NATIONAL IN ORLANDO

EVENT GUIDE CAMPUS MAP

EVENT SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

MONDAY- November 2, 2026

Event Times: 12:00 PM to 8:30 PM (Eastern Standard Time Zone)

- **9:00 AM – 11:00 AM: New2Ministry Pre Conference**
- 12:00 PM: Registration
- 12:30 PM: Doors Open
- 1:00 PM: **Mainstage Session Block One**
  - Worship with Brett Younker
  - Edward Graham: *When Crisis Hits. Leadership Matters.*
  - Luke Lezon: *God's Design. Students' Questions. Your Leadership*
- 3:10 PM: Break
- 3:35 PM: **Mainstage Session Block Two**
  - Magician Stephen Bargatze
  - Worship with Brett Younker
  - Brent Crowe: *Becoming Shepherds Worth Following*
  - David Gibbs: *Leading without Liability Q & A*
- 5:50 PM: Dinner
- 6:35 to 8:30 PM: **Leadership Labs Session 1 & 2 – see page 3**
- 8:30 PM: Day One Concluded

TUESDAY- November 3, 2026

Event Times: 9:30 AM to 8:30 PM (Eastern Standard Time Zone)

- 9:30 AM: Registration/ Doors Open
- 10:00 AM: **Mainstage Session Block Three**
  - Worship with Brett Younker
  - Megan Fate Erickson: *Grow through Surrender*
  - Mark Batterson: *The Long Game: Small Decisions. Lasting Impact*
- 12:15 PM: Lunch
- 1:10 PM: **Leadership Labs Session 3 – see page 3**
- 2:15 PM: **Mainstage Session Block Four**
  - Comedian Dustin Nickerson
  - Dr. Robert Smith: *Bold Gospel. Broken World*
  - Zac Workun & Chad Higgins: *From Drop off to Discipleship: Parent Ministry*
- 5:00 PM: Break
- 5:30 PM: **Mainstage Session Block Five**
  - Worship with Brett Younker
  - Joshua Broome *Q&A on Raising Pure Hearts in a Sex-Saturated World*
  - State of Student Ministry Presentation
  - David Nasser: *Hope in the Face of Persecution*
- 7:30 PM: Food Truck Rally
- 8:30 PM: Conference Concludes

WEDNESDAY- November 4, 2026

- YPS National Universal Day – Park opens at 9 AM – provided by event sponsors

EVENT OVERVIEW

Youth Pastor Summit National is a conference in Orlando Florida that brings together student pastors, educators, and volunteers into one room to **foster community, place of learning,** and **moment of understanding.** It is a direct response to the growing need for people to pour into this generation.

As Student Leadership University trains up the next generation, we increasingly recognize the exponential impact that the leaders have on these students. YPS National gathers thousands of leaders from across the country from 30+ denominations and movements. SLU also hosts 4-spring YPS events in SoCal, Dallas, Nashville, and Raleigh where we foster collaboration, community, and soul-care.

We bring in some of the world's best student ministry minds, communicators, and practitioners to address four foundational and ever-present questions:

1. **Spiritual Formation:** Who are we becoming?
2. **God's Mission**: What story is God telling?
3. **Ethics:** How should we think?
4. **Leadership**: Why and how do we influence?

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR MONDAY AND TUESDAY

What to Pack: Make sure to pack a Bible, pen, notebook, and a bottle of water for you to have during the conference.

Meals: Through the generosity of our event sponsors, dinner is provided on Monday and lunch is being provided on Tuesday. For dinner Tuesday, there will be a variety of food trucks available onsite for your purchase. Make sure to stop by our sponsor tables and say thanks for providing for everyone! For attendees who have special dietary needs, we encourage you to pack meals due to set conference meals.

Registration: In order to expedite your registration and to minimize gathering in the lobby, please bring a **copy/screen shot of your registration** in one of the forms below*. NEW THIS YEAR! To skip the manual check-in line, please have your YPS National Ticket QR Code ready. This is being emailed to all named, registered attendee the week prior to YPS National.

