



EPC

A Global Movement of Evangelical Presbyterian Churches

COMMITTEE REPORT

Next Generation Ministries Council
Report to the 39th General Assembly



Jennifer Burkholder
Chairman

Summary of Work, 2018-2019:

1. Facilitated Children and Family Ministry networking events in 3 presbyteries.
2. Began updates on Next Generation Council pages on EPC website to more accurately reflect work of Next Gen Council and needs of those who utilize the website.
3. Created a Mailchimp account for the purpose of collecting contact information and communicating more effectively with EPC children, youth, and college ministry leaders.
4. Resourced EPC youth workers and college students with scholarships for training, conferences, and networking in partnership with Reformed Youth Ministries and CCO.
5. Collaborated with World Outreach/Shawn Stewart to promote EPC mission opportunities among youth and college students and provided Urbana scholarships.
6. Next Generation Council members are leading Children/Family Ministry and Youth Ministry Leadership Institute sessions at GA. CCO is leading a campus ministry networking lunch at GA.

Recommendations to the 2019 General Assembly:

1. Recommendation 39-23:

The Next Generation Council recommends that each presbytery would encourage the creation of Next Generation Networks for children, youth, and college workers in collaboration with the Next Generation Council.



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Work of the Committee in 2018-2019:

Facilitated Children and Family Ministry networking events in 3 presbyteries: Alleghenies, West, and Mid-Atlantic.

- Alleghenies—Children’s/NextGen Ministry Leaders Networking Dinner (led by Martha Daniel)
 - March 1, 2019. Concurrent with presbytery meeting. Started with joint worship with presbytery, Martha was able to share with presbytery about Next Generation Ministries Council and the networking event happening.
 - 27 people attended (3-4 additional registered but did not attend).
 - During event Martha shared encouraging vision and had attendees prepared to share ideas, resources and best practices in their context.
 - Martha made and printed EPC Next Generation Ministries Council branded notebooks and binders for attendees to collect and take home the best practices people brought and shared.
 - Names and contacts were collected for database—87 contacts total.
 - Next networking lunch is being planned for September 2019 at Memorial Park Presbyterian Church, Allison Park, Pennsylvania.
- West—Children’s and Family Networking Event (led by Families Alive—Becky Shultz and Laura Cooper)
 - February 21, 2019
 - 7 attended
 - Families Alive laid a foundation for children’s ministry as abiding in Jesus through the Word and Prayer.
 - Attendees shared ideas and resources among one another and asking questions
 - Local woman, Pam McFadden, volunteered to host the next event at her church, Parker EPC in Parker, Colorado.
 - Those who could not come were excited and want to see this continue
 - Plan to do these events quarterly
 - Difficulty—Distance people need to travel.
 - Solution—Smaller events in different areas around presbytery.
- Mid-Atlantic (led by Andy Koesters)
 - David from Families Alive presented for 30 minutes during the presbytery meeting sharing about the need to equip parents as the forefront of children’s ministry.
 - Brought the book *Foundations for Parents* which sold out. Content and resources were well received and met a need.
 - Plan for next presbytery to have a dinner discussion group as a follow up to the content and book.



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Began updates on Next Generation Ministries Council pages on EPC website to more accurately reflect work of the Council and needs of those who utilize the website.

- We condensed the current webpage content into 3 categories: Children/Family Ministry, Youth Ministry, and College Ministry.
- We divided into groups based upon council member expertise to make edits and prioritize was stayed on the page and what changes were made.
- Greg Aydt is now collaborating with Brian Smith, EPC Director of Communications, to make the changes effective on the site.
- We will review the changes at our October meeting and see if any additional changes/revisions should be made.

Created a Mailchimp account for the purpose of collecting contact information and communicating more effectively with EPC children, youth, and college ministry leaders.

- Laura Cooper created a Mailchimp account accessible to all Council members.
- Names and contacts collected through networking events in presbyteries and by each council member as we personally network in our sphere of influence.
- 3 Mailing lists are being created: Children/Family, Youth, and College Ministry leaders.
- We now have a unified and EPC Next Generation Ministries branded way to communicate with NextGen ministry leaders.

Resourced EPC churches, youth workers, and college students with scholarships for training, conferences, and networking in partnership with Reformed Youth Ministries and CCO.

