

"Matt, I hear you're the one to talk to," said the pastor of a church in western Kansas. "Our longtime youth director is moving and we need some help." Two weeks later I boarded an overnight Amtrak train and spent the day with members of this church. **The church hired a wonderful youth ministry leader and enrolled him in our two-year Cohort Learning program.** Attendance at the youth group is increasing.

Mary, an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, is from Wichita. When I visited her youth group, she said, "My mom works evenings. She does the best she can. I come to youth group because it's like family to me. I love my friends here." The needs are immense at Mary's church – nearly half of the kids in her youth group are in a free or reduced meal program at school.

YMIM provides church consulting services and youth ministry education, training, and coaching. **Some services are offered at free or reduced rates, especially for churches like these, in rural and urban settings.** No other nonprofit organization within 400 miles provides similar support.

**In five years, YMIM has provided complimentary and paid contracted support at 62 churches in four denominations throughout Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. 500 youth benefit each year.**

Does a youth group really help kids like Mary?  
Conclusively, the answer is "yes."

**Three academic studies found that kids in a youth group are more likely to live a life of faith<sup>1</sup>, more likely to experience academic success<sup>2</sup>, and less likely to engage in risky behavior<sup>3</sup> or experiment with drugs and alcohol<sup>4</sup>.**



These studies found that young people involved in a local church "feel a greater sense of purpose and are less likely to be bothered by feelings of not fitting in"<sup>5</sup>.

Our board and I envision a culture shift in youth ministry that transforms the lives of youth who hunger for compassion, care, and discipleship. YMIM works toward this vision by sharing the love and grace of Jesus Christ with young people through skilled and effective leadership.

**You make a difference in this mission.**

Nearly 30 percent of our 2019 budget is supported by your gifts. Many of our supporters give \$15 to \$100 per month. Others share a year-end gift or join our board for periodic fundraising gatherings. We encourage you to support YMIM as you consider your end-of-year giving and in the year ahead.

Thank you for joining 150 families in supporting this local ministry. I am blessed by your support and honored to lead this ministry.

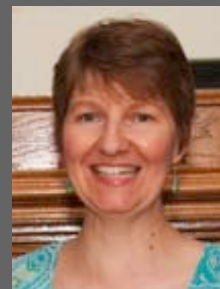
Peace,

Matt Vaughan, Director  
Youth Ministry Institute Midwest



## APPRECIATIVE WORDS

Sabrina Wellman just finished our two-year program. She said, "Two years ago I heard about YMIM at a



local youth workers' gathering, and I reached out to Matt to learn more. The training was so good! I still need to reflect, and there are countless lessons to apply. Youth ministry moves fast. The number of hours we are afforded to interact with our young people is short. As my YMIM mentor wisely said, 'It's about planting seeds with these kids.' I'm grateful for this experience!"



Pastor K.O. Noonoo at Pittsburg Presbyterian Church said, "I just finished reading the strategic

plan in the report that you wrote and it is really beautifully done. It has very clear recommendations. What I like about it is that it gives manageable suggestions that our youth minister and I can try to experience success, and it's working. Thank you!"

Matt also teaches at Saint Paul School of Theology; contact him for detailed references:

<sup>1</sup>National Study of Youth and Religion 2005.

<sup>2</sup>University of Pennsylvania 2007.

<sup>3</sup>ibid.

<sup>4</sup>Baylor University 2014.

<sup>5</sup>ibid.

## 2018 FACULTY

The following professionals taught or coached for YMIM:

- Chris Aytes
- Jason Carle, MDiv
- Teri Chalker, MA, LCSW
- Brenda Davids, MDiv
- Emily Nelson Dixon
- Andy Dykhous
- Todd Guinn, MDiv
- Justin Jamis, MDiv
- Lee Johnson, MDiv
- Brian Kuhn, MA, LPC
- Victoria Luhrs Lynch, MA
- Dave MaGee, MDiv
- Desiree Reinke
- Barry Sanborn
- Cindi Stewart, MDiv
- Matt Vaughan
- Zach Walker, MDiv
- Carissa Welsh, MA, LCSW
- Ben Wheeler
- D.J. Whetter
- Kevin Wilder, MA
- Karen Wright, MDiv
- Sally Wright, MDiv

