministry	Comstock	2006
Children's Ministry in the Way of Jesus	Csinos, Beckworth	2013
Faithful Families	**Smith**	**2017**
The Gifts They Bring	Lindeman Allen	2023
Godly Play in Middle and Late Childhood	Minor	2022
Handing Down the Faith: How Parents Pass Their...	Smith, Adamcz	2021
How Do Our Children Grow? Introducing Children to...	Halverson	1999
Listening to Children on the Spiritual Journey	Stonehouse, May	2010
New Direction for Holy Questions	Brown, Pebble	2022
Play	Brown	2010
Rest Play Grow	MacNamara	2018
Scrambled Starts: Family Prayers for Morning, Bed...	Youngman	2015
Sustainable Children's Ministry	**DeVries, Safstrom**	**2018**
What Every Child Should Experience	**Discipleship Ministries**	

Additional Links:

- Living Stories Sermon Style, Peter Levenstrong
- U-Shaped Model of Spiritual Transformation, Leanne Hadley (2018)
- Holy Listening Stones, Leanne Hadley (2016)
- A Time for Children Materials to Share, Leanne Hadley

Children's Books to Read to Them

Title	Author	Year
Start Here:		
Wonder: 52 Conversations to Help Kids Fall in Love with Scripture	Meredith Miller	2026
Bibles		
Biggest Story	Kevin DeYoung	2025
Book of Belonging: Bible Stories...	Clark	2024
God's Stories as Told by God's People	Bible for Normal Pe	2025
The Peace Table		2023
The Church Year		
Around the Circle: Celebrating the Church Year	Alary	2026
Advent		
All is Bright	Clay Anderson	2022
Birth of the Chosen One	Terry Wildman	2024
Brown Baby Jesus	Dorena Williamson	2022
Holy Night and Little Star	Mitali Perkins	2023
Lullaby for the King	Nikki Grimes	2023
Night of His Birth	Katherine Paterson	2019
Room for a Little One	Martin Waddell	2008
Sounding Joy	Ellie Holcomb	2022
Twas the Evening of Christmas	Glenys Nellist	2017
Twas the Season of Advent	Glenys Nellist	2021
Very Noisy Christmas, A	Tim Thornborough	2018
Christmas		
All the Colors of Christmas	Paul Turner	2020
Lent		
Make Room: A Child's Guide to Lent and Easter	Alary	2016
Spring's Miracles	Curtis	2025
Tiny Seed	Warner	2021
'Twas the Season of Lent: Devotions and Storybook	Nellist	2024
Easter		
Bare Tree and Little Wind	Mitali Perkins	2022
Colt and The King	McGee	
Garden, The Curtain, and the Cross	Laferton	
Holy Week: An Emotions Primer	Hitchen	2019

Mary and the Gardener	Paul Kerensa	2025
Rise: A Child's Guide to Eastertide	Alary	2025
Story of Easter	Pingry	1997
Twas the Morning of Easter	Nellist	2021
Pentecost		
Celebration Place	Dorena Williamson	2021
Church for All, A	Pitman	2018
Day When God Made the Church	McLeod Hutto	2016
When I Go to Church I Belong	Elrena Evans	2023
Who is My Neighbor	Jill-Levine	2019
Baptism		
Baptized in the Water: Becoming a Member of...	Nellist	2022
Water Come Down: The Day You Were Baptized	Wangerin	1999
Communion		
Gathered at the Table	Nellist	2024
Imago Dei		
Beatitudes: From Slavery to Civil Rights	Weatherford	2009
I Am God's Dream	Paul Turner	2022
When God Made You	**Paul Turner**	**2017**
World is Awaiting You	Richmond	2024
You Will Always Belong	Paul Turner	2024
God		
Dear Mama God	Akers, Gamble	2023
God's Dream	Tutu	2008
God's Holy Darkness	Green	2022
God's Perfect Peace	Nellist	2025
How Great is Our God: 100 Indescribable Devotions	Giglio	2019
If God Were a Great Big Bear	Paul Harbridge	2025
Images of God for Young Children	Marie-Helene Delv	2010
Indescribable: 100 Devotions about God and Science	Giglio	2017
Maybe God is Like That Too	Jennifer Grant	2017
Mother God	Pecinovsky	2022
My Love, God is Everywhere	Robbs Powers	2023
What if I can't Explain God	Jennifer Grant	2023
What is God Like?	Held Evans, Paul T	2021
When God Made the World	Paul Turner	2020
Prayers		

