2017 SYMPOSIUM
FAITH FORMATION WITH A NEW GENERATION

Session 1

Symposium 2017
Faith Formation with a New Generation

Symposium Resources
Reminder

Cell phones – please turn off WiFi

Symposium Team

- Lisa Brown
- Tanya Eustace Campen
- Lynn Barger Elliott
- Lee Yates
Key Concept: Faith Forming Environments

Key Concept: Life Stages Groups

1. Young Children
2. Older Children
3. Younger Adolescents
4. Older Adolescents
Key Concept: The New Generation

GENERATION Z
The generation after Millennials

Key Concept: Maturing in Faith
Key Concept: 21st Century Learning

Key Concept: Personalized Faith Pathways
Key Concept: Playlists for Learning

Symposium Schedule: Thursday

1 pm
Welcome and Symposium Overview
Community Building Activity & Prayer

Session 1. Maturing in Faith from Childhood through Adolescence

Session 2: New Approaches to Learning and Faith Formation in the 21st Century

5:00 pm Break
5:30 pm Dinner

6:45 pm
Session 3. Forming Faith: Intergenerational Relationships & Community

8:30 Closing
Symposium Schedule: Friday

7:30 am  Breakfast
8:45 am  Morning Prayer
9:00 am  **Session 4. Forming Faith: Family & Parents**
12 noon  Lunch
1:30 pm  **Session 5. Forming Faith: Life Cycle Stages**
          **Session 6. Developing Personalized Faith Formation**
          **with Children, Adolescents, and their Parents**
5:30 pm  Dinner
6:45 pm  **Session 7: Developing Faith Formation Playlists**
          **for Children, Adolescents, and their Parents**
8:30 pm  Closing

Symposium Schedule: Saturday

7:30 am  Breakfast
8:45 am  Morning Prayer
9:00 am  **Session 8. Implementing New Approaches in**
          **Faith Formation with Children and Adolescents**
12 noon  Closing
Getting to Know You...

✦ Share your name.
✦ Share your ministry setting.
✦ What you are most excited about in your ministry right now?
Love God with all the power of your heart,  
with its yearnings and passions.  
Love God with all you hold dear in life,  
and with the fullness of whatever the world offers you,  
Both joy and sorrow.  
Teach children to cope,  
to dream and to stretch,  
to become their purpose,  
to live holy lives.  
Wrap these words around every deed,  
a garment of holy expression.  
Let these words shape your home,  
a dwelling of peace.  
Wherever you go,  
scatter the words as seed,  
or as drops of water into the thirsty earth.  
Nurture trees of life in your garden.  
Seal these words upon your heart;  
let them course through  
and cleave soul to body  
that the sacred permeates all your being.
Faith Forming Environments

Intergenerational

Family

Peers

Children & Adolescents

The Big Picture: Faith Forming Ecology

Digitally Enabled and Connected

Intergenerational

Missional

Faith Forming Ecology

Family

Life Cycle

Digitally Enabled and Connected
Several Key Research Studies

Exemplary Youth Ministry Study
Life Stages Groups

1. Young Children
2. Older Children
3. Younger Adolescents
4. Older Adolescents
Life Stages Activity

- What are 2-3 of the most important religious and spiritual needs of your life stage?

- What are 2-3 characteristics or images of the emerging culture of Generation Z (all those born since 2000)?

The New Generation
Families of Generation Z

- Diversity of family structures and a variety of living arrangements from 0-18 years old
- Pressures of work and finances; 70% of mothers work outside home
- Increasing complexity of family life, managing/balancing time and commitments
- New generation of parents: Millennial parents & young Gen X
- Decline in religious practice at home, and decline in participation and affiliation in churches
- Decline in faith transmission and practice at home
A Diversity of Spiritual Religious Identities

- Not Spiritual, Not Religious
  *Unaffiliateds*

- The Spiritual but Not Religious
  *Uninvolved*

- Faith & Engagement – one among many priorities
  *Occasionals*

- Faith & Engagement at the Center of Life
  *Actives*

Spiritual-Religious Diversity

Many ‘nones’ lost faith before they finished high school

Percentage of religiously unaffiliated Americans raised in a faith group who said they abandoned religious practice at the following time

- Before age 18: 62%
- Between 18 and 29: 28%
- Between 30 and 49: 5%
- After age 50: 2%

SOURCE: Public Religion Research Institute

DESERET NEWS GRAPHIC
## Spiritual-Religious Diversity

### Youth (teens)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Abiders</th>
<th>Adapters</th>
<th>Assenters</th>
<th>Avoiders</th>
<th>Atheists</th>
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<td>20%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>5%</td>
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</tbody>
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### Emerging Adults (20s)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Committed Traditionalists</th>
<th>Selected Adherents</th>
<th>Spiritually Open</th>
<th>Religiously Indifferent</th>
<th>Religiously Disconnected</th>
<th>Irreligious</th>
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### Maturing in Faith
Focus on Maturing in Faith:
*Toward What Ends Are We Working*

1. **Sustaining a personal relationship with Jesus Christ** supported through regular prayer, faith sharing and Bible reading.
2. **Making the Christian faith a way of life** by integrating their beliefs into the conversation, decisions, and actions of daily life.
3. **Possessing a vital faith** and being aware of God present and active in their own life, the lives of others, and the life of the world.
Focus on Maturing in Faith

4. **Seeking spiritual growth** by actively pursuing questions of faith, learning what it means to believe in God, and what it’s like to be a disciple of Jesus Christ.

5. **Living a life of service** by caring for others, reaching out those in need, and addressing injustice in the world.

6. **Sharing the Good News** through words and actions, through Christian stewardship and working for peace, justice and human dignity.

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Focus on Maturing in Faith

7. **Participating** fully, consciously, actively and regularly in the ritual and **worship life** of the faith community.

8. **Articulating the fundamental teachings** of the Christian faith and demonstrating a commitment to learning and growing in this faith.

9. **Exercising moral responsibility** by applying Christian ethics, virtues, principles, values, and social teaching to moral decision-making, life situations, and in interactions with the larger culture.
Focus on Maturing in Faith

10. Practicing faith in Jesus Christ, privately and publicly, through participation in the congregation’s worship, ministries, and leadership.

11. Discerning and using their gifts to actively belong to and participate in the life and mission of the Christian community.

12. Exploring God’s call to vocation through prayer, reflection, and discernment.

13. Possessing a positive spirit with loving and hopeful attitudes toward others and life, convinced that they can make the world a better place.

Maturing Characteristics Activity

1. Review characteristics.
2. Apply to each characteristic for your life stage:
   • When this characteristic is present in someone’s life, what do you see?
3. Develop a summary of “indicators” for each characteristic.