- Reformed Youth Ministry Youth Leader Training Conference
 - RYM took scholarship requests from EPC youth workers at registration. 4 scholarships were awarded based upon need. All 4 needed 100% scholarship in order to attend. Total NGC scholarships awarded for YTL: \$1580
 - Nashville, Tennessee location
 - 22 youth leaders attended an EPC networking dinner with Sandy Wilson and Jerry Iamurri sharing and Greg Aydt leading discussion. (the dinner was planned by EPC NGC but welcomed other leaders beyond EPC to join at the conference)
 - 20 EPC leaders from 12 different EPC churches attended the conference
 - Lancaster, Pennsylvania location
 - 26 (mostly EPC plus a few from other denominations) youth leaders attended the EPC specific networking dinner with Michael Hall (RYM) and Meg DeHaven leading discussion.
 - 21 EPC youth leaders from 16 churches attended the conference.



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- Meg DeHaven (NGC member) led a breakout session at the conference.
- CCO Jubilee Conference
 - Students at EPC churches with CCO Partnership/CCO Staff
 - 40 @ \$50 each student
 - 1 @ \$10 (all that was needed)
 - Total: \$3,560.00
 - Jubilee Partner Event—35 EPC church leaders/pastors attended
 - WO Shawn Stewart and others attended Jubilee to connect with EPC students and promote WO mission opportunities: short term, long term, and business as mission. We will continue to work to connect WO to CCO staff in EPC partnerships.
- CCO Partnerships
 - In 2018-19 new EPC/CCO partnerships were developed to staff and launch college ministry
 - FPC Orlando
 - Covenant EPC Louisiana
 - Covenant EPC Jackson, MS

Collaborated with World Outreach/Shawn Stewart to promote EPC mission opportunities among youth and college students.

- Next Gen Council helped to communicate and promote in our networks the Summer Mission Jam in July to youth workers.
- Provided scholarships for students to attend Urbana based upon application and assessment of need.
 - 4 @ \$140
 - 1 @ \$280
 - Total: \$840
- Puerto Rico Youth Retreat—developing youth ministry. Shared learning.
 - Meg DeHaven's church started partnering with EPC churches in Puerto Rico (Enid's church). This led to taking the youth retreat: Breakaway to Puerto Rico.
 - PR has a different model of youth ministry. They want to develop a more formal youth ministry model. Breakaway was a way to introduce youth retreat. They did some train youth leader training during this time as well.
 - 81 people came to retreat. Outcome: A couple people from Enid's church have volunteered to take up the leadership to develop a youth/college group model for ministry in the church. Establishing more consistent events and opportunities for youth. Also, Shawn is sharing some Spanish resources with Hispanic churches/youth groups.



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Next Generation Council members are leading Children/Family Ministry and Youth Ministry Leadership Institute sessions at GA. CCO leading a networking lunch at GA.

- Unstoppable Youth Ministry
 - Greg, Megan, Andy K, Andrew M teaching
- Children's and Family Ministry
 - Families Alive—Becky Shultz and Laura Cooper
 - Martha Daniel—sharing her new book “It’s Never Too Early”
- CCO Leading a Wednesday Networking Lunch
 - Led by CCO Leaders Matt Brown and Isaac Vineyard

Recommendations to the 2019 General Assembly:

Recommendation 39-23:

The Next Generation Council recommends that each presbytery would encourage the creation of Next Generation Networks for children, youth, and college workers in collaboration with the Next Gen Council. We recommend that presbyteries give time and opportunity for Next Generation Council/network leaders to give announcements and promote events/opportunities to collaborate. These networks would include ordained and non-ordained leaders. Next Gen Council will contact each Stated Clerk of the presbyteries to connect and help launch the networks.



Committee Members:

Jennifer Burkholder (Chairman), Presbytery of the Alleghenies
Martha Daniel, Presbytery of the Alleghenies
Ryan Suzuki, Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest
RE Enid Flores, Presbytery of Florida and the Caribbean
TE Andrew Koesters, Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic
RE Becky Shultz, Presbytery of the West
Greg Aydt, Presbytery of the West
Meg DeHaven, Presbytery of the East
TE Andrew Mills, Presbytery of the Gulf South

Committee Meeting Dates:

August 29, 2018 (New Member Orientation)—Video Conference
October 18-19, 2018—Office of the General Assembly, Orlando, FL
December 4, 2018—Video Conference
March 14, 2019 (Children's)—Video Conference
March 19, 2019 (Youth/College)—Video Conference
April 30, 2019—Video Conference

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Burkholder
Chairman

June 2019