## ACADEMIC TEAM

- Meredith Holladay, PhD; Central Baptist Seminary
- Jon Grenz, PhD; Palm Beach Atlantic University
- Kristen Kvam, PhD; Saint Paul School of Theology
- Phil Meckley, PhD; Kansas Wesleyan University
- Rick Bartlett, D.Min; Tabor College

## 2018 BOARD

- Sara Aitken
- Chris Andersen
- Peggy Dean
- Joni Hernly
- Kris Kvam
- Thomas McIntyre
- Desiree Reinke
- Zach Walker
- Rick Walter
- Mark Webb
- Carissa Welsh



## YMIM HOSTS CONFERENCE

YMIM is hosting a conference in Montreat, NC, in January 2019. The theme is "Whole." Youth leaders from 8 states will attend! Visit [youthministryacademy.com](http://youthministryacademy.com) for information.



## ASBURY & VILLAGE CHURCHES

Asbury United Methodist Church and Village Presbyterian Church host our YMIM monthly retreats. Our fall 2018 cohort is shown.



## THE VAUGHAN FAMILY

Matt, Jack, Amy, and Sam, above on warm day. We appreciate your involvement in this ministry!

## TWO-YEAR PROGRAM STUDENTS

Eleven youth ministers participated in our two-year Cohort Learning program in 2018 with monthly classes:

- Jeremy Amerin - First United Methodist; Dodge City, KS
- Megan Doffin - First United Methodist; Norfolk, NE
- Matt Dumler - First United Methodist; Hays, KS
- Cathlene Higgins - First United Methodist; Manhattan, KS
- Ryan King - First Presbyterian; Lawrence, KS
- Charles Lingerfelt - First Presbyterian; Pittsburg, KS
- Matt Jones - First United Methodist; Kearney, NE
- Kevin Nixon - Stilwell United Methodist; Stilwell, KS
- Jenna Soltys - Village Presbyterian; Prairie Village, KS
- Sabrina Wellman - De Soto United Methodist; De Soto, KS
- Bryant Westbrook - First United Methodist; Valley Center, KS

## COACHING CLIENTS

YMIM faculty provided coaching support to seven pastors and youth ministers in three denominations:

- Bev Baumgartner - Wichita, KS
- Chris Diller - Hiawatha, KS
- Andy Frazier - Bonner Springs, KS
- Allison Marcus - Lenexa, KS
- William Montgomery - Olathe, KS
- Michael Moore - Mexico, MO
- Chris Ruiz - Lincoln, NE

## CONSULTING CLIENTS

Several churches and denominational bodies contracted with YMIM to lead strategic planning or staffing studies:

- The Presbytery of Northern Kansas - comprising 62 Presbyterian Church (USA) congregations
- First United Methodist Church - Topeka, KS
- First United Methodist Church - Waverly, NE
- King's Way United Methodist Church - Springfield, MO

## COLLABORATING PARTNERS

- Asbury United Methodist Church; Prairie Village, KS
- Hoefer Wysocki; Leawood, KS
- Montreat Conference Center; Montreat, NC
- Southminster Presbyterian Church; Prairie Village, KS
- Village Presbyterian Church; Prairie Village, KS
- The Wilke Institute for Discipleship at Southwestern College; Winfield, KS
- Young People's Ministries - Discipleship Ministries of the United Methodist Church

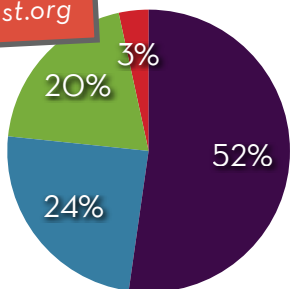
Youth Ministry Institute is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization; Federal Tax Identification: 80-0496233

**Connect with us today!**

giving link: [ymimidwest.org](http://ymimidwest.org)

### EXPENSES \$115,095

- Instruction
- Consulting
- Operation
- Fundraising



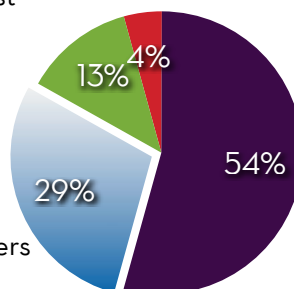
## 2019 PROJECTED BUDGET

Youth Ministry Institute Midwest

Gifts are tax-deductible

### INCOME \$115,200

- Client Churches
- Individual Gifts
- Denomination Partners
- Other Income



2018 budget income/expense projected to be approx. \$107,400

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