All Will Be Well	Finn Borgo	2022
Finding Calm in Nature	Grant	2023
Little Prayers for Everyday Life	Traci Smith	2022
Lord's Prayer	Ladwig	2000
Thank you, God	J. Bradley Wigger	2024
When I Pray for You	Paul Turner	2019
Our Call as Christians		
Andy Johnson and the March for Justice	Esau McCaulley	2024
God's Earth is Something to Fight For	Amy Houts	2023
I am the Spirit of Justice	Jemar Tisby	2025
The Rainbow Sheep	David Hayward	2025
The Tide is Rising, So Are We!	Meira Friedman	2025
Zion Learns to See	Terence Lester	2024
Stories		
Moses Basket	Koralek	2003
Rabbit Listened	Doerrfeld	2018
Who Counts? 100 Sheep...	Jill-Levine	2017

Discipleship Ministries Recommendations:
https://gbod-assets.s3.amazonaws.com/legacy/kintera-files/childrens-ministries/Children_Books-and-Bibles.pdf

Connectional Resources: The United Methodist Church

- The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church, 2024
- Crash Courses in Youth Ministry
    - Discipleship Ministries
    - Division on Ministry with Young People (Young People's Connectional Network)
    - Methodist Youth Ministry Association (membership required)

Book List: Deconstruction

Title	Author	Year
Deconstructionist's Playbook An Anthology	Cheatham, Ta	
Faith After Doubt	McLaren	2022
Leaving the Fold	Winell	2006
Raised to Stay	Runion	2023
Rest is Resistance	Hersey	2022
Searching for Sunday	Evans	2015
Unbelievable	Spong	2018
UnChristian	Kinnaman	2007
When Religion Hurts You	Anderson	2023
Wholehearted Faith	**Held Evans**	**2021**

Games

- Board Game Arena
- YouTube Playlist

Book List: Gender/Sexuality

Title	Author	Year
Brief Guide to Ministry with LGBTQIA Youth	Sanders	2017
Does Jesus Really Love Me	Chu	2013
God and the Gay Christian	Vines	2014
A Lily Among Thorns: Imaging a New Chrisitan...	De La Torre	2007
Pro-Choice and Christian: Reconciling Faith, Politics...	Schlesinger	2017
Queerfully and Wonderfully Made	Finke	2020
Queer Theology: Beyond Apologetics	Vines	2018
Real Sex: The Naked Truth about Chastity	Winner	2005
Relational Guide for Clergy	QChristian	
The Sacred Selves of Adolescent Girls	Parker	2006
Sexuality and the Christian Body	Rogers	1999
Shameless	Boltz-Weber	2019
Transforming: The Bible and the Lives of Transgender...	Hartke	2018
Trans and Expansive Guide	Q Christian	

UnClobber	Martin	2018
Welcoming and Affirming	Finke	2020
Brief Guide to Ministry with LGBTQIA Youth	Sanders	2017
Does Jesus Really Love Me	Chu	2013
God and the Gay Christian	Vines	2014
A Lily Among Thorns: Imaging a New Chrisitan...	De La Torre	2007
Pro-Choice and Christian: Reconciling Faith, Politics...	Schlesinger	2017
Queerfully and Wonderfully Made	Finke	2020
Queer Theology: Beyond Apologetics	Vines	2018
Real Sex: The Naked Truth about Chastity	Winner	2005
Relational Guide for Clergy	QChristian	
The Sacred Selves of Adolescent Girls	Parker	2006
Sexuality and the Christian Body	Rogers	1999
Shameless	Boltz-Weber	2019
Transforming: The Bible and the Lives of Transgender...	Hartke	2018
Trans and Expansive Guide	Q Christian	
UnClobber	Martin	2018
Welcoming and Affirming	Finke	2020

Resources For Parents of Trans Children

- Parenting Transgender Children: A Guide to Keeping Your... by Duke, Clarke, and Gamewell
- https://www.gaychurch.org/
- https://www.churchclarity.org/
- Trevor Project National Survey
- Q Christian Resource for Parents of Newly Out LGBTQIA+
- RMN: UMC Youth Leaders Toolkit: Caring for LGBTQ+ Youth & Families

