

July 2018

Dear Church Leader,

Friends **Summit 2018**, the EFC-North America young adult conference, is quickly approaching! We want to invite you to **join us** in prayer for this event and to pray specifically for those in your local church who should be participants...a part of the “conversations that could change your life...and your church” that will happen at Summit 2018.

All churches grow old ... but strategic churches are growing young

Churches are both shrinking and aging as more young people disengage. Based on groundbreaking research with over 250 of the nation’s leading congregations, Growing Young provides a strategy any church can use to involve and retain young people. It profiles innovative churches engaging 15- to 29-year-olds that are growing—spiritually, emotionally, missionally, and numerically. Packed with ideas, Growing Young shows ministry leaders how to position their churches to reach younger generations in a way that breathes life into the whole church. fulleryouthinstitute.org/growingyoung

Conversations about Growing Young will be a vital part of Summit. We have Jake Mulder of Fuller Youth Institute joining us at Summit to help all participants consider the strategies for a church to grow young. Also, Summit is honored to partner with Kaleo Academy staff, who are trained and certified by the Fuller Youth Institute to help evangelical Friends grow young. Mentor-Advocates who participate in Summit 2018 will be trained and equipped by Kaleo Academy staff for serving with young adults at Summit and taking the movement back home to the local church. [Kaleo Academy](http://KaleoAcademy) is the Friends Youth Leadership Training program serving EFC-North.

THIS IS AN INVITATION TO YOU AND YOUR CHURCH! What if a group of spiritual leaders in your church took the following steps? The elders board? A small group of church leaders?

1. Prayerfully select mentor-advocate(s)* to walk alongside young adults from your church at Summit.
2. Prayerfully decide an amount to allocate towards scholarships for young adults to help with registration and travel costs. What if church leaders opened their own wallets to send future leaders?
3. Prayerfully look at who Summit is for and consider who you should invite. Your invitation and affirmation may be the most powerful conversation in this process. Don’t miss this opportunity!
4. Invite selected young adults to attend Summit, helping them register and begin making travel plans.

**Qualities of a mentor-advocate: (Summit asks your church to send one mentor-advocate for every 2 or 3 young adults) They have a mutually positive relationship with young adults. They are coming from and returning with young adult/s to the same local church/area. A “weighty Friend” who is a spiritual leader. Interested in innovation, a good listener, likes to engage to help process. Might already be working closely with young adults, or possibly it would be even more powerful if they were an influential person in the church who doesn’t specifically serve with youth or young adult ministries but could be an effective bridge or voice between young adults and the greater Body.*

Who is Summit for:

Young Adults ages 16-25 who:

- Are emerging leaders who desire to follow Jesus and want to see His redeeming Kingdom on Earth
- Wish to take the next steps to grow in the way they serve and lead within the church and community
- Are willing to imagine with others what the Friends Church could become for future generations

What each participant can expect at Summit:

- To be equipped with a growing understanding of spiritual leadership and how it works in the life of a Friends leader. *How do we become people who can lead Friends into a future filled with opportunity?*
- An environment that gives freedom to dream for the kingdom and church, and practice discerning next steps. *How do we discern what God might do through us in the local church, in our communities, and throughout the world, for God’s Kingdom?*

•An inner-generational relationship with leaders, ministries, and resources connected to the Friends Movement.

What might happen if young adults with a vision had partners, support, and resources from existing Friends ministries?

Summit 2018 is all about the movement. The movement among young adult Friends. The church movement. The Kingdom. Summit is a national conference for young adults to experience how the reality of God's kingdom is calling the Friends Church in mission and engaging us with passion. **Kingdom. Mission. Passion.**

Summit is a conference that is designed around conversations that will celebrate and fuel the movement; from engaging worship sessions to quiet moments of prayer, from teaching to discussion groups, from Coffee House themes to simple moments with a friend. Our stories provoke the conversation. Conversations that capture the imagination. Conversations that draw out our passion for the mission of the Kingdom. Summit will host conversations that shape the church. **Conversations that could change your life!**

Attached are flyers for you to use when speaking with potential Mentor-Advocates about Friends Summit 2018. Our ultimate goal is that conversations are started at Summit 2018 that will **continue into your local church** and beyond. Help us find the right people to have those conversations in **your** church.

If you have any further questions, refer to the Friends Summit website (www.friendssummit.com) or contact the representative from your yearly meeting/region (listed below). If you have specific questions about the role of the Mentor-Advocate or Growing Young please contact Brockie Follette, Kaleo Academy Program Director. brockie.follette@barclaycollege.edu

We look forward to seeing how God shapes the Friends Movement through your young adults and the conversations that begin at Summit 2018!

[Here is a Summit 2018 Promo Video.](#)

Blessings!

Summit Planning Team

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Friends Summit 2018

KINGDOM. MISSION. PASSION.

Conversations that could change your life!

December 28, 2018 - January 1, 2019

Marriott Denver Tech Center

\$340 per person when 4 in a room

friendssummit.com

Friends Summit 2018 is sponsored and planned by the six regions of Evangelical Friends Church – North America (EFC-NA), particularly targeting EFC-NA young adults. Persons who are not participants of EFC-NA churches are welcome to register and participate at Summit 2018. We ask that all participants be compatible with and respectful towards EFC-NA Christ-centered beliefs.