Having one of the options above will ensure a smooth check-in for you and your team the morning of the event.
***Registration Proof (any of the options below will work):**

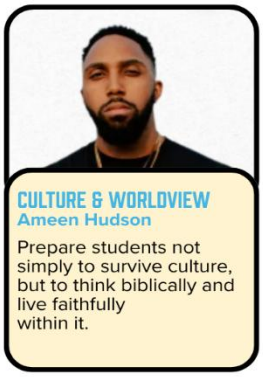
- Printed Copy or Screen Shot of your Registration Email
- Printed out or/Screen Shot of your registration account with YPS National Listed – you can access this from here: https://events.circuitree.com/studentleadership/Account/Login/?returnUrl=%2Fstudentleadership&skip=False

Wristbands: You will receive a YPS wristband when you check in. You must wear this on Monday and Tuesday as it is your access into all sessions and meals and to receive your Universal tickets for Wednesday.

LEADERSHIP LAB DESCRIPTIONS

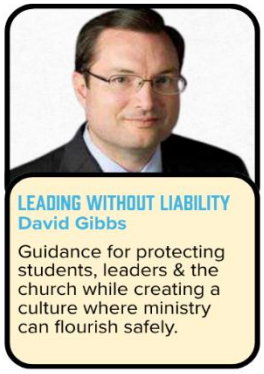
Leadership Labs (breakout sessions) are designed to inspire and equip you and your team. We encourage every participant to take full advantage of the practical and relevant training sessions the labs will provide. Make sure your group splits up and attends as many lab sessions as possible. Leadership Labs descriptions will be updated in this document and sent in the pre-event email two weeks prior to the event.

LEADERSHIP LAB SESSION 1: MONDAY 6:35 PM



CULTURE & WORLDVIEW
Ameen Hudson
Prepare students not simply to survive culture, but to think biblically and live faithfully within it.

LAB 1: HENRY CHAPEL



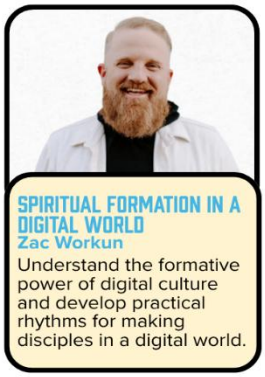
LEADING WITHOUT LIABILITY
David Gibbs
Guidance for protecting students, leaders & the church while creating a culture where ministry can flourish safely.

LAB 2: LMC



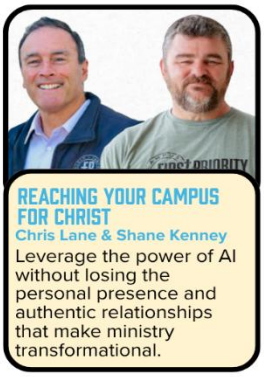
BECOMING CREATIVE
Kate Downing
Discover how to generate better ideas, communicate familiar truths & create more engaging ministry experiences.

LAB 3: FAITH HALL 301 ABGH



SPIRITUAL FORMATION IN A DIGITAL WORLD
Zac Workun
Understand the formative power of digital culture and develop practical rhythms for making disciples in a digital world.

LAB 4: FAITH HALL 301 CGF



REACHING YOUR CAMPUS FOR CHRIST
Chris Lane & Shane Kenney
Leverage the power of AI without losing the personal presence and authentic relationships that make ministry transformational.

LAB 5: FAITH HALL 301 D & E

LEADERSHIP LAB SESSION 2: MONDAY 7:40 PM



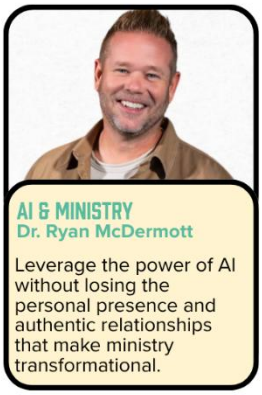
STRATEGIES FOR WINNING THE NEXT GENERATION
Vince Parker
Transformation often happens in circles, not rows. Explore proven strategies for evangelism, belonging and small groups.

LAB 1: HENRY CHAPEL



BUILDING WINNING TEAMS
Chad Higgins & Amanda Mejias
From recruiting the right people to developing leaders, build a team culture people want to be part of.

LAB 2: LMC



AI & MINISTRY
Dr. Ryan McDermott
Leverage the power of AI without losing the personal presence and authentic relationships that make ministry transformational.

LAB 3: FAITH HALL 301 ABGH



OUTREACH & EVANGELISM
Nathan Schneider
Creating a clear pathway from first-time guest to faithful disciple. Strategies for outreach, guest follow-up & gospel conversations.