Resources for Supporting Trans Students

- Resource toolkit for youth and young adults - thank you Rev. Jenny Bates and Rev. Andrew Fiser
- RMN: Resources for LGBTQ+ Christian Teens
- Resource for educating Self, Parents or Teams

Resources for Abortion Care and Support

https://abortionswelcome.org/

Book List: History/Wesleyan

Title	Author	Year
American Methodism	Boggan D, Richey, R...	2022
Born in Crisis and Shaped by Controversy	Tyson	2022
Christianity the Wesleyan Way	Germano	2020
The Complete Sermons John Wesley	Wesley	2013
Five Means of Grace: Experience God's Love...	Heath	2022
Guideline Advocates for ... (2025-2028) Christian Education Children's Ministries Family Ministries Inclusiveness Young People	Colesbury	2024
Great Emergence	Tickle	2009
Incompatible	Baber	2023
Knowing Who We Are: The Wesleyan Way of Grace	Warner	2024
Methodism and American Empire: Reflections...	William Scott	2024
Three Simple Rules: The Wesleyan Way of Living	Job	2007
The Way to the Kingdom	Wesley	1932
Wesley in a bag - Activity	McConnell	2024
Who We Are And What We Believe: 50 Questions...	Warner	2024

Book List: Leadership

Title	Author	Year
Blank Slate: Write Your Own Rules for a 22nd Cent....,	McIntosh, Smothers...	2019
Burn Bright, Not Out: The Playful Guide to Recharging	Wade	2023
Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in...	Bolsinger	2015

The Emotionally Healthy Leader: How Transforming...	Scazzero	2015
How to Lead When You're Not in Charge: Leveraging...	Scroggins	2017
Inside the Mind of Youth Pastors: A Church Leader's...	Riddle	2018
Intentional Leadership In-Between Seasons	Drummond	2024
In the Name of Jesus: Reflections on Christian Lead...	Nouwen	1992
Jesus-Centered Youth Ministry (Revised edition)	Lawrence et al.	2014
Leader Slips: Learning and Leading from Failure	Sutherland	2019
The Starfish and the Spider: The Unstoppable Power...	Brafman, Beckstrom	2008
Smaller Church Youth Ministry: No Staff, No Money...	Fiscus	2016
What Is the Role of Teens in Your Church	Kunjufu	2011
A Woman in Youth Ministry: Honest Insight...	Abbas	2014

Book List: Missions

On Mission – Devotions, Knaak (2015)

Book List: Multigenerational

Title	Author	Year
Generations	Twenge	2023
The Good Ancestor	**Krznaric**	**2020**
The Grandparenting Effect	Okholm	2020
InterGenerate: Transforming Churches through Inter	Cattterton Allen	2018

Book List: Multiracial

Title	Author	Year
Black Liturgies	Arthur Riley	2024
Blessed Are the Women	McKeever-Burgett	2024

The Color of Compromise: The Truth about the Ameri	Tisby	2019
Courageous Discomfort	McBride, Wiseman	2022
The Cross and the Lynching Tree	Cone	2011
I'm Still Here	Channing Brown	2018
Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher...	Duncan	2019
Disunity in Christ	Cleveland	2013
I Bring the Voices of My People: A Womanist Vision...	Walker-Barnes	2019
Jesus and the Disinherited	Thurman	1949
Jesus and the Disinherited	Thurman	1949
Marginalized Majority	Roychoudhuri	2018
Native: Identity, Belonging and Rediscovering God	Curtice	2020
So You Want to Talk About Race	**Oluo**	**2018**
Stand Your Ground: Black Bodies and the Justice of	Brown Douglas	2015
Toward a Prophetic Youth Ministry	Arzola Jr.	2008
Trouble I've Seen: Changing the Way Church Views...	Hart	2016
Very Good Gospel	Harper	2020

