

Marianist Partners for Young Adult Ministry: Promoting Outreach to Young Adults

Increasingly, many young adults are seeking opportunities for faith formation, retreats, lay communities, social justice involvement and other events within the Marianist family. As a result of this exciting energy spreading around the Marianist family in the area of young adult involvement, programming and activities, the “Marianist Partners for Young Adult Ministry” was formed. This group has been meeting by conference call over the last eight months to address more effective and coordinated outreach by the Marianist family to meet the needs of young adults. ([Click here for a list of group members](#))

In October 2006, the group developed and distributed an electronic survey to approximately 300 young adults who have had some involvement with the Marianist family to find out specifically where their needs lie and what they would like to see happen. The survey was geared to individuals 22 – 40 years of age. The answers to the questions are being used to help discern the future of young adult ministry in the Marianist family.

The response was beyond our expectations, as we heard back from over half of those surveyed. In February 2007, the group published a summary of the survey results ([click here to view the summary](#)) and also notified young adults that they would be meeting to determine how to best respond to the needs and desires identified.

Following are some existing activities aimed at young adults as well as some new initiatives based upon the survey results:

- ❑ Online Marianist courses offered through NACMS (North American Center for Marianist Studies) that could be tailored to young adult groupings. Young adults who are interested in taking a course in which participation would be restricted to young adults can contact Jessica Sherwen at jsherwen@capemaymarianists.org.
- ❑ Young Adult MLC’s (Marianist Lay Communities) are forming in various places around the nation. For more information on how to connect to a group, or start one in your area, contact Brian Reavey at breavey@sm-usa.org or Pati Krasensky at patikras@hotmail.com
- ❑ The Adele Social Justice Project, sponsored by the Marianist Social Justice Collaborative, is gearing up for its next immersion weekend in the St. Louis area on May 4-6. Looking for participants, ranging in age from 22-40, from the St. Louis area as well as some participants from other parts of the country who are interested in offering a future weekend in their area. Contact Beth Jamieson at jamiesonek@yahoo.com or Laura Libertore at asjplibertore@yahoo.com.
- ❑ A first ever “Young Adult Forum” will be held at the University of Dayton on May 18-20, 2007. This will be a pilot program for other regional gatherings in the future. For more information contact Anthony Fucci at afucci@capemaymarianists.org
- ❑ Annual young adult retreat at Cape May, NJ. Contact Anthony Fucci at afucci@capemaymarianists.org.
- ❑ College-age young adult retreats sponsored by Marianist LIFE. Contact Brian Reavey at breavey@sm-usa.org.
- ❑ Online faith communities in the Marianist tradition are beginning to form. For more information on how to connect or begin, contact Joanne McCracken at maypoint@gmail.com.
- ❑ The Marianist Volunteer Program is an ongoing opportunity for young adults to get involved with the Marianist Family. For more information on this program, contact Dan Richter at drichter@sm-usa.org.

If you would like more information, please contact the Marianist Partners for Young Adult Ministry at (215) 634-4116. To contact a specific member via email, [click here](#).

Marianist Partners for Young Adult Ministry

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