

Hospitality Houses: Joining with Young Adults in a Season of Service



Faith 3

Sponsoring Partners:

Rob Fohr, Young Adult Catalyst, Presbyterian Mission Agency
Rev. Richard Williams, Coordinator, YAV program, Presbyterian
World Mission
Rev. Wayne Meisel, Faith 3/Cousins Foundation

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Young Adult Volunteers (YAV) Partnership



Presbyterian Mission Agency Directional Goal:

The Presbyterian Mission Agency inspires, equips, and connects the church to: Empower, engage, and join young adults in reforming the church for Christ's mission.

Objective: We will inspire 1000 worshipping communities to join with young adults in a **season of service**



Panelists



1). **Rev. Wayne Meisel**, Faith 3, Cousins Foundation
•Hospitality House Movement & Vision

2). **Rev. Karen Hernandez Granzen**, Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Chaplain/Coordinator of Bethany Presbyterian House of Hospitality (Trenton, NJ)
•Hospitality House in an urban context

3). **Kyle Kooyers**, Resident of Common House at Waynesburg University (Waynesburg, PA)
•College Campus-Based Hospitality House model

4). **Rev. Dr. Jack Barden**, Vice President for Admissions, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary (Austin, TX)
•Seminary-Based Model of Hospitality House and YAV Partnership



Webinar Objectives:



1. The experiences of our panelists in their three diverse contexts including their connections to a congregation and the broader community.
2. The experiences of our panelists in starting a house of hospitality including: acquiring a space, recruiting young adults, setting up a community rule of life, resolving conflict, and intentional conversations, etc.
3. The economics of starting a hospitality house including: start-up funds, setting a plan for financial sustainability, etc.
4. How you can access available resources to help you get a hospitality house started in your community as well as join in building a network of young adult hospitality houses/intentional communities.



Please send us *your*
questions!



Rev. Wayne Meisel



Faith 3

<http://www.faith3.org/>



The Current Situation

a) Young Adults

b) Churches

Response/ Action: the radical Christian call to Hospitality

a) Housing

b) Meals: The Table

c) Conversations: Vespers

Response/ Action: the radical Christian call to Hospitality

d) *Films: Faith and Service Film Series*

e) *Discernment Weekends*

f) AmeriCorps Chaplaincy

Moving Forward

- a) We are building a movement, not creating an empire.*
- b) From Wayne to We*
- c) Replicating, not duplication*

Fifteen Points to Consider:

- The KISS: Keep It Simple Simple
- It's about young adults
- Residents get their own jobs
- It's a one-year program, two if the second year includes a leadership role
- Reach out to AmeriCorps Programs, but not just AmeriCorps

Fifteen Points to Consider:

- Recruit Partner Churches
- Make someone at the church in charge
- Establish clear rules of community life
- Charge Rent
- Interview potential residents with vigor

Fifteen Points to Consider:

- Have signed covenant agreements
- Hold residents accountable to their expectations
- Appoint one of the residents the RA
- Establish a clear procedure for termination
- Do you have to be Christian to live in a Christian Community?

Rev. Karen Hernandez Granzen



Bethany Presbyterian House of Hospitality (Trenton, NJ)

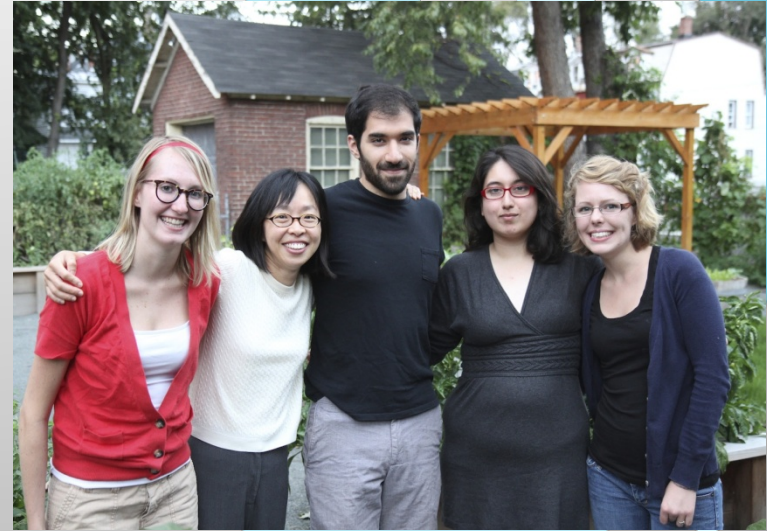
- Intentional young adult community that draws on the tradition of service and justice that we understand to be at the core of our faith commitments.
- Weekly Vespers and Congregation Sponsored meal (Curriculum: (<http://www.faithandservice.org/>))
- Supported by community and congregation