Online Training

- Anxiety and Depression Association of America
- Mental Health
    - National Alliance on Mental Illness
    - Mental Health First Aid Training
    - QPR Training
    - Yale: The Science of Well-Being for Teens
- Faith Formation
    - Discipleship Ministries
    - Rio Texas Conference: Faith Formation Leadership Academy
    - Rethink Children and Youth Ministry: Convergence Online Summit
    - Western North Carolina Conference: Learning Opportunities
      Recommended:
        - What Does the UMC Do for Me?
        - All Belong
        - United Methodist History

        - Ministry with Gen Z and Gen Alpha
    - Yale Youth Ministry Institute: Training Modules
      Recommended:
        - Cultivating Resilience, Well-Being and Authentic Happiness
        - Fostering Vocational Discernment
        - Offering Effective Pastoral Care
        - Cultivating Student Leadership
- Ministry Formation
    - BeADisciple.com
    - Convergence
    - TenX10 - Kickstart
    - Fuller - Equip
- Volunteers
    - Listening to Community - The Listening Post Collective Playbook
    - TenXTen Youth Leader Tools
    - How to listen to the community for project development in partnership
- UMC Communications - Full Library
  Recommended:
    - Exploring General Conference
    - What it Means to be United Methodist
    - Sharing Your Faith Journey
- Youth Ministry Consultants

Book List: Parenting/Family Ministry

Title	Author	Year
The Adolescent Journey	Jacober	2011
And Social Justice for All	Lisa Van Engen	2019
Facetime: Identity in a Selfie World	Hatton	2017
Faithful Families	**Smith**	**2017**
Family-Based Youth Ministry	**DeVries**	**2004**
Five Principles of Parenting	Pressman	2024
Hopefuly Family, The	Richardson Dress	2021
It Takes a Church to Raise a Parent	Turner	2018
The Lazy Genius Way	kAdachi	2021
Parenting Forward	Wang Brandt	2019
Present Over Perfect	Niequist	2016
Right Click	Powell, Bamford, Grif...	2015

Sacred Parenthood	Yong and Yong	2025
Social Media Wellness	Homayoun	2018
When Kids Ask Hard Questions	McCleneghan, etc.	2019
When Kids Ask Hard Questions, Volume 2	McCleneghan, etc.	2021
Woven	**Miller**	**2023**

Things parents can engage in faith with their students:

- YouVersion Reading Plan Strong Guides for Every Child's Life
- One Hope Family Matters Understanding the reality of parents in the West
- How to have Courageous Conversations
- With Parents and diverse books, Church of the Resurrection

Book List: Pastoral Care (Mental Health, too)

Title	Author	Year
Caring Congregation Ministry	Lampe, Gepford	2021
Caring for Souls in a Neoliberal Age	Rogers-Vaughn	2016
Changing the Game for Generation Alpha: Teaching...	Washington	2021
Everything Happens for a Reason	Bowler	2018
Family-Based Youth Ministry	**DeVries**	**2004**
Helping the Struggling Adolescent: A Guide...	Parrott	2014
Hope in Pastoral Care and Counseling	Lester	1995
Moving Beyond Individualism	McClure	2015
No Cure for Being Human	Bowler	2022
Sacred Self Care	Walker-Barnes	2023
The Lives We Actually Have	Bowler	2023
You Are Not Alone: The NAMI Guide to Navigating...	Duckworth	2022

Additional Resources:

- University of Texas: Digital Resources for Mental Health
- Trevor Project National Survey
- List from Yale Youth Ministry Institute
- Trauma-Informed Faith Formation from Austin Presbyterian Seminary
- Mental Health First Aid Training

Book List: Prayer (and Holy Practice)

Title	Author	Year
The Amen Effect	Brous	2024
The Artist's Way	Cameron	1992
Breath as Prayer	Tucker	2022
Contemplative Youth Ministry	Yaconelli	2006
Draw the Circle	Batterson	2012
Every Moment Holy I	McKelvey	2017
Every Moment Holy II	McKelvey	2021
Every Moment Holy III	McKelvey	2023
Intimacy with God	Keating	2009
Prayers for the People: Things We Didn't Know...	Stokes	2021
Praying in Color	MacBeth	2019
Rest Is Resistance: A Manifesto	Hersey	2022
A Rhythm of Prayer	Bessey	2021
Spiritual Disciplines Handbook	Calhoun	2005

Productivity Tools

- Doodle - for scheduling meetings with multiple people
- Fantastical – more than a calendar
- Monday.com - shared work and project planning (conference uses)

