The Youth Ministry Initiative ("YMI") and the Yale Center for Faith and Culture will again sponsor a special week-long symposium as part of the Yale Divinity School Summer Study Program. This summer’s continuation of the free “Youth Ministry: Now Lunch and Lecture” series will be devoted to the opportunities and challenges of congregational youth ministry in the city.

Register now at summerstudy.yale.edu

THE SERIES IS FREE AND OPEN TO ALL*

* Participants need only pay a $10 per day registration fee, which will be refunded to all attendees on the day of the course. More information on payments can be found at summerstudy.yale.edu.

Please email allison.vanrhee@yale.edu with any questions.

Yale Divinity School
409 Prospect Street
New Haven
CT 06511

Each of the lectures will also be broadcast live and can be viewed at:

new.livestream.com/yaledivinityschool/ymi

COURSE SUMMARY

EVERY DAY, 1:30PM
Dr. Almeda Wright, Dr. Yolanda Smith

MONDAY, JUNE 2, 9AM
Dr. Anne E. Streety Wimberly

TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 9AM
Dr. Evelyn L. Parker

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 9AM
Dr. Mark R. Gornik, Deán Maria Liu Wong, Dr. Janice A. McLean-Farrell

THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 9AM
Pastors Rebecca & Jorge Gonzalez

FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 9AM
Dr. Gregory C. Ellison, II

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 lectures 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
Managing Director, Yale Center for Faith and Culture

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Dr. Anne E. Streaty Wimberly, a Professor of Christian Ethics at the Interdenominational Theological Center, where she also serves as the Director of the Youth Hope-Builders Academy. She will explore youth ministry leaders’ call to the 3 Cs of urban youth ministry: context, critical content, and connection. These youth receive from a dominant and often racially unfriendly culture. Dr. Wimberly will explore youth ministry leaders’ call to the 3 Cs of urban youth ministry: context, critical content, and connection.

Dr. Almeda Wright is an Assistant Professor of Religious Education. Both work at Yale Divinity School and are ordained Baptist ministers.

Dr. Yolanda Smith is a Research Scholar and Lecturer in Christian Education. Both work at Yale Divinity School and are ordained Baptist ministers.

Dr. Evelyn L. Parker is the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and a Professor of Practical Theology at Southern Methodist University. She will explore four essential components for nurturing a young girl foster her personal spirituality in the face of such beasts: realization, resistance, resilience, and ritual. These four concepts, and the practical ways in which they can be applied, will be the cornerstone of this session.

Dr. Gregory C. Ellison, II is an Assistant Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling at the Candler School of Theology at Emory University. He will explore the ways in which caregivers can sow seeds of life into the minds of young African American men.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 9AM

Dr. Mark R. Gornik, Dr. Janice A. McLean-Farrell, and Dean Maria Liu Wong

The Next Generation: Practicing Youth Ministry in the Global City

This session will examine the practices of youth ministry in the global city, especially among African, Asian, West Indian, and Latin American churches. As new and globally linked churches are established in the United States, the transmission of faith between generations is a primary concern for parents and church leaders. This session will be based on the findings and ongoing activities of the Next Generation Project conducted by City Seminary of New York.

Dr. Mark Gornik is the Director of City Seminary of New York. Dr. Janice McLean-Farrell is the Coordinator of the Global New York Church Project and is a City Seminary faculty member. Maria Liu Wong serves as the seminary’s dean.

THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 9AM

Pastors Rebecca & Jorge Gonzalez

Mining Potential in Latino Youth: Lessons Learned From Serving Youth in an Urban, Cultural Context

Regardless of the economic, cultural, and language barriers our youth face, they have the God-given potential to succeed in life. A listening heart, unconditional love, and safe spaces instill confidence that transforms. Pastors Rebecca and Jorge Gonzalez will share stories from their work – “nuggets” found in the midst of poverty, abuse, violence, and apathy.

Rebecca and Jorge Gonzalez are the Founders and Directors of Power House Youth Ministries.

FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 9AM

Dr. Gregory C. Ellison, II

Cut Dead But Still Alive: Caring for African American Young Men

To cut dead means to refuse to acknowledge another with the intent to punish. This is the plight of many African American young men. They are stigmatized with limited opportunity, silenced, rarely seen, and made vulnerable by a lack of sustained introspection. In this lecture, Dr. Ellison will explore the ways in which caregivers can sow seeds of life into the minds of young African American men.

Dr. Gregory C. Ellison, II is an Assistant Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling at the Candler School of Theology at Emory University.