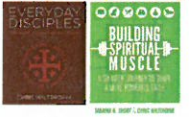
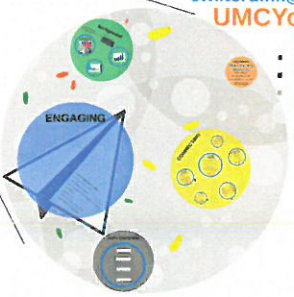


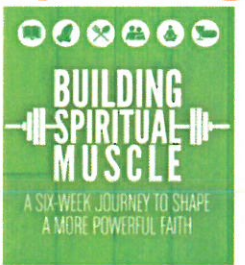
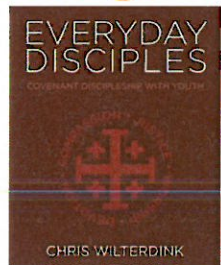
# Understanding, Reaching, & Engaging Millennials

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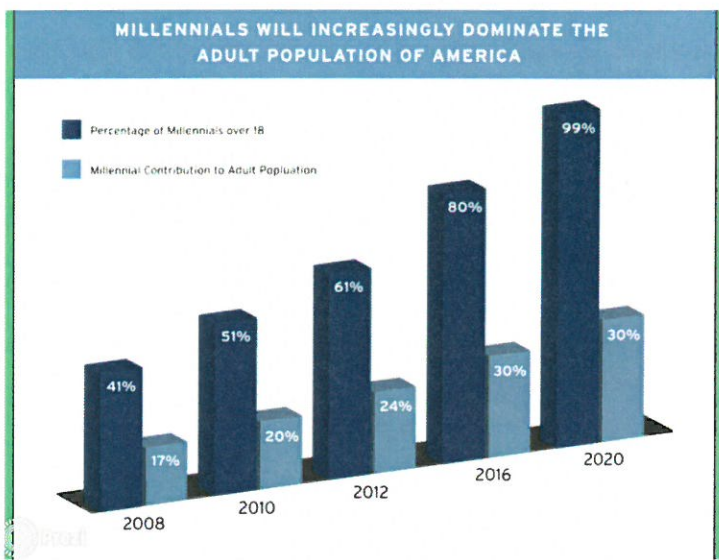


**DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES**  
 The United Methodist Church

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## WELCOMING Three Maturity Questions

(Identity) Who am I?  
 (Belonging) Where do I fit?  
 (Purpose) What difference do I make?

*"Growing Young" by Fuller Youth Institute*

### Keychain Leadership

Develop, Entrust, and Empower others

- Maturity over youth
- Real and authentic over relevant
- Warm over distant
- Other people over other pastors
- Human over super-pastor
- Long view over quick fix

Jacob @ Christ UMC

### Wear Their Shoes

"Growing Up" is taking longer

- People are completing traditional markers of adulthood later

Encounters with "Grown Up" material is happening sooner.

- Academics & Access to Information

Demonstrate Cultural Understanding

Union Coffee in Dallas

## Take Jesus' Message Seriously

Talk about Jesus over beliefs

Focus on the redemptive narrative over formulas for salvation

Here and now over heaven later

Honesty over certainty

Questions and challenges over answers

RMC Youth & Matthew 25



## Kindle Warm Community

Warmth is the strongest single predictor of church vitality

5:1 or 1:5 ??

Rethink smaller groups. Less long-term commitment? Short-term interest-based groups.

Long term nurturing, including praying warmly.

Pacific Islander Churches  
- Mina in Holy Land



## Prioritize Young People & Families

Make and show that they are a priority in all things

Parent's faith continues to influence children's faith

Help young people become load-bearing members of the Body of Christ

Worship at Anona UMC, FL & Good Shepherd UMC (KC) "asKids"

Mark 10 - become more childlike



## Be the Best Neighbors

Lev 19, Matt 22, Luke 10. Use "Who is my neighbor?" as a conversation starter instead of a rhetorical device

Engage compassionate and empathetic opportunities that are outward oriented

Participate in Cultural Exegesis

Columbia Drive UMC (Decatur)  
- BBall Meals  
Bonaire UMC - Loads of Love



## ENGAGING

Practical Opportunity Checklist:  
Be Easy to Invite Friends to  
Be Easy to Bring Children  
Be Engaged with the Congregation or community  
Be Diverse  
Include Food  
Ask for More Than Just Showing Up  
Involve Different Learning Styles

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