Book List: Practice

Title	Author	Year
Contemplative Youth Ministry	Yaconelli	2006
Courage to Teach: Exploring the Inner Landscape...	Palmer	1997
Crash Courses in Youth Ministry	Wilterdink, Steel	2021
Faith Beyond Youth Group	**Powell, Bradbury...**	**2023**
Faith Formation in a Secular Age	Root	2017
Growing With	Powell, Argue	2019
Growing Young: Six Essential Strategies to Help...	Powell, Mulder, Griffin	2016
How Youth Ministry Can Change Theological Education`	Creasy Dean, Hearlson	2016

Innovating for Love: Joining God's Expedition...	Creasy Dean	2022
InterGenerate: Transforming Churches through Inter...	Cattterton Allen	2018
Lead Small: Five Big Ideas Every Small Group Leader	Joiner	2012
Let Your Life Speak	**Palmer**	**1999**
Leading Without Power	Ostreicher	2017
Lives to Offer	Baker, Mercer	2007
Necessary Endings	Cloud, Henry	2011
Now That You're a Youth Leader: How to Handle...	Steele	2018
Safe Sanctuaries: Reducing the Risk of Abuse...	Thornburg Melton	2008
Small Batch Disciplemaking	Sunde	2024
Starting Right: Thinking Theologically about Youth...	Creasy Dean	2001
Teaching the Bible to Adults and Youth	Murray	1987
The Secrets of Happy Families: Improve Your...	Fieler	2013
To Mend the World: A New Vision for Youth Ministry	Lief, Rietema	2023
Smaller Church Youth Ministry: No Staff...	Fiscus, Caro	2016
Start with Why: How Great Leaders Inspire Everyone...	Sinek	2011
Sticky Faith, Youth Worker Edition: Practical Ideas...	Crawford, Griffin, Po...	2011
Sustainable Youth Ministry	**DeVries**	**2008**
Wrestling With Rest	Stucky	2019
Your First Two Years in Youth Ministry	**Fields**	**2002**
Youth Ministry Management Tools 2.0	Work, Olson	2014

Book List: Research on Their Lives

Title	Author	Year
Belonging: Reconnecting America's Loneliest Gene	Springtide Research	2020
Church Refugees	Packard, Hope	2015
Gen Z: The Culture, Beliefs, and Motivations Shaping...	Barna Group	2018
Meaning Making	Packard, Springtide	2020
Mental Health and Gen Z	Springtide Research	2022
Navigating Uncertainty	Springtide Research	2021

New Adolescence	Carter	2020
Relational Authority	Springtide Research	2020
State of Religion and Young People Exploring...	**Springtide Research**	**2023**

Book List: Special Needs Ministry

Title	Author	Year
Leading A Special Needs Ministry	Lee	2013
What I Mean When I Say I'm Austisic	Kotowicz	2022

Book List: Storytelling (Preaching)

Title	Author	Year
All Who Are Weary	Kegler	2021
An Altar in the World	Brown Taylor	2009
A Year of Biblical Womanhood: How a Liberated...	Held Evans	2012
Between the Listening and the Telling	**Yaconelli**	**2023**
From Pew to Pulpit	Guthrie	2005
Hallelujah, Anyhow!	Harris	2018
How the Light Gets In	Schneider	2013
In The Shelter: Finding a Home in the World	Tuama	2015
Jesus Feminist: An Invitation to Revisit...	Bessey	2013
Love is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling...	Curry	2020
One Coin Found	Kegler	2019
Pastoral Imagination: Bringing the Practice of Min...	Campbell-Reed	2021
The Preaching Life	Brown Taylor	1993
Recalling Our Own Stories	Wimberly	2019
Saying is Believing	**Drury**	**2015**
Say Yes: Discover the Surprising Life Beyond the Death...	Erickson	2022
Searching for Sunday: Loving, Leaving, and Finding...	Held Evans	2015
Still: Notes on a Mid-Faith Crisis	Winner	2012
Storytelling Imagination and Faith	Bausch	1989
Teaching Biblical Faith	Seymour	2015

