



Youth Leadership Overview

Board of Trustees Meeting – April 10, 2014

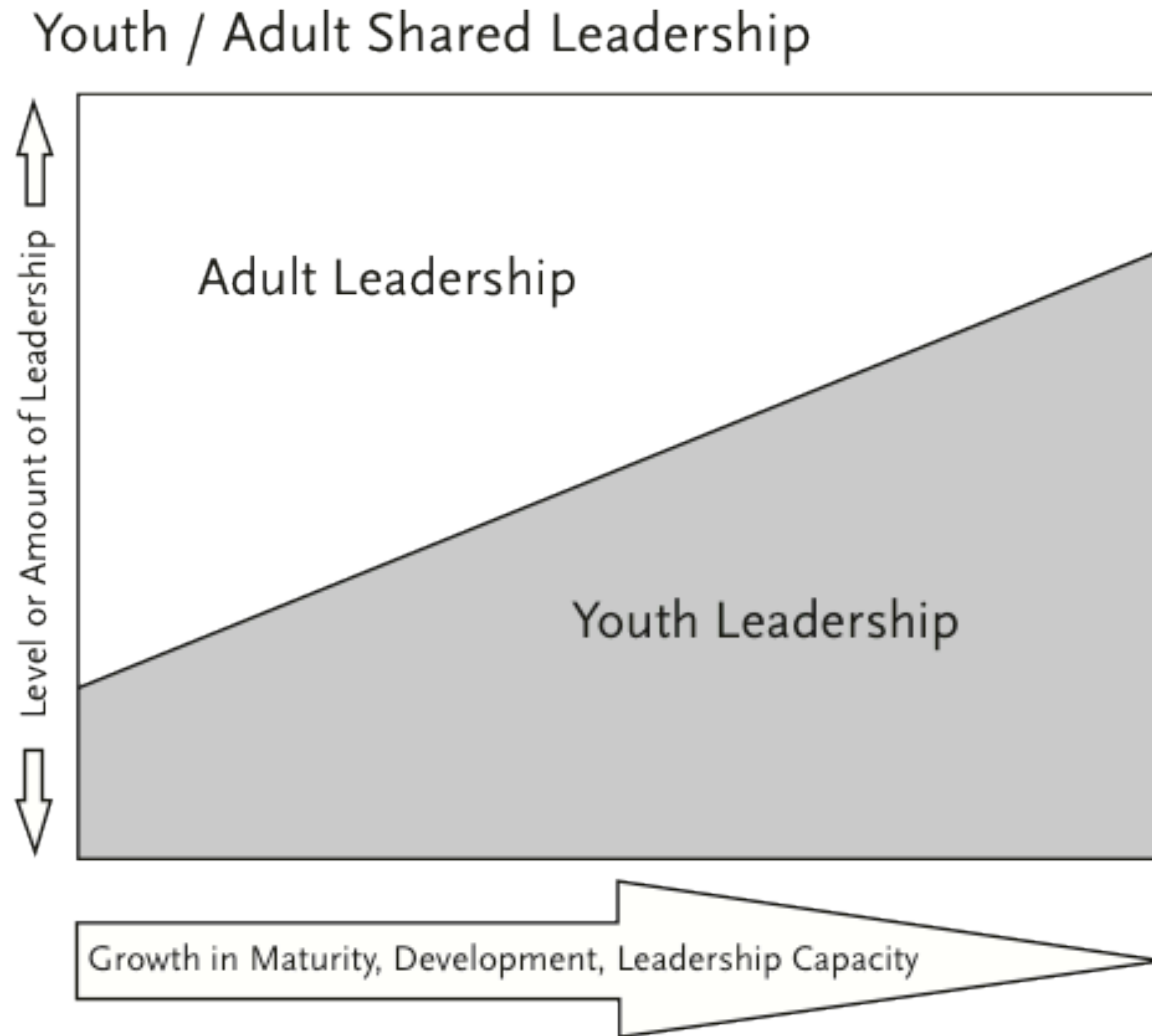
Carey McDonald, Youth and Young Adult Ministries Director



What is youth leadership?

