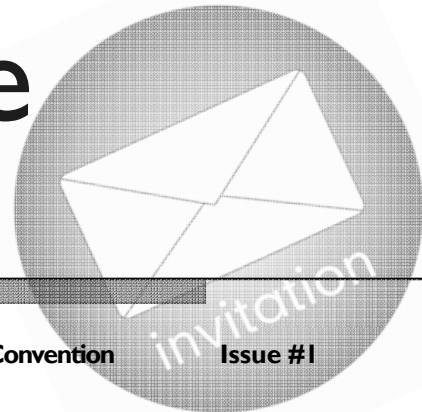


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# The Invite



The Newsletter of the Young Adult Festival at General Convention **Issue #1**

## Contributors

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- Luke Fodor,  
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- Andrew Kraemer,  
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## Welcome to the Young Adult Festival

*Doug Chunn, Diocese of Atlanta*  
*Luke Fodor, Diocese of Long Island*

On behalf of the design team, welcome to Columbus! We are incredibly excited you are here and have accepted our invitation to be a part of this festival and strengthen the young adult presence at General Convention. The design team has been working hard this past year preparing for you, and we are all delighted that you are now here.



The Young Adult Festival Design Team

There are 154 participants from 54 dioceses of the Episcopal Church and include Taiwan, Honduras, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, and Ecuador Litoral. Additionally, there are

seven international guests representing four of the five regions of the International Anglican Youth Network of the Anglican Communion. They are from the Anglican Provinces of Australia, Aotearoa/New Zealand, Indian Ocean, Southern Africa, Brazil, England, Jerusalem and the Middle East and the Co-opted Youth Representative to the Anglican Consultative Council. We are delighted to have such a diverse group, and look forward to meeting you all.

Young adults from across the country and around the world have come to be a part of the Young Adult Festival at General Conven-

## Today's Calendar

- 3 PM:** Registration and Check-in *Lobby*
- 7 PM:** Opening Reception *Lounge*
- 8:45 PM:** Chapel Blessing *Chapel*
- 9:15 PM:** Newsletter Planning Meeting *Room 916*

## ¡Bienvenidos al Festival!

*Wendy Pineda, Diocese of Texas*  
 Estaremos muy felices con

sesiones legislativas, recepciones, completas, talleres y sesiones.

## Daily Program and Spiritual Practices

*Rachel Swan, Diocese of Minnesota*

So, in case you have not heard it a thousand times already,

Wendy Pineda, Diocese of Texas

Estamos muy felices que pudiste llegar. Ya que estas aquí, no te olvides del salón de relajo que estará en el suroeste lado del hotel (cerca del los baños y atrás del restaurante). La semana tendrá muchas cosas, por favor recuerda de descansar lo suficiente, para poder apreciar todo lo que la semana tiene que ofrecer. Hay muchas oportunidades para conocer a personas nuevas como

sesiones legislativas, recepciones, completas, talleres y sesiones. Mañana vamos a tener desayuno a las 7:00 a.m. y nuestra primer sesión a las 9:30 a.m. Cada noche tendremos completas en Trinity Church, (en 125 E. Broad y Third) esperamos verte allí. No te sientas solo, porque estamos aquí para ayudarte, solo tienes que preguntar. Esperamos verte durante la semana!

Kacnei Swan, Diocese of Minnesota

So, in case you have not heard it a thousand times already, we are so delighted you are here. Tomorrow, the line-up of programming is really fantastic. Well, everyday is great actually, but tomorrow does start us off with a bang. Lauren Winner, author / speaker extraordinaire will be with us to help us dig into the gap.

Everyday after the program sessions there are these two blocks of time on the schedule called "spiritual practices." These are blocks of time set aside for interactive learning. Sure, there may be some talking or explanation, but for the most part these sessions will be much more about doing or learning hands on the form of spiritual practice. Tomorrow's offerings are *Lectio Divina* and Anglican Prayer Beading. See *The Invite* tomorrow for more about these practices, and be sure to check here daily to find out about upcoming offerings!

