

Youth Committee

Chairman: Kristi Rozum

Secretary: Rdr. Nicholas Perkins

Members: Justina Mills (Carnegie), Oleh Bilynsky (Philly), Alexis Naumenko (Philly), Maddie Zetick (Philly), Nicholas Sampson (Philly), Jagger Simmons (Coatesville), Joe Malys (Youngstown), Yurii Bobko (SBB), Tadei Surak (SBB), Adriane Hassler (Sharen), Sue Leis (Carnegie), Katherine Anderson (Youngstown), Mikaela Kapeluck (Carnegie), Kateryna Kocelko (Southside), Kristi Rozum (Carnegie), Chris Holowko (Carteret), Fr Bazyl (Northampton), Fr Anthony (Woonsocket), Mary Ann Cherkas (Woonsocket), Dn. Paul (Woonsocket), Tabitha Bentley (Coatesville)

The role of the UOL Youth Commission has evolved over the years from not only being the prime mover of training and programming for the youth and young adults for the UOCofUSA, prior to the establishment on the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, but to also being a support arm to the OYM's established programs.

The following recommendations are proposed for consideration:

1. The Youth Commission Chair Person will now serve more as a liaison (and less as a direct supervisor), coordinating the activities of the JrUOL, preJr Coordinator, and representative to the Young Adult Leadership Council. These three persons will be in charge of their separate activities and responsibilities but will attempt to coordinate between themselves when necessary and expeditious. It is anticipated that all three persons will work as closely as possible with the OYM and all of their activities. This assumes that the Young Adult Leadership Council will be established immediately (or as expeditiously as possible). If not, the Youth Commission will retain its present structure.

2. Changes in reporting to be initiated as follows:

- With the establishment of the OYM Adult Leadership Council, it is recommend that the UOL representative be appointed by the UOL President as approved by the National Executive Board and that this person report directly to the National President. All Young Adult programs and activities of the UOC of USA would be more broadly managed by the new Young Adult Leadership Council.

It is further proposed that this representative be appointed for a term of one year and that the National Executive Board reimburse its representative for any costs incurred.

- It is recommended that that Pre-junior coordinator for activities at the National Convention be a responsibility of each local Convention Committee and that those responsibilities are no longer the responsibility of the National Board.

3. The UOL become a more active supporter of the Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) campus ministries by committing to an annual \$500 per year donation and actively advertising OCF activities including but not limited to:

- Ensuring that our high school graduates are registered with OCF so that they can be part of the OCF ministry.
- Advertising OCF Chapter locations to Junior UOL members and chapters so that Juniors consider giving preference to colleges and universities with OCF chapters when making their college/university selection.
- Increase advertisement to College age young adults so that they may consider participating in OCF College Conferences and Real Break missionary activities.
- Ask local OCF chapters to visit convention.

4. UOL should actively work with OYM to ensure a strong participation of UOCofUSA members in the Pan-Orthodox Conference, sponsored by the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops, to be held in November 2016.

5. That all UOL Chapters consider sponsoring interested members in enrolling into the Youth Ministry Certificate Program offered as a distance learning course from St Sophia Seminary.

6. Pre-Junior Coordinators should expand their efforts beyond just convention; the pre-juniors need to be engaged and involved year-round.

7. Have local convention committee ask parishioners to open their doors to college-age young adults in order to reduce the cost of attending convention for a demographic that is known for its lack of money. If that fails, the committee should look into affordable overnight housing for the young adults. Additionally, the UOL and individual chapters should work on helping those young adults afford the convention packets.

8. Create young-adult conferences and workshops during convention for the college-age adults featuring workshop topics chosen by the Young Adult Leadership Council or, if the Council is not

operational, by the college-age adults. Additionally, to encourage the recently graduated juniors to stay involved in the UOL and continue attending convention, encourage the college-age adults to serve as advisors to the juniors.

9. The Youth Committee recommends that all juniors attend the Pan-Orthodox Youth Event scheduled in the Fall of 2016. It also encourages the Jr. UOL chapters, youth workers, and parents to support and attend the "Be the Bee -- Bee-treats", Pan-Orthodox project- a series of regional retreats scheduled to build momentum to the previously mentioned Pan-Orthodox Youth Event. The dates and places that have been determined so far are: at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Baltimore Maryland, Saturday January 16, 2016; St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church in Boston Massachusetts, March of 2016; Sts Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Cleveland Ohio, April 2, 2016.

10. Create a Facebook page for the college-age adults so that they can stay connected to each other, the faith and the UOL during the year.