- Youth is defined as high school aged, or the equivalent for other school settings
- Focus of 2.13.8 policy – “The President shall not... operate without ensuring that youth leadership is integrated within our Association at all levels”
- Leadership is a core aspect of youth ministry
- Leadership is shared between youth and adults, and this understanding has evolved over time

Spectrum of Shared Leadership





Background of UUA youth leadership

- 2005-07 – Consultation on Youth Ministry
 - Taskforce convenes (2005)
 - Surveys, local conversations (2006)
 - Summit (2007)
- 2008 – YRUU Steering Committee ends
- 2008 – Youth and Young Adult Empowerment Resolution
- 2008-09 – Youth Ministry Working Group
- 2009 – Mosaic Project for youth and young adults of color
- 2009-now – New, networked approach to youth leadership



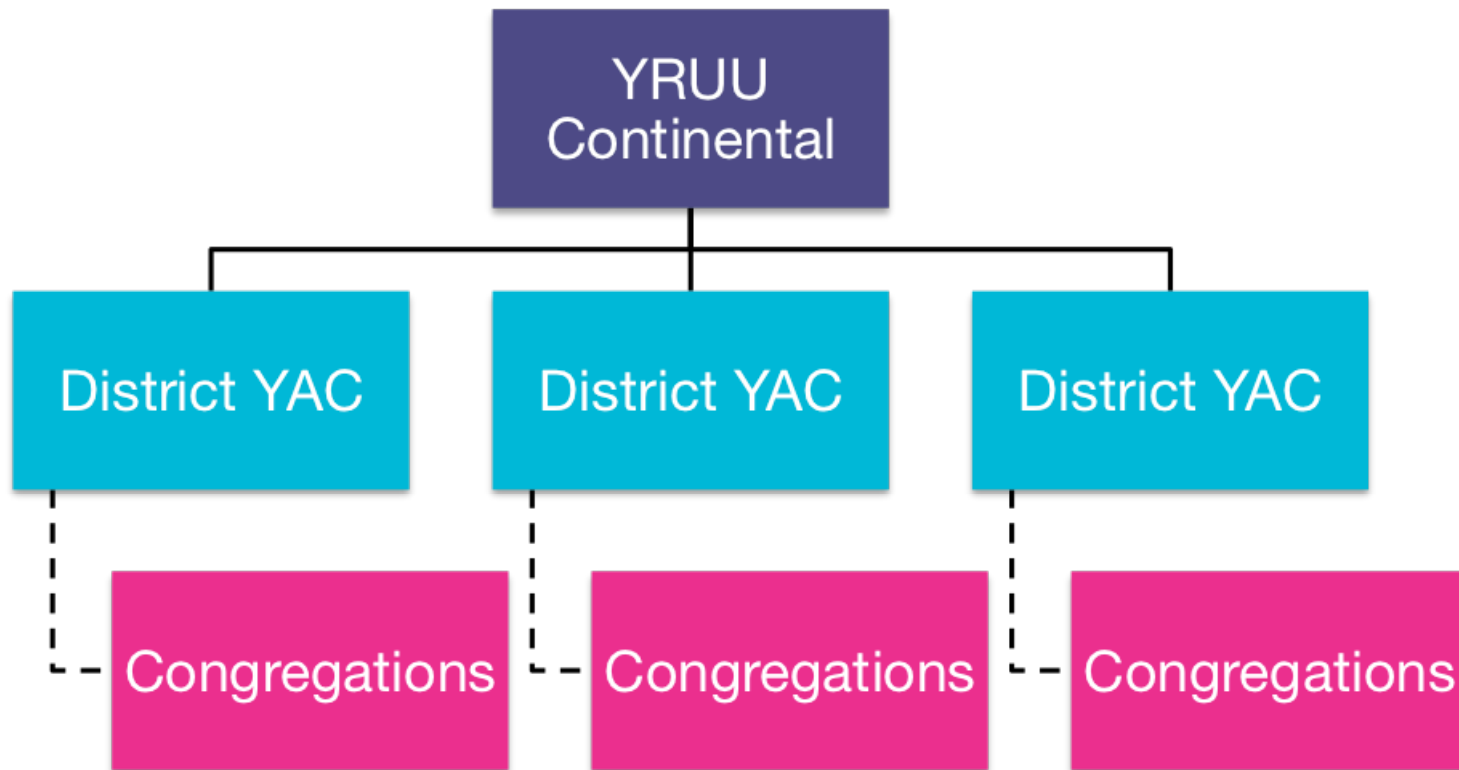
UUA youth leadership today

- Reflects the 2005-09 re-envisioning process which called for dynamic, multicultural, multigenerational and inclusive youth ministry
- Emphasis on congregational youth ministry

