

Lake Union Conference
Youth Evangelism Congress


Unstoppable

February 18-20, 2022 / Shipshewana, IN

HISTORY, VISION, MISSION

HISTORY

Adventist youth ministry began in the Lake Union in 1879 when Luther Warren (age 14) and Harry Fenner (age 17) gathered together to pray for youth to be empowered to share the gospel with the world through the “Adventist Missionary Youth Society”.

In 1901, the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists established the **Youth Department**. In 1916, the Lake Union Conference did the same. Youth evangelism began in the Lake Union over 100 years ago, but now it is time for us to **reinvent** how youth/young adults are involved in the mission of the Adventist church.

In 2022, we celebrate the 5th Lake Union Youth Evangelism Congress. This event that began in 2013 has funded a grand total of \$373,872 for 72 evangelism projects in a joint effort between the Lake Union, local Conferences, and local churches! All for God’s glory.

VISION

To join Senior Youth and Young Adults in the Lake Union Conference to be inspired, trained, and resourced to use their lives to share the good news of the Kingdom of God at their local churches.

MISSION

Matthew 28:19 “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

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WELCOME MESSAGE

Welcome, Congress Delegates.

You made it here with the support of your local church and pastor.

You will love this weekend as you worship, meet new friends, and explore fresh evangelism options.

The Lake Union believes in you; your creativity, your unstoppable spirit.

The Lake Union is the only union in the world that every two years hands out, with local congregations, hundreds of thousands of dollars for youth to do evangelism at their local church.

Use this weekend to reevaluate your walk with God and how you will use your life to tell others about His love for them.



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Nestor Osman
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“All authority in Heaven and earth has been given to me. Therefore go...”

Matthew 28:18-20

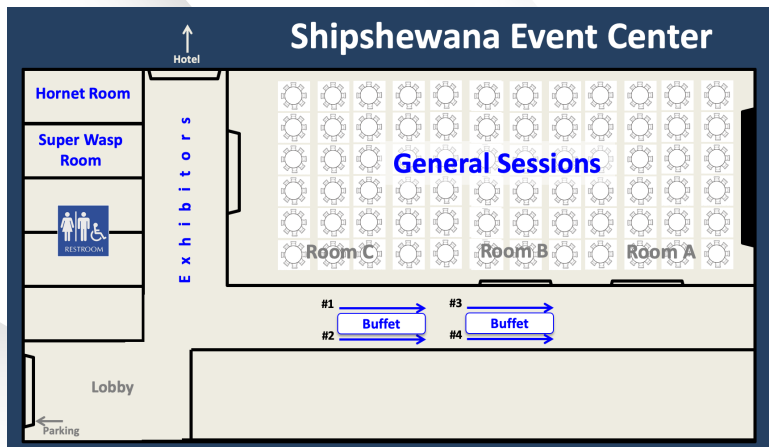
SCHEDULE

TIME	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY		
7:00 AM	<p>2022 Lake Union Youth Evangelism Congress UNSTOPPABLE</p>	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST		
9:00 AM		Praise & Worship	Praise & Worship		
9:30 AM		<i>Table Talks</i> 4. Village Young Adults (Lilly Widdicombe) 5. ICanvass Club (Olivia Joyce Canvasser) 6. Lacrosse PCM (Pedro Luis) 7. Epic Church (Pr Andres Flores)	Weekend in Review.		
10:00 AM			<i>Plenary Session with Jose Cortes Jr</i>		
11:00 AM				BREAK - Visit booths	
11:15 AM		<i>Plenary Session with Jose Cortes Jr</i>	Group photo (General Session room)		
12:00 PM			LUNCH - Visit booths	LUNCH (Optional)	
12:30 PM		Registration. Table Facilitator Orientation. Booth Set-up. Sound check. Prayer Room (see p. 9). Visit booths.	<i>Table Talks</i> 8. Neighbors in Need (Jessica Dellen) 9. Rethinking Evangelism (Chris Dellen) 10. ACF - Stevens Point (Joshua Guerrero)	Safe Travel!	
2:30 PM					Breakout Sessions 1 (see p. 6)
4:30 PM					Breakout Sessions 2 (see p. 6)
5:30 PM	SUPPER ON YOUR OWN		SUPPER - Visit booths		
6:30 PM	Praise & Worship		Praise & Worship		
7:30 PM	<i>Plenary Session with Jose Cortes Jr</i>		<i>Plenary Session with Jose Cortes Jr</i>		
8:00 PM	<i>Table Talks</i> 1. Community Lifestyle Ctr (Rodney Pidú Jr.) 2. Evangelism in secular Campus (John Leis III) 3. Mental Health Matters (Keila Carmona)		<i>How to present a project</i>		
8:30 PM	Delegation Breakout Sessions w/Youth Director and Ministerial Director (see p. 22)				
9:00 PM			AfterGlow - Refreshments		Fellowship - Refreshments
10:00 PM					

