

PETITION TO THE 2026 ALASKA CONFERENCE

TITLE: _____ PETITION # _____

ACTION TO BE VOTED ON: *(Please state the motion in its simplest form, addressing one issue only, exactly what action is required. If you wish to submit additional supporting rationale, it must be typewritten on additional, separate sheets. Copies of up to two pages will be included in the Pre-Conference Handbook. Members will vote only on the action as boxed below.)*

RATIONALE:

TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY: _____
(Name of committee, board, commission, agency)

COSTS: _____ If a cost is involved, what committee/board/agency will be responsible for including this cost in its budget? _____

If this cost impacts the Conference Budget, has approval been received from the Council on Finance and Administration? _____
If not, then from whom? _____

When will it be completed? _____ How will you judge its effectiveness?
(be specific) _____

CONTACT PERSON INITIATING THE PETITION: _____
Contact person's phone #: _____
E-Mail Address: _____

GROUP REFERRING PETITION TO ANNUAL MEETING: _____
Group Leader responsible: _____
Group leader's phone # _____
E-Mail Address _____

SEND TO: alaskaumc@gmail.com
Alaska Conference
1660 Patterson Street
Anchorage, AK 99504

MUST BE RECEIVED BY
April 30, 2026

Additional RATIONAL:

A Phased Approach:

The team's currently active members consist of 4 young adults, 5 adults, and 0 youth. From this team we will recruit, encourage, and equip youth and young adults to apply to the team and support their leadership development, shifting the adult members role from building and creating to mentoring and supporting.

This team will be reaching out to local churches over the summer, building relationships between a YPM Liaison and local church leaders to understand the needs, gifts, and support wanted so we are better able to equip and support the work of young people's ministry in the local church. Through these relationships we will identify youth and young adults through local leadership who are spiritually mature and have the gifts for leadership.

The variable numbers for membership recognize the need for appropriate representation, growth potential, and space to determine what is the right size for this team.

Implementation Year: Applications will open October 1 and close October 31. Interviews will be in November with this crew of leaders serving January 1, 2027-June 30, 2028. All following years the application period will be in March, with interviews in April so that the names can be included in pre-conference materials.

PROPOSAL:

~~R5.1007 . . . CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES (CCYYAM)~~ ALASKA CONFERENCE YOUNG PEOPLES' MINISTRY TEAM (YPM)

~~PURPOSE . . . To empower young people (youth and young adults) in their relationship with the Spirit of God as revealed in Jesus Christ, strengthening youth and young adult young peoples' ministries in local churches and organizations of the AUMC, and facilitate facilitating the youths' and young adults' young peoples' own efforts to invite others into relationship as disciples of Christ.~~

~~MEMBERSHIP/ORGANIZATION . . . The recommended membership of the CCYYAM is two (2) youth or young adult representatives and one (1) adult regional advisor from each of the four regions of the Conference.~~

~~YPM will be composed of youth, young adult, and adult representatives from each of the regions. The term will be for two years, July 1st of the first year, through June 30th of the second year.~~

~~Membership shall be as follows (minimum membership: 11; maximum membership: 22):~~

- ~~a. 4-8 youth~~
- ~~b. 3-7 young adults~~
- ~~c. 2-5 adults~~
- ~~d. Additional ex officio members:~~
 - ~~i. Conference lay leader~~
 - ~~ii. Past president~~

~~YOUTH MEMBERS must be a baptized or confirmed member of a United Methodist congregation in the AUMC & be regularly engaged with the UMC in some way. Youth must be~~

high school students (9th-12th grade) during the term of service. They should be young people with spiritual maturity. There should be proportional representation of gender, race, leadership skills, geography, and church size.

YOUNG ADULT MEMBERS must be a professing or affiliate member of a United Methodist congregation in the AUMC (for at least one year) & have a current background check and abuse prevention training via Ministry Safe on file with their local church. Young Adults are 18-35 years old. They should be young people with spiritual maturity. There should be proportional representation of gender, race, leadership skills, geography, church size, college students, and marital status.

ADULT MEMBERS must be a professing or affiliate member of a United Methodist congregation in the AUMC (for at least one year) & have a current background check and abuse prevention training via Ministry Safe on file with their local church. The role of adult members on YPM is to mentor young people in their leadership development; to inspire, encourage, and support the young people in their leadership.

Young adult and adult members may be lay persons or clergy, but clergy shall not outnumber lay young adults and adults. Additionally, young people shall hold at least two-thirds (⅔) of the YPM membership.

The YPM Youth members will be selected by application by the YPM Interview Team. The YPM Interview Team is a sub team of the YPM, composed of one third of the youth, young adult, and adult members representing each region of the AUMC.

Interested youth and young adults will submit applications and recommendations as directed on the application. The YPM President will share application information so that it can be publicized through conference communications and directly to local churches. The application period will be the month of March, with interviews in April. The YPM President will submit to the Conference Committee on Nominations those who have been selected and those who have ended their term.

In addition to the application, applicants must have a pastor, lay leader, or youth leader fill out the YPM Recommendation Form. After receiving the application, the YPM Interview Team will conduct a short, informal interview to assess the applicant's readiness for service on YPM.

If there are not enough applicants, a member of YPM will contact the Conference Nominations team to assist in filling the team. If the YPM is unable to fill the minimum number of members via application, the Conference Committee on Nominations is empowered to fill the minimum membership slate.

The adult members of YPM will be selected by the Youth and Young Adults serving on the YPM Interview Team. Adult Members must be approved by the conference superintendent and/or have a letter of recommendation from their Pastor or Church Council member. There should be at least one adult for every five young people.

The President(s) of the previous year may serve as an ex-officio member on YPM for one year following their year of service. The conference lay leader shall serve as an ex-official member on YPM. The lay leader will not count toward the total number of adults.

The youth and young adult representatives shall elect a President from within their body who has full voting rights in the AUMC. In addition, ~~CCYYAM~~ **YPM** regional youth and young adult representatives or designated alternates will have privilege of the floor without vote.

MEETINGS . . . ~~It is recommended that the CCYYAM have an annual meeting.~~ **The YPM will meet quarterly.**

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES . . . The duties of the ~~CCYYAM~~ **YPM** shall be **include responsibilities listed in BOD ¶649.3 and ¶650.3 and will advocate for youth and young adult leadership on the local church and conference level, supporting young people serving in leadership.**

- ~~To initiate and support plans and activities and projects that are of particular interest to youth and young adults.~~
- ~~To be an advocate for the free expression of the convictions of youth and young adults on issues vital to them.~~
- ~~To support and facilitate, where deemed necessary, the formation of youth and young adult caucuses.~~
- ~~To cooperate with the boards and agencies of the AUMC, receiving recommendations from and making recommendations to the same.~~
- ~~To elect and certify AUMC representatives to the Western Jurisdictional Youth Ministry Convocation and the United Methodist Youth Organization.~~ **connectional opportunities.**
- ~~To receive and set the policy and criteria for its portion of the Youth Service Fund, establish the policy for YSF education, and be responsible for YSF promotion throughout the AUMC.~~

ACCOUNTABILITY AND LINKAGE . . . The ~~CCYYAM~~ **YPM** is linked by its President or other elected representative **from YPM** to the Leadership Team. The ~~CCYYAM~~ **YPM** is responsible to the CF&A for its operational budget and expenditures. The ~~CCYYAM~~ **YPM** will make a yearly report of its efforts to the annual conference of the AUMC.