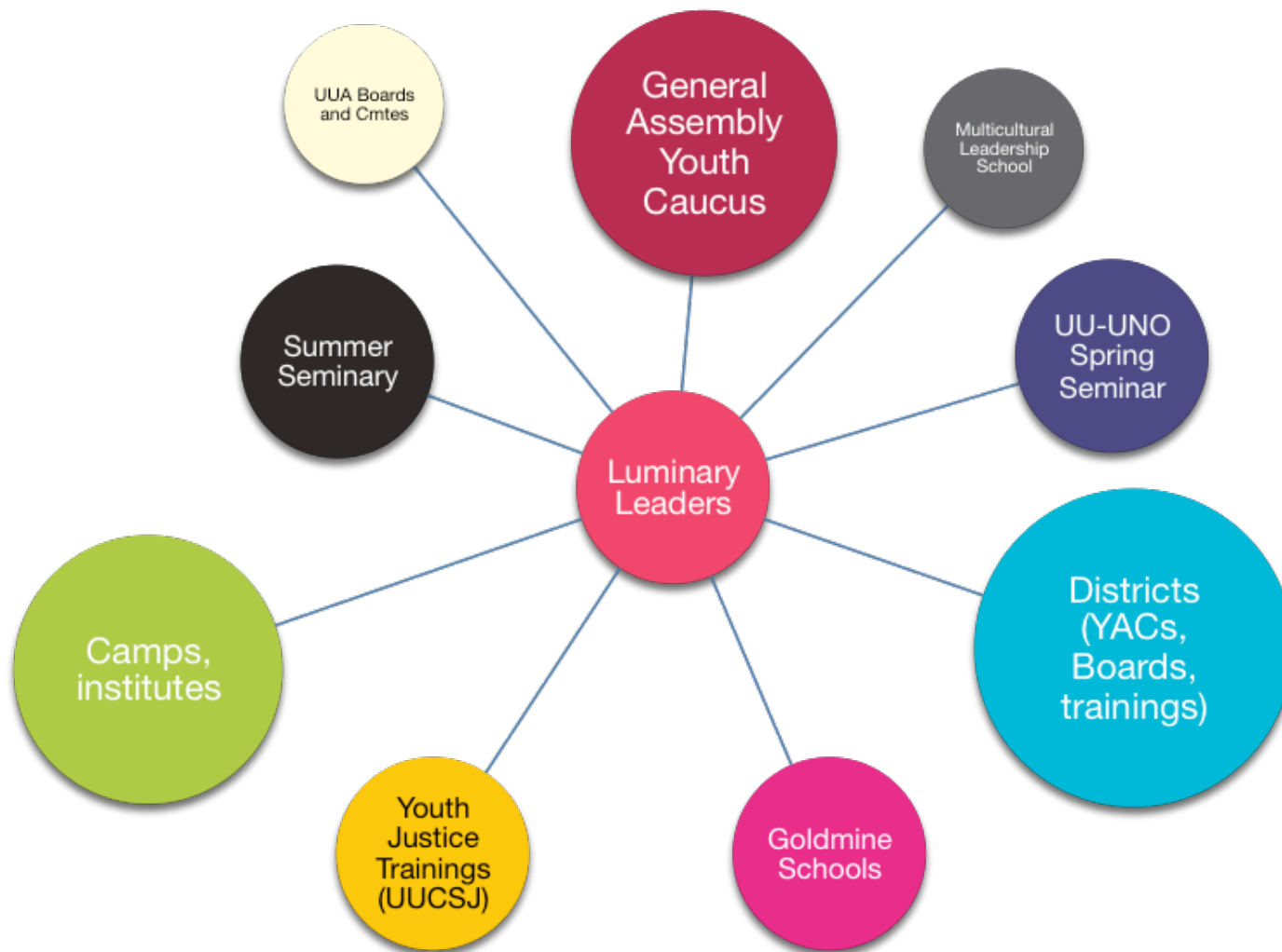


- New youth leadership opportunities
 - Enhanced Youth Caucus staff
 - Multicultural Leadership School
 - Expanded Goldmine summer leadership schools
 - Youth Justice Trainings (UUCSJ)
 - Summer Seminary
- Luminary Leaders youth leadership recognition program

