



THE MINISTRY
COLLABORATIVE

A Project of the
Macedonian Ministry
Foundation

“Youthenize”: Navigating the Death of Conventional Youth Programming and the Resurrection of Enduring Faith

AN ONLINE, NATIONWIDE COHORT FOR MINISTRY LEADERS

COHORT DETAILS:

MAY 12 - OCTOBER 27

Every 2nd and 4th Thursday @ 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM CST

REGISTRATION FEE: \$600

**Limited scholarships available*

This will be a 6 month cohort that meets 2x a month. One meeting will focus on content and big questions for the future of youth ministry. The other time will focus on supporting one another and applying the content to our specific ministries. If you would like more information regarding the cohort either before or after applying, please email the cohort facilitator, Kyle Bender, at kyledbender@gmail.com.

FAQ'S:

[WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THE COHORT EXPERIENCE.](#)

[WHO & WHAT IS A COHORT?](#)

Click the links above to read more about our cohorts.

If you've watched the show Stranger Things, and you grew up in the 80's, the show makes sense. As a child of the 80's, my parents never knew where I was or what I was doing as long as I was home by dinner. If you grew up in a more recent decade, you probably watch the show asking, “where are these kids parents?” If the setting of the show was today, it wouldn't make sense. Families don't operate that way anymore.

The sentiment applies to youth ministry. Too many of our models and methods are for a different generation and we must let go of the conventional programming of the past and reimagine ministry for today.

If your definition of youth ministry is a program at a certain time on a certain night of the week, you (and your church) are most likely not thrilled with the results you are getting.

If you are wondering why it seems that everything in the life of families is more important than church and you feel like you are fighting for the attention of students and parents - you are not alone.

If you are wondering if the model of youth ministry is even answering the questions young people have as they navigate the world in the 2020's, let's talk about it.



Facilitated by Kyle Bender

Reserve Your Spot Now!

**Space is Limited to 12 Participants*

This cohort will explore the current landscape of ministry to students, what's not working and what is, to discover together what we can learn and apply to our local context.

We will borrow from helpful voices who are exploring these questions. We will take a look at courageous leaders who are doing new things and building faith in the next generation. We will navigate together how to move on from forcing old models that no longer work to exploring the places young people need ministry to show up the most.

Additionally, we will work to unlock the collective wisdom of the group. You are the ones working in the ministry day in and day out, in different contexts and with hard earned wisdom of walking alongside your communities. The goal of this cohort will be to draw upon that collective wisdom and begin to reimagine a future of student ministry you can implement in your context.



Kyle Bender, Marriage and Family Therapist

Meet Kyle!

Kyle has served on church staff in roles of children and student ministry over the last 20 years. Most recently, he served as Director of Family Ministry at Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church in Austin, TX. In the last year, he has transitioned to a new career as a marriage and family therapist. Kyle and his wife spend most of their time as a taxi cab service for their 3 daughters. In his free time, he will watch any sport that is in the playoffs and enjoys music, good food, and getting out of town and outside.

Resources Available to You:

Published twice per week, our [blog](#) aims to advance conversation topics that we believe are the most crucial for navigating ministry today. Additionally, our weekly [podcast](#) features a series of honest conversations about the opportunities, challenges, and joy of ministry today.

[Sign Up to Receive our Weekly Articles & Podcast Episodes!](#)