BREAKOUT SESSIONS & HOTEL MAP

#	ROOM	BREAKOUT SESSION 1 (SATURDAY, 4:30PM)	BREAKOUT SESSION 2 (SATURDAY, 5:30PM)
90*	Empress	ACF – Stevens Point (Joshua G)	Village Young Adults (Lilly W)
80*	Hydrangea	Neighbors In Need (Jessica D)	Rethinking Evangelism (Chris D)
80*	Lilac	Lacrosse PCM (Pedro L)	Icavass Club (Olivia C)
130*	Magnolia	Mental Health Matters (Keila C)	Mental Health Matters (Keila C)
68*	Super Wasp	Community Lifestyle Center (Rodney P)	Community Lifestyle Center (Rodney P)
67*	Wisteria	Epic Church (Andres F)	Evangelism in Secular Campus (John L)

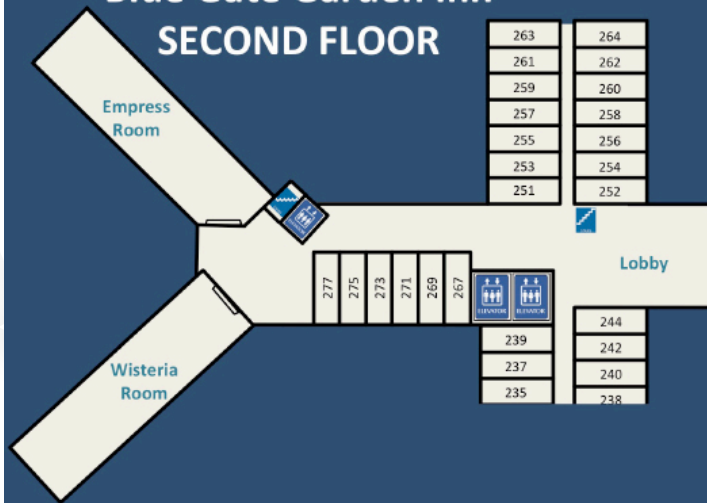
*Remember to distance 😊



Blue Gate Garden Inn MAIN LEVEL



Blue Gate Garden Inn SECOND FLOOR



FEATURED SPEAKER



JOSE CORTES JR.

Jose Cortes Jr. treasures and loves Joanne Cortes, his wife and companion in ministry. Together, they are blessed with two boys, Jose III and Joel Benjamin. Next to God and family, his greatest joy and passion come from ministry, and about 25 years of pastoring, youth and young adult ministries, soul winning, church planting, and leadership

as a Conference and Union Departmental Director.

He currently serves as Associate Director of the North American Division Ministerial Association and leads Evangelism, Church Planting, Global Mission, Church Growth, and Mission to the Cities for the Adventist Church in North America.