**The Newsletter of the Young Adult Festival**

All submissions welcome from YAF Participants

[yafnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:yafnewsletter@gmail.com)

# A Perfect Night, A Perfect Rest

Jamey Graves,  
Diocese of East Carolina

Our worship this week will be an order for Compline with the Lucernarium. Some of you may know this contemplative, quiet, and calming service as “night prayer” or maybe the “last order of the day”. Lucerna, meaning light, is the service for the lighting of candles. During the lighting certain anthems or hymns that relate to light or the day may be sung. Music for this service will vary each evening beginning with music from the Taize (Tuesday and Thursday) and Iona (Wednesday and Friday) communities, and traditional hymns that will be played in a contemporary style Saturday.

Taize, in the south of France, is an ecumenical community that focus’ on prayer and meditation through music and silence. Repeating meditative psalms and prayers through chant allows the spirit to move through us and with us as the words take on new meanings. As we use this style of prayer and music the psalms of the service will be centered over top of the chant.

The Iona Community is an ecumenical Christian community that is committed to seeking new ways of living the Gospel in today’s world. They are com-



mitted to rebuilding a common life, through working for social and political change, striving for

based on an integrated understanding of spirituality

Traditional Hymns are not just for organ any more! We will be using our instruments at hand to create a unique sound bringing new life to your old favorites.

Compline will be held nightly at 10 pm at Trinity Episcopal Church, 125 Broad St. at the corner of Broad and 3rd. If you are interested in assisting with Compline, come to the chapel blessing after the opening reception, or speak with Jamey at any time.

## What is The Invite?

“This is your invitation to share in a deeper experience of this community. . . It is a living journal of our time together here as community.”

Andrew Kraemer  
Diocese of Michigan

The Invite is the official publication of the Young Adult Festival. Written and produced by festival participants, it is your invitation to share in a deeper experience of this community. It is a place to read about what others in the community are experiencing, and perhaps to share some of your own. It is a living journal of our time together here as community. Perhaps you have a story to share, or an opinion on the

business of the church. Maybe you took an interesting photo you’d like to share, or a poem or prayer. Are there things you are hopeful for, thankful for, excited about? Or are you concerned or worried about the church? Here is a place for you to share about your encounters with this festival community and with General Convention.

This paper will also be circulated to the whole of General Convention, and on the Ministries with Young People website, as a way of inviting the

whole church into our experience here. The Invite is your paper: your chance to share your experience with this community and with the entire church, and your chance to leave a record of your time here. You are all invited to help create The Invite, to share of your experience while you are here.

Contributions to The Invite can be sent to [yafnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:yafnewsletter@gmail.com)

Be sure to include your name and your diocese. All photo and written submissions from YAF participants welcome.

## Why I Came to the Young Adult Festival

Erica Hein,  
Diocese of Colorado

the youth events and at the convention. I look forward this year to getting to know where some of

larly excited about participating in the prayer path, prayer beads and the body prayer workshops. The

more cool- hundreds of adults started singing a hymn (clapping and acknowledgment wasn’t al-

Erica Hein,  
Diocese of Colorado

I am looking forward to this week: getting new ideas, meeting and networking with others, and attending parts of General Convention. However, most importantly, I am looking forward to going on retreat from the everyday busyness that envelops my life at home, and getting back to my spiritual roots with others who are here for the same thing.

Having attended convention in 1997 and parts of it in 2000, I met many wonderful people, both in

the youth events and at the convention. I look forward this year to getting to know where some of the participants are from. Every person has their own unique story about family, school, work, faith, and everything else. At the same time, we are all somehow connected in some way whether it is our church, similarities in our stories, our families, or some other part of our lives. Seeing that mesh and everyone finding their common ground is just amazing.

Throughout the week there are going to be many opportunities for spiritual growth. I am particu-

larly excited about participating in the prayer path, prayer beads and the body prayer workshops. The festival Eucharist is always beautiful and a joy to attend. It is always amazing to come together in communion with that many people. It blows me away every time I get to attend something this large where everyone is worshipping together!!

Having been there for the election of Bishop Griswold, I am looking forward to being here for the election of our new Presiding Bishop. It was very cool when the election took place and the reaction to the election was even

more cool- hundreds of adults started singing a hymn (clapping and acknowledgment wasn't allowed in the election hall, so they broke the rules and started singing!). It will be neat to see who the new PB is and to be there during the voting process. I am also looking forward to attending a caucus or two, and getting to spend time with the delegation from Colorado.

I am excited to see what this week brings and hope that it brings many wonderful things for each of you!!

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