Youth Leadership - pre-2008



Youth Leadership - today



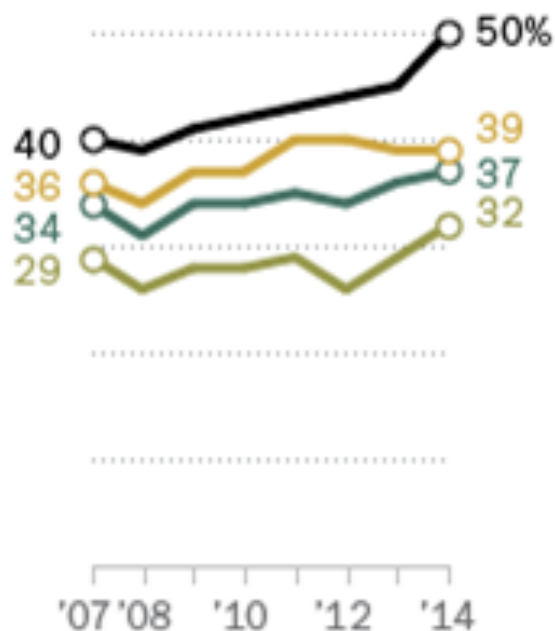
*In 2013,
estimated
800 UU youth
participated
in leadership
experiences.*