Pastor Jose holds a Master of Divinity (M.Div) from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary in Andrews University, and a B.A. in Theology from Washington Adventist University. (josecortesjr@nadadventist.org)

GENERAL SESSIONS

1. LOVE

2. SERVE

3. BAPTIZE

4. PLANT



ANA AGUSTINA DE LA CRUZ

Ana Agustina was born and raised in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. At the age of ten, she heard about Jesus from a little neighbor that invited her to join the Adventist Church Pathfinder Club in her community. She was completely touched and motivated since the first meeting. She made the decision to follow Jesus. Years later her mother decided to follow Christ and decided to join

Seventh-day Adventist church. Before immigrating to the United States, Ana Agustina prayed to God for guidance because she deeply wanted to serve Him. While part of U. S. Embassy Santo Domingo Housing Staff she was committed to help and support people, God motivated her to apply at Andrews University. She loves Youth Ministries, is a Master Guide, and completed the Youth Leadership program. She is involved in Adventures, Pathfinders, Master Guide and youth leadership activities. Ana Agustina loves to travel, listen to music, cook, and talk to people about Jesus. (delacruz@andrews.edu)

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT:

The purpose of the Prayer Room is to give you space and time for spiritual and personal reflection in a world that crowds it out. It is a place where a person can connect with God through writing, reading, meditating, resting, and praying.

Visit the prayer room! [HornetRoom](#)

“Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything.” - *Philippians 4:6* (NLT)

MINISTRY PRESENTERS



KEILA CARMONA

was born in South Bend, IN to Daniel and Dana Carmona, both of whom are deeply passionate about ministry. She attended Andrews University where she received a Bachelor's degree in Social Work. While working in Knoxville, Tennessee as the Assistant Chaplain at a Public University, Keila realized her passion for both social work and ministering to others could help

people see Christ in a unique way.

Keila recently graduated from Andrews University again, where she received a Masters of Arts in Youth & Young Adult Ministry from Theological Seminary as well as a Masters in Social Work, with an emphasis in Marriage & Family Therapy and Trauma Informed Practice. She is currently working as a Dean at Lamson Hall, the undergraduate women's residence hall, on the campus of Andrews University.

#Friday, #BreakoutSession1,2, #MagnoliaRoom

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT - MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

What if I told you that a lack of understanding the impacts of mental health issues, like anxiety and depression, is depriving you of your biggest asset in youth evangelism? In this interactive presentation, we'll be discussing the toll this issue is having on this generation and why it matters to youth evangelism. You will leave with basic tools you can use with youth, whether they are in your church or your community, that will help them engage with you and will bring the gospel to life.

(carmonakeila13@gmail.com)

MINISTRY PRESENTERS



JOSHUA GUERRERO

is a young adult who believes that this generation can have a faith that is life changing, strong, and can thrive in these times. He serves as the Public Campus Ministry Coordinator for the Wisconsin Conference of SDA, and in partnership with the Stevens Point SDA Church to provide a space for college students to find community, explore who God is, and raise

up disciple makers at the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point. In his free time, Joshua enjoys running, kayaking, as well as playing guitar. *[#Sabbath Afternoon](#), [#BreakoutSession1](#), [#Empress](#)*

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT - ACF - STEVENS POINTS

In the Fall of 2016, 5 young people wanted to do something to empower their generation to live with purpose and have an authentic faith filled life. God opened the door to start an Adventist Christian Fellowship (ACF) chapter at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point and in February 2020, they received a grant from the LUC that provided them the opportunity to rent a house down the street from the University. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit however, it forced them to reevaluate everything they did on campus, and focus on the principle of impacting one person at a time (making disciples) on campus. As a result, despite the pandemic, they have seen God do mighty things, such as growing the ministry on campus and several students giving their lives over to Jesus. The resulting overall impact on campus has been providing a space and community where college students can feel safe, discover what Christianity and God are like, and become hands-on missionaries for Christ, wherever they go. (jdguerrero95@gmail.com)

MINISTRY PRESENTERS



JESSICA DELLEN

Ever since she was a little girl, God has given Jessica a genuine passion to serve others and show them Christ's love.

She has used her gifts of organization, servant leadership, and change management as a student missionary to West Africa, overseas on many short-term mission trips and state-side across a number of ministries.

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT - NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Jessica's most recent passion has been serving in her current role as Director of Neighbors in Need - a compassion ministry of the Anderson SDA Church.

One of Jessica's mottos is, "There is truly no greater joy in life than when you live to serve Christ and others."

