

The Consultation on Ministry To and With Youth



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Desired Outcomes

At the end of the Consultation on Ministry To and With Youth we hope to have:

- ❖ A youth ministry that is robust, flexible, and diverse. More than a one-size-fits-all youth ministry.
- ❖ Denominational youth work that focuses on serving local congregations.
- ❖ An authority structure that respects the rightful role of institutional youth and adult leadership at the same time that it supports the growth and empowerment of all UU youth.
- ❖ Anti-racism and anti-oppression work infused within every part of youth ministry, while recognizing that there is not necessarily only one way of doing it, and the “right” way depends on individual identities.
- ❖ Effective communication within, between and among continental, district, local, congregational and organizational levels.

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Taskforce on Ministry To and With Youth

Representatives of UUA Staff, YRUU, UUMA,
LREDA, DRUUMM, GLPBTQQI Youth, Local
Youth, CUC

Communication throughout the process via GA, website, e-mail.

Unitarian Universalists Everywhere

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January to May 2006

May 2006 to May 2007

May 2007 Forward

Survey

January-February 2006

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Youth Ministry Survey

Number of surveys completed: 1,399

These surveys were completed by youth ages 12-20 who are involved in congregations, district youth programs, and/or continental youth programs.

A full report of survey results will be available online in May or June 2006, as well as at the 2006 General Assembly in St. Louis.

Preliminary results will be available for congregational conversations on youth ministry during April and May 2006.

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**Congregational
Conversations**

April-May 2006

Continuous communication throughout the process via GA, website, e-mail.

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The Congregational Conversations are an opportunity for your congregation to:

- Develop a vision and strategy for improving youth ministry.
- Identify what resources the congregation needs from the UUA and others to implement that vision and strategy.

A process guide for how to organize and facilitate these conversations is available at:

<http://www.uua.org/TRUS/youth/processguides.html>

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**Congregational
Conversations**

April-May 2006

District Gatherings

September 2006-May 2007

Continuous communication throughout the process via GA, website, e-mail.

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January to May 2006

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**Stakeholder
Organizations**

June 2006-May 2007

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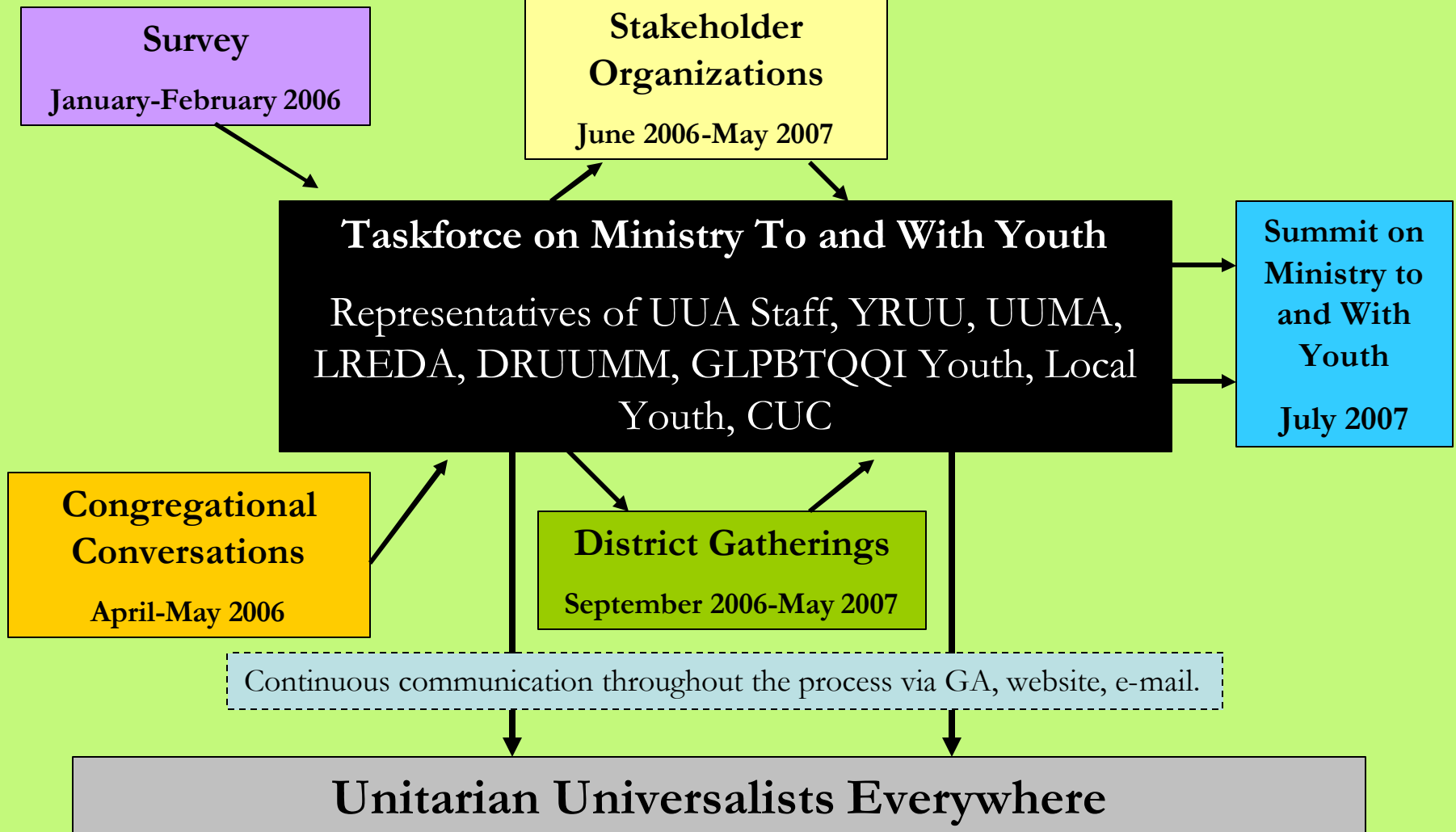
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January to May 2006