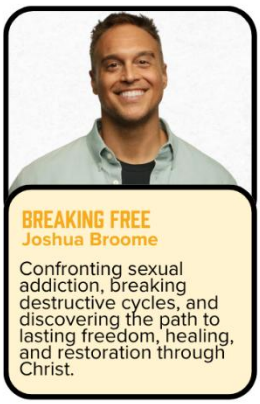
LAB 4: FAITH HALL 301 CGF



ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP
Dr. Jonathan Denton
Great ministry requires more than great preaching and programming. Spend less time reacting to chaos and more time leading what matters most.

LAB 5: FAITH HALL 301 D & E

LEADERSHIP LAB SESSION 3: TUESDAY 1:10 PM



BREAKING FREE
Joshua Broome

Confronting sexual addiction, breaking destructive cycles, and discovering the path to lasting freedom, healing, and restoration through Christ.

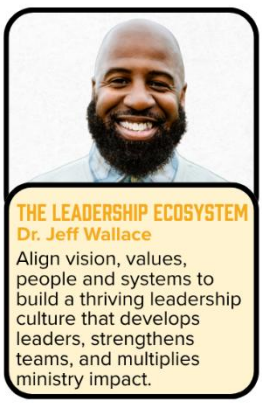
LAB 1: WORSHIP CENTER



REVIVAL IN MINISTRY
Jonathan Rivera

When the Spirit begins moving have the discernment to recognize it, and the wisdom to steward it well.

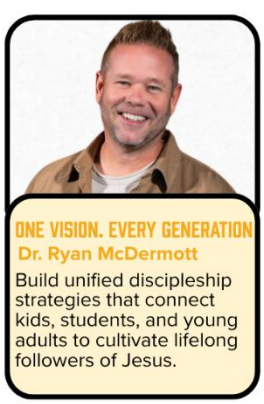
LAB 2: HENRY CHAPEL



THE LEADERSHIP ECOSYSTEM
Dr. Jeff Wallace

Align vision, values, people and systems to build a thriving leadership culture that develops leaders, strengthens teams, and multiplies ministry impact.

LAB 3: FAITH HALL 301 ABGH



ONE VISION. EVERY GENERATION
Dr. Ryan McDermott

Build unified discipleship strategies that connect kids, students, and young adults to cultivate lifelong followers of Jesus.

LAB 4: FAITH HALL 301 CGF



SPIRITUAL FORMATION IN A DIGITAL WORLD
Zac Workun

Understand the formative power of digital culture and develop practical rhythms for making disciples in a digital world.

LAB 5: FAITH HALL 301 D & E

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the New 2 Ministry Pre-Conference Gathering at YPS?
Get what you need before the conference even starts! A special pre-conference session designed for those who are New2Ministry (2ish years or so) in mind! This is a roundtable session that is wildly practical, conversational, pro-active, and specifically tuned to set up you and your team, a new-ish youth ministry leader, with an action plan for how to better build a healthy ministry. Our friends at Lifeway Students want to connect and equip you with the strategy and stuff you need to lead well now. You can sign up for this as part of your regular YPS registration. **Space is limited.**

Who should attend YPS?
Youth Pastor Summit is geared to all youth pastors and key youth leaders (staff or volunteers). It is also open to Christian educators. ***All attendees must be 18 years or older.***

Can my spouse attend?
Of course! We love when couples do ministry together. Make sure you register them so that they are guaranteed a spot. Each attendee of YPS must be registered for the event and each attendee must register with their unique email address.

I have a small child; can they attend with me?
We think families are great and time together is important. However, this event is ***only for those who are 18 and older*** and who have graduated high school. We want everyone to have the best experience possible at this event, so please make arrangements to leave your children at home or arrange childcare outside of the conference.

Can I transfer my ticket to someone else?
If you are registered as a group, we will do a one-time transfer of any of your participants, without penalty. Transfers are not available on individual registrations. To make a transfer on your account, email us at yps@studentleadership.net from your group leader's email indicating the individual(s) you are canceling and the name, email, and DOB of the new registration(s). We will only make a transfer(s) on each group registration one time, and once you have made a transfer, your group is then finalized. **No transfers are possible after 6 PM on October 29th.**