[#SabbathAfternoon](#), [#BreakoutSession1](#), [#HydrangeaRoom](#)

NOTES

MINISTRY PRESENTERS



CHRIS DELLEN

An intrapreneurial pioneer, Chris Dellen is the President at Delmar & Rethinking Evangelism. He is driven by an unquenchable desire to challenge the status quo. By combining a unique understanding of organizational growth, process optimization, technology, and finance, he has the ability to help organizations think differently about how they grow.

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT - RETHINKING EVANGELISM

For over 15 years, he's helped for-profit organizations use the most sophisticated tools and technologies available to help them grow. And now he's taking that expertise and helping churches do the same!

Outside the office, he enjoys spending time with his family and occasionally teaching MBA courses on Business Strategy and other topics.

(chris@ucgrowth.co)

#SabbathAfternoon, #BreakoutSession2, #HydrangeaRoom

NOTES

MINISTRY PRESENTERS



OLIVIA JOYCE

Olivia Joyce, a Chicagoland native, loves and follows Jesus today because of the power of a youth-led literature evangelism program called Youth Rush. She serves as the president of the iCanvass club at Andrews University, a new ministry that empowers students to serve as door-to-door literature evangelists. A junior studying chemistry, mathematics, and religion, she

plans to work in secondary education and/or youth ministry after graduation. When not canvassing, she's probably doing slightly dangerous things in chemistry lab, or sending oddly specific memes to friends.

[#SabbathMorning](#), [#BreakoutSession2](#) [#LilacRoom](#)

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT - ICANVASS CLUB

The Andrews University iCanvass Club began in January 2020 as a small group of four “ordinary” college students looking for simple ways to minister their pandemic-changed community’s needs. Utilizing Christian literature as an entering wedge as they went door-to-door, they’ve since then distributed thousands of pieces of hope-filled literature, found over 20 Bible study/health ministry contacts, and raised \$5,000 in scholarship funds, throughout the Lake Union. The club continues to train young people of all backgrounds in simple outreach methods (through canvassing, needs-based surveying, GLOW distribution, and prayer walks), inspiring them to be compassionate, versatile, and creative local missionaries. (oliviaj@andrews.edu)

MINISTRY PRESENTERS



RODNEY PIDU JR.

My name is Rodney Pidú Jr, also known as RJ. I'm 25 years old and was raised in northern Illinois in an Adventist home. I have served 5 years as a local Pathfinder club director at the Hinsdale Fil-Am SDA Church, currently serve as a Pathfinder Coordinator for the Illinois Conference, and also help out the Adventurer and Pathfinder Club of the Elmhurst SDA

Church. Professionally, I'm striving to become a physician assistant. I have a tremendous passion to serve God in youth and health ministries, and help young people get to know Christ better for His soon return."

[#Friday](#), [#BreakoutSession1,2](#), [#SuperWaspRoom](#)

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT - COMMUNITY LIFESTYLE CENTER

The aim of the Community Lifestyle Center is to relate, connect, and engage the surrounding community for Christ on the basis of providing practical classes, seminars, demonstrations, and engaging social events regarding healthy eating and living. Many secular communities are seeking ways to adopt healthier lifestyles, especially in the context of the ongoing pandemic, and we believe the Biblical health message can bridge such physical needs to the spiritual healing of the gospel.

[\(rjpidu@gmail.com\)](mailto:rjpidu@gmail.com)

MINISTRY PRESENTERS



LILLY WIDDICOMBE

is passionate about finding opportunities for evangelism and service within her own hometown. She is an active member of the Village Seventh-Day Adventist church's youth group and enjoys coordinating outreach activities in the community. Lilly is a Junior Biology Pre-med major at Andrews University with plans to enter into medical missionary work in the future.