Bethany Presbyterian House of Hospitality



Bethany Presbyterian House of Hospitality



We limited our recruitment to:

- Bonner AmeriCorps and Vista Members
- Princeton Theological Seminary students and referrals
- EducationWorks of New Jersey members



Bethany Presbyterian House of Hospitality



- Funding and donations from a variety of donors
- Many volunteered to renovate house and host and facilitate Vespers meals

Bethany Presbyterian House of Hospitality



Bethany Presbyterian House of Hospitality



• Suggestions:

- Funding: Secure seed money for possible renovations and program costs and then seek matching funders.
- Residents: Partner with local agencies that already hire and vet staff that will be serving in your area and needing low cost housing.
- Staff: A Chaplain/Coordinator is vital to overseeing the program and supporting the Residents. A maintenance staff person or a building committee is vital to continue overseeing the property.
- House Blog: www.bethanyhoh.wordpress.com



The Common House (Waynesburg University)

Our vision is to live in Christian community to pursue the development of faithful living, ministry, and service. The Common House is a 12-month commitment to spiritual formation in Waynesburg and Greene County (Pennsylvania). This house will consist of five to ten young adults living in faith-based community for the sake of joining in Christ's restorative work.

Core Values

- Participating in Christ's *restorative work*
- Developing a *depth of faith and an understanding of calling*
- Establishing *intentional relationships both internally and externally*
- Exhibiting a *model of Christian community*
- Engaging in the *life and growth of Greene County*

Kyle Kooyers



- Weekly study with Spiritual Director: (all house members)
- Weekly Bible (all house members)
- Weekly gatherings to foster internal community on Sunday evenings (all house members)
- Meetings with individual mentors once a month
- Active involvement in a local congregation
- Take time for the Sabbath (whether it is a day, or specific time(s) within each day)
- This should be a time of retreat from vocational responsibilities, service, and house responsibilities
- Weekly meals
- Service



The Common House



- Community members supported the development of the Common House
 - Funding & donations
 - Church members volunteered to host meals
 - Local Pastors, church and community leaders invested time/resources
- Rules for Community Life
- Challenges & Joys



The Common House

Suggestions:

- Establish clearly defined entrance and exit procedures. Have a game plan for handling transitions good, bad, ugly.
- Members should receive support in finding a site/job that aligns well with the core values of the house.
- (echo Karen) Staff: A Chaplain/Coordinator is vital to overseeing the program and supporting the Residents.



Rev. Dr. Jack Barden



AYAVA House-Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary (Austin, TX)

AYAVA = Austin Young Adult
Volunteer/AmeriCorps

Located on the campus of the APTS

Houses nine participants in three apartments



AYAVA House



- The following are principles that guide our discussion and lifestyle:
 - vocational discernment
 - service to the community
 - theological reflection
 - engagement in spiritual practices
 - simple living
- There is a programmatic component to the experience that is tailored to fit around the group's work schedules.
 - weekly group dinners, quarterly retreats, and weekly educational and cultural activities to undergird and expand upon participants' volunteer experiences.



AYAVA House



General Q & R



WEBINAR RESOURCES:

Recording of January 16th Webinar
PowerPoint Presentation January 16th Webinar
Hospitality House Resource Packet
& Other Resources will be available at the links below

<http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/yav/hospitality-house-resources/>

<http://www.faith3.org>

Webinar participants will receive email with resources and links.



Conclusion



Thank you! Peace be with you.