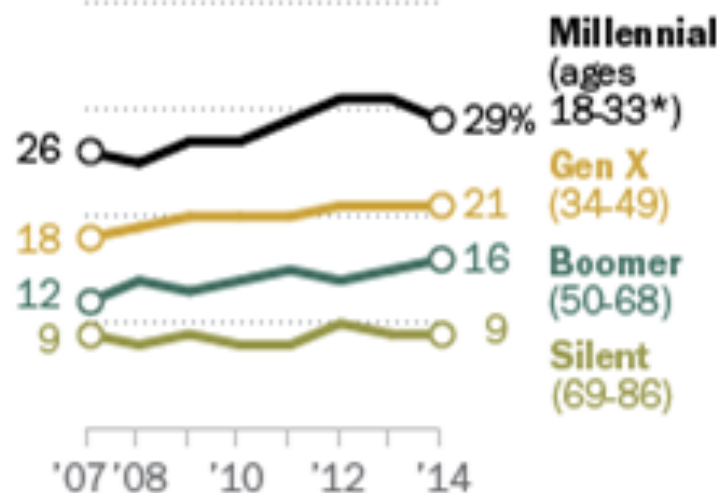
Generational trends

Millennials: Unmoored from Institutions

Percent who consider themselves political independents



Percent of adults in each generation who are religiously unaffiliated

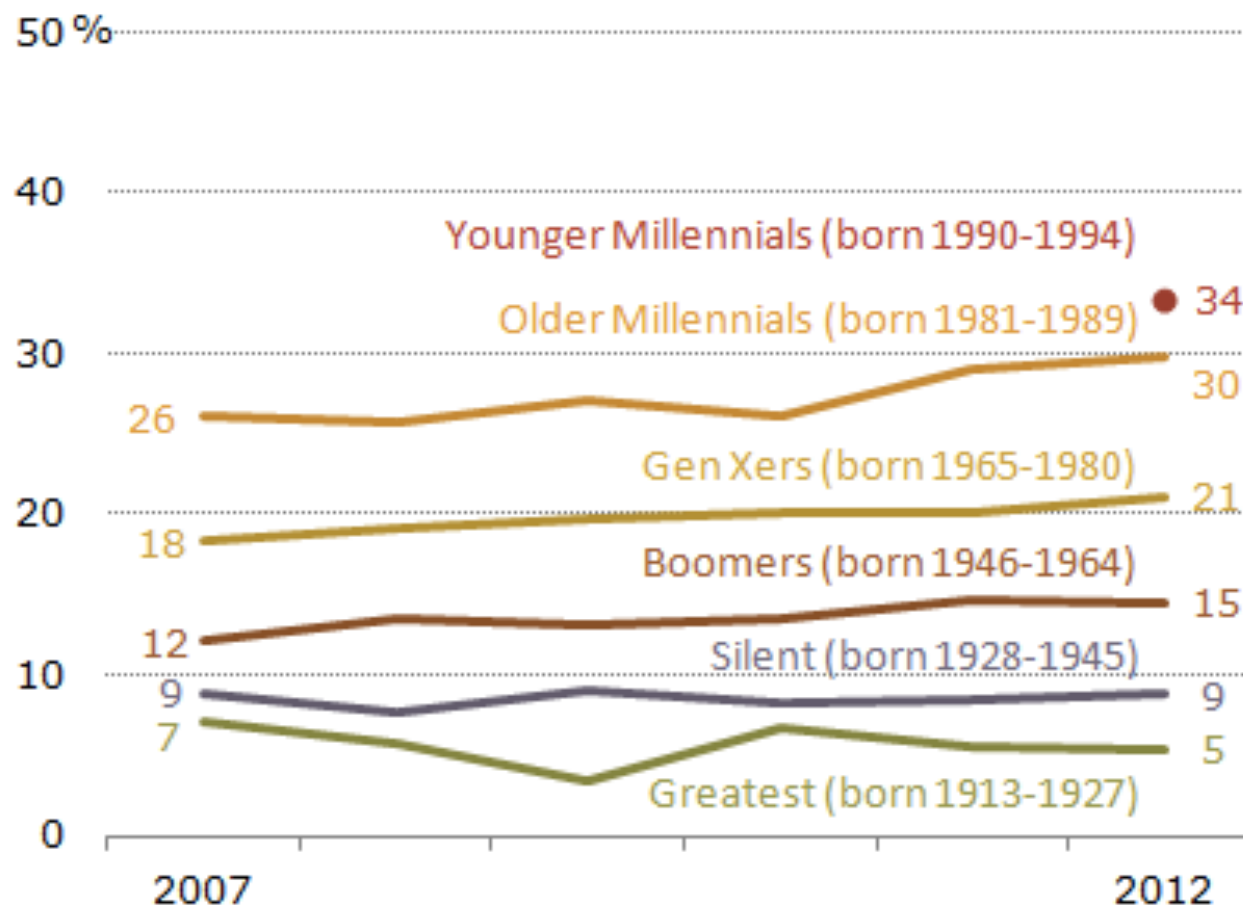




Generational trends

Recent Trends in Affiliation, by Generation

% of each age cohort that is unaffiliated



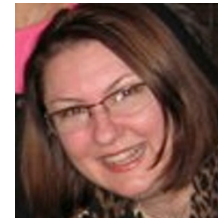


UUA Youth and Young Adult Ministries

Mission: Develop leaders that create transformational Unitarian Universalist faith homes for younger generations

Key strategies

- Communicate our vision
- Build networks of leaders
- Help accelerate new approaches



Carey, Jeremie, Annie, Ted and Deborah

Communicating our vision

- Blue Boat blog

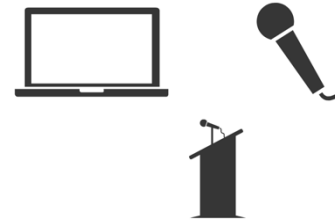


- Social media



- Learning experiences

- Workshops
- Presentations
- Webinars



- Direct consultations with congregations (field staff collaboration)

Building networks of leaders

- Youth leadership
 - Luminary Leaders
 - Summer Seminary
 - GA Youth Caucus
 - Chrysalis Trainings
 - UUA Boards and Committees
- Youth ministry professionals network
 - Also, partner with LREDA and UUMA
- Young adult and campus ministry groups contacts
 - 100 campus groups, 50 congregational young adult groups
 - Self-assessment for congregations



Help accelerate new approaches

- **Future of Faith** series of blog posts
blueboat.blogs.uua.org/future-of-faith
- **21st Century Youth Groups** exploration project
- **Faith Architects** – Scaffold Series of conferences will build pathways to leadership for young adults (formerly C*UUYAN)
- **NextGen Ministries**
 - in program development