#SabbathMorning, #BreakoutSession2, #Empress

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT - VILLAGE YOUNG ADULTS

Village Young Adults is a small group ministry targeted toward collegiate aged young people with an emphasis on engaging Bible studies, active service, and uplifting fellowship. If you want to find out how to start a dynamic, youth-led small group ministry in your local church, then this is the seminar for you! Starting out with just a handful of members, the Village Young Adult Group has grown to include about thirty regular attendees with attendance for Sabbath functions nearing fifty. Come out to discover keys to successful small group ministry and see how God will bless! (lillyanna@andrews.edu)

NOTES

MINISTRY PRESENTERS



ANDRES FLORES

Andres Flores is the pastor of Epic Church in the Chicagoland area with two campuses in Wicker Park and the Yorktown Mall in the city of Lombard. He serves as the church planting coordinator with the Illinois Conference. His passion is to reach and disciple young adults in urban and suburban areas through church planting and evangelism. He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership

at Regent University. You can follow him @thatepicpastor on Instagram

[#SabbathMorning](#), [#BreakoutSessionI](#), [#WisteriaRoom](#)

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT - EPIC CHURCH

Every Person In Christ. This is what EPIC stands for. We exist so that every person finds life in Christ in the context of relational environments.

pastorandres@ilcsda.org

NOTES

MINISTRY PRESENTERS



JOHN LEIS III

John Leis is currently the pastor of the Bloomington SDA Church in Bloomington, Indiana. They are a COR (Church Of Refuge) Congregation with a passion for young adults and PCM (Public Campus Ministry). John is also the PCM Coordinator for Indiana and has a passion for discipling young adults and raising up a generation of spiritual leaders.

#Friday, #BreakoutSession2, #WisteriaRoom

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT - EVANGELISM IN SECULAR CAMPUS

In the last 30 years, college students have become much less religious. The fraction who say they have no religious affiliation has more than tripled, from about 10% to 34%. And the fraction who say they have attended a religious service in the last year fell from more than 85% to 66%." Adventist Christian Fellowship exists to make meaningful connections with students and spread the gospel message on campus through relational evangelism. When you reach the Campus, you reach the World. (jleisiii@gmail.com)

NOTES

MINISTRY PRESENTERS



PEDRO LUIS

Pedro Luis is a religion student at Andrews University and is currently a pastoral intern in La Crosse WI.

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT - LACROSSE PUBLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY

Where he is also helping with the youth and young adult ministry in the Coulee region.

Last fall he registered as a student at the University of LaCrosse to initiate a branch of Public Campus Ministries.

[#SabbathMorning](#), [#BreakoutSessionI](#), [#LilacRoom](#)

NOTES

ANNOUNCEMENT

PLAY IT SAFE

We organize events like this because we really care about you. Please help us to protect you and others. We trust in you.



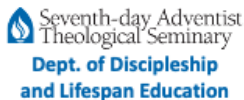
BOOTHS & EXHIBITORS

Not only will we hear from the ministry presenters, but we will also have the opportunity to learn of ministries that will be setting up a booth at the congress. Here are a few.

Check out the rest on our website www.lucyouth.org.



Center for
Youth
Evangelism



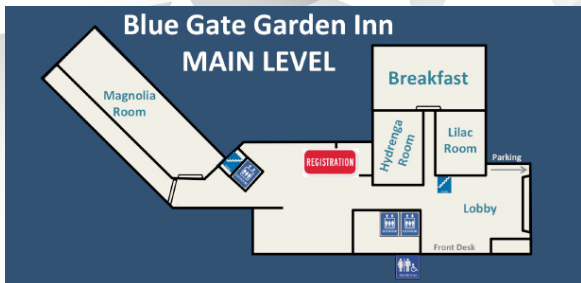
DELEGATION BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Saturday evening you will be meeting with your **Conference Youth Director and Ministerial Director**. This will be a great chance to share what the Lord has been whispering to you throughout this Congress.

The Conference Youth Director and the Ministerial Director will offer their insight into how you can use your talents at your local church. They will also help you address how to approach your church pastor and church board, because they want you to succeed in your ministry!

Delegation breakout sessions will take place **Saturday from 9:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.**

CONFERENCE	ROOM
Illinois	Hydrenga
Indiana	Magnolia Room
Lake Region	Lilac Room
Michigan	Empress Room
Wisconsin	Wisteria Room



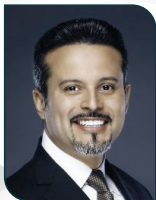
LAKE UNION CONFERENCE OFFICERS

The **LAKE UNION CONFERENCE** is the only Union in the world that offers senior youth/young adults, \$100,000 through the local church match method, for youth evangelism projects.



