www.ExploreCalling.org
www.ExploreCalling.org/presentations/aumcpbo
7436 active candidates
1295 candidates are under 30
35% of NEW candidates are U35*

* 2012 - 2013
NEW candidates by track*
33% of CERTIFIED candidates are U35*

* 2012 - 2013
17% are young minority candidates*
Stats are fun but... What’s the point? and What am I supposed to do about it?
54% of clergy are over 55 years old
49% of ACs have NO YC recruitment*
ACs with the most Young Clergy
In order of percentage*

1. Kansas East
2. North Alabama
3. Mississippi
4. Kansas West
5. Tennessee
6. Holston
7. Texas
8. Virginia
9. Alabama-West Florida
10. Oklahoma
11. Central Texas

* See complete list in the Clergy Age Trends Report 2013
Clergy Under 35 Years Old Elders

- 930 in 2012
- 962 in 2013
Clergy Under 35 Years Old

Elders

1985: 3219
2012: 930
2013: 962

explorecalling
Clergy Under 35 Years Old
Local Pastors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>472</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>522</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Clergy Attrition
86% complete the ordination process

Complete the process
Clergy Attrition

1% leave ordained ministry in the first 5 years
Stats are fun but... What’s the point? and What am I supposed to do about it?
Turn to the person beside you...

You’re not a bad person.

The kingdom of God will survive.

Do you need a hug?
United Methodists are not in this alone
Sociologist Looks at the Church
Church attenders older than 60

- 25% in 1998
- 30% in 2013
Sociologist Looks at the Church
Average Clergy age

1998: 48
2013: 53
Sociologist Looks at the Church
37% of Churches offer religious ed. to youth
Stats are fun but... What’s the point?
and
What am I supposed to do about it?
But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people who are God's own possession. You have become this people so that you may speak of the wonderful acts of the one who called you out of darkness into his amazing light.
...live as people worthy of the **call you received from God**. ... You are one body and one spirit, just as God also **called you** in one hope. ... His purpose was to **equip God’s people** for the work of serving and building up the body of Christ until we all reach the unity of faith and knowledge of God’s Son. ... The whole body grows from him, as it is **joined and held together** by all the supporting ligaments. The body makes itself grow in that it builds itself up with love as **each one does their part.**
When the angel said, “Rejoice, favored one! The Lord is with you!” Mary was confused and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. The angel said, “Don’t be afraid, Mary. God is honoring you.” … Then Mary said, “I am the Lord’s servant. Let it be with me just as you have said.”

An unprepared youth/young adult called unexpectedly into a life of service to God.
The Lord called to Samuel. Samuel said, “I’m here.” He hurried to Eli and said, “I’m here. You called me?” Eli replied. “I didn’t call you. Go Lie down.” So he did. Then Eli realized that it was the Lord who was calling the boy. So Eli said to Samuel, “Go and lie down. If he calls you, say, ‘Speak, Lord. Your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down. Then the Lord called just as before, “Samuel, Samuel!” Samuel said, “Speak. Your servant is listening.”

A young adult whose call was affirmed during an internship with an effective mentor.
Theological Framework
Timothy (1 Tim 4:6-16)

[from Paul to Timothy]
If you point these things out to believers, you’ll be a good servant of Christ. ... Train yourself for a holy life. ... Command these things. Teach them. Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young. Instead, be an example for believers. ... Pay attention to public reading, preaching, and teaching. Don’t neglect your spiritual gifts. ... If you do this, you will save your self and those who hear you.

A youth/young adult lay person who has been guided into the clergy, affirmed and mentored well.
Theological Framework
Pop Quiz

Who is called into ministry?
- Only you
- Only Bob
- Everyone but “that guy”
- Everyone

What are faithful responses to God’s call?
- Only that
- “What do you mean, ‘You’ll probably be broke?’”
- “Let me get back to you.”
- Anything that honors God

Where do we hear God’s call?
- Only at UMYF
- Only at seminary
- Only at Annual Conference
- Any place God chooses to move

Why is God calling us at all?
- God felt the need to delegate
- God wants to force introverts to work in small groups
- The work of the Body and the effectiveness of the Kingdom requires all members to function

When is God’s call spoken?
- Only during prayer
- Only during GOOD sermons
- After we’ve experienced enough
- Anytime
Stats are fun but...

Everyone is called
Everyone is in ministry
Everyone has a vocation
exploration
November 15-17. Denver, CO
2013
Gather on the journey.
explore calling

www.ExploreCalling.org/yci
Grants encouraging cultural and systemic change in our denominational work with students discerning a vocation in ordained leadership.