

Presbyterians Today Call for Articles

A special Young Adult Editorial Team is calling for papers related to young adult (or Millennial) Christian spirituality, beliefs, and practices.

In May 2014, three PC(USA) publications *Presbyterians Today*, *Unbound*, and *Horizons* will jointly publish their volumes around the collective theme of young adult Christianity, particularly as it is expressed among Presbyterians. A young adult editorial team of three members for each publication, assisted by the staff that steward these publications, is overseeing these interdependent issues. There is a great hope that even more young adult voices will join in the creation and publication of these issue's journalistic, editorial, and visual elements. This is where you come in!

The editorial team for *Presbyterians Today* is seeking article ideas and submissions that explore young adult culture, broadly answering the question, "What are the cultural experiences that have shaped what young adults expect and want from a religious community?" Working with the image of trees planted in soil, the editorial team is looking for articles that will provide "soil analysis" – an analysis of the socio-economic-religious culture of today's young adults. Proposed articles should be rich simultaneously in sound sociological data and insights, as well as in authentic personal narratives of young adults both in and beyond our denomination's borders. Articles should be accessible and engaging to a widely diverse audience. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- family backgrounds/parenting
- spirituality/worship
- past and current economic issues/job expectations
- sex/sexuality/gender
- race/racial diversity
- violence/war
- advertising and entertainment
- education
- volunteerism and social justice
- politics
- technology/new media
- community
- physical and mental health



The editorial team is well aware that there is no single narrative for young adults; one of the defining characteristics of young adults these days may in fact be the proliferation (and embrace) of difference. Cultural experiences will vary considerably across race, culture, place of origin, gender identity, sexuality, economic class, and religious and family background. While lifting up patterns and similarities as well as differences, writers should be aware of their own social location.

In addition, the team will accept editorial proposals for either the print edition or as special online-only material. These editorials will be much more subjective by nature, but should still fit within the general scope and framework of these issues.

The team is also looking for artistic, poetic, video, and other media submissions.

Opportunities to work with the other publications, *Unbound* and *Horizons*, may exist as well.

Interested parties should submit an abstract of no more than 250 words and include their name, phone number, e-mail address, congregation (if relevant), and any helpful background (education, ministry or nonprofit involvement, etc.). *Remember that these are just proposals*, not actual articles – they can be informal, brief, and rough around the edges. Abstracts should be sent to Jeff Schooley at jaschooley@gmail.com **no later than October 28, 2013**. Decisions on articles will be made by November 4, 2013 and all candidates will be contacted no later than that date.

- - - Jana Blazek, Joseph Morrow, and Jeff Schooley of the Young Adult Editorial Team, assisted by Patrick Heery, editor