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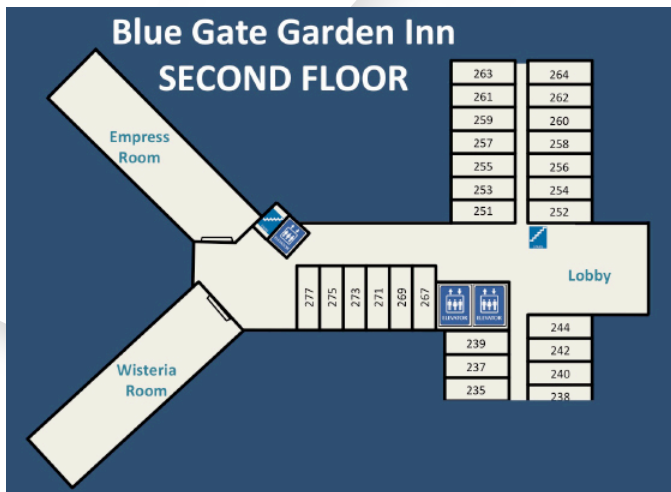
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HOW TO APPLY FOR EVANGELISM FUNDS

This weekend has been all about **inspiring and motivating you** so that **you** use your God-given talents to make a difference at your local church and community.

Now is the time to present your very own **evangelism project**. The Lake Union Conference will support you with a **\$50,000 Evangelism Fund**. This funding will be in the form of a **dollar for dollar match** between the Lake Union Conference and the local church as funds are available. That means **we can invest up to \$100,000 in evangelism!**

HOW-TO-APPLY

1. Fill in the **application form**. The application form is available at www.lucyouth.org in the **2022 Congress section – How to apply for Evangelism Funds**.
2. Get your **church board “on board”!**
3. Send the **application form and the church board minutes** where your project has been approved to Ron Whitehead by email: ron.whitehead@lakeunion.org and congress@lucyouth.org or snail mail: **Center for Youth Evangelism, 4145 East Campus Circle Drive, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-1570**.

The funds will be distributed on a first-apply-first-receive basis until all **\$50,000** are gone. Application forms will be **received until July 1, 2022 or until the funds are gone**. For questions, email congress@lucyouth.org, contact Ron Whitehead (269) 208-1344, or Nestor Osman (269) 769-



“The **gospel** is to be presented, not as a lifeless theory, but as a **living force to change the life**. God desires that the receivers of His grace shall be witnesses to its power.”

- *Evangelism*, p. 16

“Get the word out. Teach all these things. And **don't let anyone put you down because you're young**. Teach believers with your life: by word, by demeanor, by love, by faith, by integrity. Stay at your post reading Scripture, giving counsel, teaching. And that special gift of ministry you were given when the leaders of the church laid hands on you and prayed—keep that dusted off and in use.”

- 1 Timothy 4:12-14 (MSG)

“New methods must be introduced. God’s people must awake to the necessities of the time in which they are living. God has men whom He will call into His service, –men who will not carry forward the work in the lifeless way in which it has been carried forward in the past.”

- Evangelism, p. 70

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & RESOURC-

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please note that all **movies and phone calls** charged to your room are a **personal expense**.

If you have a **medical need** please contact Vern Byrd (269) 208-7183.

For any **other information**, please feel free to visit our website at www.lucyouth.org.

RESOURCES

Resources will be found on our **website** www.lucyouth.org under **2022 Congress - Resources**. This includes evangelism resources, materials and the ministry presenters' and speakers' presentations.

ANY QUESTIONS?

If you have any other questions or **if we can support you** in any way, please contact us at congress@lucyouth.org or call us at (269) 471-8380. We will be happy to help you thrive in your ministry!



This is a secret!

Would you like to stay another night for free?

The 2022 Lake Union Young Adult Advisory begins Sunday, February 20, at 3pm.

This is a unique event where you talk and leaders listen.

Get in contact RIGHT NOW with your Conference Youth Director to confirm if there is still space available.

Only by invitation!