

EMERGING LEADERS TEAM

The Emerging Leaders team currently has eleven participants, including high school and college students, young adults, and ministry leaders from across the state. The team plans to welcome four new leaders during Annual Conference. The team seeks to provide resources, engagement, and equipping opportunities throughout the Indiana Conference for emerging leaders, supporting leaders, and the local church.

We would like to highlight a few areas of involvement the team has had throughout the last conference year.

1. Partnering with Children Matter Most – As the Children Matter Most team hosted the All In! Event in October 2022, a team of students provided support for the event, offering their gifts and abilities to serve in meaningful ways to make the event a success.
2. Collaborating with the University of Indianapolis and the INUMC Camping Ministry at Epworth Forest to provide Student Leadership Academy learning opportunities during three weeks of camp. Seven University Students supported young people throughout the weeks of camp, serving as counselors and around 60 students participated in the workshop focused on vocational discernment and calling.
3. Coaching Cohorts – Ministry Leaders throughout the conference have participated in coaching cohorts to learn together, grow as leaders, and to connect regarding ministry experiences. Leaders who support emerging leaders have found support, new friends, and resources for continuing to develop as leaders who will influence the children's, youth, and family ministries of their local churches and community.
4. Growing Young – We are offering multiple learning opportunities for leaders to consider the content developed through the research of Fuller Youth Institute. Cohorts are reading the book and discussing its application to their context. Conversations and training are being provided in various forms. Opportunities will continue for churches and leaders to consider how they can imagine their future with young people involved in valuable ways in their congregations.
5. Emerging Leaders Retreat – Middle School, High School, and College students gathered this spring to discuss their hopes for what it means to be the church. They provided insights, ideas, and next steps for the future of the Emerging Leaders Team and their participation in the Annual Conference. Additional retreats are being planned for areas throughout the state.

The Emerging Leaders team will continue to serve children, youth, young adults, and all those who support them into the future. The team believes that young people are the church of today and the future and seeks to help church leaders understand how they can empower young people to lead now. All young people within the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church are invited to learn more about serving on the Emerging Leaders Team and can learn more here - <https://www.inumc.org/ministries/leadership-development/emerging-leaders/>

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Submitted by Emily Krach