This Here Flesh	Arthur Riley	2022
Traveling Mercies	Lamott	1999

Book List: Studies

Title	Author	Year
3 Big Questions That Change Every Teenager	**Powell, Griffin**	**2021**
14 Talks by Age Fourteen	Icard	2021
40 Hours Together (Lent)	Dandelion Marketplace	
Anxiety Relief for Teens: Essential CBT Skills and...	Galanti	2020
The Awakened Life: An 8-Week Guide to Student...	Bollinger, Olsen	2019
The Bible Year Devotional	DeVega	2021
Blessed Are the Women	McKeever-Burgett	2024
Bread and Wine: Readings for Lent and Easter	Lewis, Day, Nouwen...	2022
By The Way: Getting Serious About Following Jesus	Vreeland	2019
Building Spiritual Muscle	**Short, Wilterdink**	**2016**
Call - Listening for God's Everyday Voice Stewart	2016	
Called (just study)	Discipleship Ministries	
Campus Gods: Exposing the idols that can derail your...	Chmieleski	2013
Change the World: Rediscovering the Message...	Slaughter	2010
Everyday Disciples: Covenant Discipleship with Youth	Wilterdink	2016
God Didn't Make Us to Hate	McManus-Dail	2025
Good Enough	Bowler, Richie	2022
Have a Beautiful Terrible Day	Bowler	2024
Honest Advent	Erickson	2020
Into the Neighborhood	Hawkins, Newkirk...	2024
It's Personal: Five Questions You Should Answer...	Ward, Joiner, Ivy	2019
Let Me Ask You a Question: Conversations with Jesus	Croasmun	2018
Rhythm of Prayer	Bessey	2021
Rising Strong as Spiritual Practice	Brown	2017

The Science of Well Being for Teens Yale		
A Way Other Than Our Own: Devotions for Lent	Brueggemann	2016
What Do I Believe About What I Believe?	**Bradbury**	**2022**
Womanist Midrash	Gafney	2017
Youth Can Lead Now	Wheeler, Achilles	2020

Additional Online Providers You Can Trust for Curriculum that fits UMC:

- UMPH: Bible Lessons for Youth
- Dandelion Marketplace
- Discovery Weekend
- UMPH: Fathom Bible Studies
- YPM Worship Series

Book List: Theology

Title	Author	Year
A Biblical Theology of Youth Ministry	McGarry	2019
Almost Christian: What the Faith of Our...	**Creasy Dean**	**2010**
Contemplative Youth Ministry	Yaconelli	2006
Cultivating Teen Faith: Insights from the Confirmation...	Osmer, Douglass	2018
The Dangers of Christian Practice	Winner	2018
The Dark Night of the Soul	May MD	2020
The Godbearing Life, Revised Edition: The Art...	**DeWald, Creasy...**	**2023**
God Can't	Oord	2019
God Is Not A White Man	McDonald	2021
If the Church Were Christian: Rediscovering the...	Gulley	2011
care	Held Evans	2018
The Jesus Gap: What Teens Actually Believe About...	Bradbury	2019
Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes: Cultural Studies...	Bailey	2008
One Body: Integrating Teenagers into the Life...	Halverson	2019
Opening Israel's Scriptures	Davis	2019

Short Stories by Jesus: The Enigmatic Parables...	Jill-Levine	2014
Speaking Christian: Why Christian Words Have Lost	Borg	2011
To Know as We Are Known: Education as a...	**Palmer**	**1993**
A Theological Journey Through Youth Ministry...	Root	2012
Theological Turn in Youth Ministry	Root, Dean	2011
UnClobber	Martin	2018
Wearing God: Clothing, Laughter, Fire, and Other...	Winner	2015
What's Right About Youth Ministry: Six Values...	Oestricher, Johnston	2018
Wholehearted Faith	Held Evans	2022
Womanist Midrash: A Reintroduction to the Women...Gafney	2017	

Volunteer Resources

Things volunteers can engage in to ensure best practices in youth ministry:

- 5 Cups of Coffee
- Conversation Matters: Open and Honest Conversations
- Timothy Circle: Conversation Starters
- Timothy Circle: How to Converse
- Young Minds: Training for volunteers and mental health that are quick, easy, and equipping

Book List: Young Adults

Title	Author	Year
That's Deep. A Mindfulness Guide for College Students	West	2024
Young Adult Ministry Now	Argue	2022