"Nobody else is doing anything like this," said Dr. Israel Kamudzandu, our New Testament professor, at an instructional retreat. "With YMI, these are leaders who will change the church!"

Youth Ministry Institute makes a difference because youth ministers in our program immediately apply what they're learning. The results are amazing! Youth ministers who complete our two-year program stay in their jobs more than twice as long as their peers and see their youth ministry attendance more than double.

We are a national organization with a local footprint. Thanks to your encouragement and generosity, Youth Ministry Institute Midwest is in its third year of operation. Our student enrollment tripled to 13 students in 2015. We also provided additional support to over 20 churches and forged new partnerships. Our faculty expanded to include 25 gifted educators and coaches.

Our growth and stability is exciting, but telling the stories of our students is more compelling.

Carissa Welsh is in her second year in our primary training, education, and coaching program. She reflected about how YMI impacted her life and ministry:

"Youth Ministry Institute has been a wonderful addition to not only my professional life, but it has given me friends and a support system. The grace and love that is offered through this program is amazing. YMI has given me the tools and the

knowledge to increasingly become a better youth minister. YMI paired me with a wonderful coach, who had a similar background, to help me in the trenches - something that has been incredibly helpful as I'm trying to figure out this whole 'youth ministry' thing. Youth Ministry Institute has helped me network with people in the area as well as people who have been in youth ministry for a long time. YMI is a blessing."

Well said, Carissa. We are thankful for those who give to Youth Ministry Institute Midwest so that youth can experience the grace and transformation God offers through the leadership of YMI-trained youth ministers like Carissa.

As you consider your end-of-year giving, we encourage you to support Carissa and her colleagues as they make a difference with youth in their local churches. Thank you for your kindness and your support!

Peace,

Matt Vaughan, Director Youth Ministry Institute Midwest

PS - You can read more about our students online: yminstitute.com/student-success-stories

# HOW TO GET



- Pray for our ministry.
- Consider making an end-of-year or monthly gift to support students like Carissa and the youth they serve.
- Share our mission with a friend or host a gathering for us.
- Volunteer to help with a fundraiser, supporting the work of our board save the date for our next event on April 22, 2016.
- Invite your pastor to share this vision with other churches, youth ministers, and potential partners.
- Are you a researcher, grant-writer, or have non-profit connections? Help us find and write grants.
- Note our non-profit 501c(3) corporate federal tax identification number as you consider a gift: 80-0496233.



#### **CLASS IN SESSION**

Dr. Israel Kamudzandu, Saint Paul School of Theology professor, taught a New Testament Intensive class to the students in our two-year program (at left). Students receive more than 300 hours of instruction from professors, pastors, youth ministers, and other specialists.



#### STUDENTS IN OUR TWO-YEAR PROGRAM

Ten youth ministers participate in our two-year program and receive monthly training and coaching. Left to right:

- Amy Gerend Heritage United Methodist; Overland Park, KS
- Carol Stepp Woodlawn Chapel Presbyterian; St. Louis, MO
- · Carissa Welsh Tonganoxie United Methodist; Tonganoxie, KS
- · Leah Smarsh Woodlawn United Methodist; Derby, KS
- RJ Robinson First United Methodist Church; Manhattan, KS
- Evan Voth Andover United Methodist Church; Andover, KS
- Caleb Fouse First United Methodist Church: Wichita, KS
- Chris Aytes First United Methodist Church; Wamego, KS
- Michael Moore First Presbyterian Church; Mexico, MO
- · CJ Johnson Presbyterian Church; Garden City, KS

#### NEW TO MINISTRY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Three interns participate in a new joint partnership between Heartland Center, Youth Ministry Institute, and the Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation:

- Tyler Brotton Pine Ridge Presbyterian Church; Parkville, MO
- Lauren Woody Village Presbyterian; Prairie Village, KS
- · Shelby Voigt Second Presbyterian; Kansas City, MO



## 2015 BOARD

Chris Andersen, Diane Browne, Joni Hernly, Ryan Hussey, Lee Johnson, Kris Kvam, Thomas McIntyre, Celia Nicholas, Donna Pirotte, Desiree' Reinke, Laura Strongman, Linn VerMeer, Zach Walker.

28%



#### TOPGOLF EVENT

More than 70 golfers joined us for our Fall fundraising event!

#### THE VAUGHANS

Matt, Amy, Sam, and Jack Vaughan this summer on vacation. Sam is 13 and in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Jack is 10 and in 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

# Connect with us today! midwest.yminstitute.com (giving link: ymimidwest.org)

## 2015 COVENANT PARTNERS

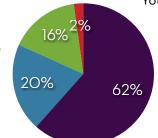
Synod of Mid-America;
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Young People's Ministries of the
United Methodist Church
Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation
Central Presbyterian Church; KC, MO
Southminster Presbyterian Church; PV, KS
Village Presbyterian Church;

Prairie Village, KS



### **EXPENSES** \$111,225

- Instruction
- ConsultingOperation
- Fundraising

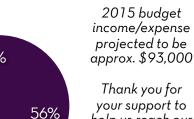


#### 2016 PROJECTED BUDGET

Youth Ministry Institute Midwest, LLC. Gifts are tax-deductible

#### INCOME \$112,000

- Client ChurchesIndividual Gifts
- Covenant Partners
- Other Income



Thank you for your support to help us reach our goals! Help us fill in our pie chart with your gift.