May 2006 to May 2007

May 2007 Forward



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Summit on Ministry To and With Youth

July 2007

Recommends structures, policies, and
practices to revitalize our ministry to
and with youth.

UUA and YRUU
Leadership (Paid and
Volunteer)

Stakeholders and
Stakeholder
Organizations

Districts

Congregations

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What role do youth play in the consultation?

1. Complete the UU Youth Ministry Survey in January/February 2006.
2. Encourage congregations to hold a conversation about youth ministry, and actively participate in it. Youth are a central part of the planning and facilitation of these conversations!
3. Youth are also a central part of the planning and facilitation of district gatherings, which happen during the 06-07 year. These conversations will be the result of a youth-adult partnership within the district.
4. YRUU leaders will gathering during the summer of 2006 to revisit the organization's goals and purposes and plan for the future as it seeks to improve and broaden its ministry with youth.

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Youth Voices Award

What does youth ministry mean to you?
How has Unitarian Universalist ministry transformed your life?

Who: All Unitarian Universalist youth ages 14-20.

What: An essay/sermon, poem, spoken word piece, or other creative presentation about your experience in Unitarian Universalist youth ministry! This award will go to a youth who has been an advocate of youth ministry in their community and who best expresses the transformative effect of Unitarian Universalist ministry in their life.

Award: \$500 and the opportunity to present your submission to the wider UU community at the 2006 UUA General Assembly in St. Louis, Missouri. You will present in a workshop slot along with the adult winner of the Youth Ministry Sermon Award.

Submissions will be compiled into a super stylish zine anthology, so even if you're not the winner you can still share your experiences with other Unitarian Universalists around the continent! Send all submissions by **May 15, 2006** to Beth Dana at bdana@uua.org or 25 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02108.



What role do religious professionals play in the consultation?

1. Help the youth in your congregation take part in the survey.
2. Engage your congregation in a conversation about its ministry with youth. Collaborate with youth in the congregation to organize and facilitate this conversation.
3. Encourage colleagues to have their congregations hold a congregational conversation.
4. Devote one UUMA and one LREDA chapter meeting next year to holding a dialogue on youth ministry, focusing specifically on your role as religious educators.
5. Religious professionals are central figures in the spiritual development of the youth in congregations. Therefore it is essential that your voices are heard in this process.

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Unitarian Universalist Youth Ministry Sermon Award

How has working with youth enriched your ministry?

An award of \$500 will be given to the sermon presenter who best captures and expresses the value of youth ministry. The sermon must have been delivered before a UU congregation between January and May 2006. The recipient must also be planning to attend the 2006 UUA General Assembly in St. Louis, where they will have an opportunity to present the sermon to the wider UU community.

Please submit sermons by May 15, 2006 (via e-mail only) to:

Beth Dana

bdana@uua.org

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For More Information:

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