



# CARE GUIDE

*"in Him we live and move"*



New Apostolic Church Southern Africa



# Young People in Christ

## ***What is the concept all about?***

In February 2018, the 'Young People in Christ' movement was launched. Born out of the idea that we as the New Apostolic Church Southern Africa, want to create an inclusive experience that brings together young people from all walks of life, this movement allows young people to celebrate their faith and bring praise to the Lord in a space that is tailored to meet their needs.

The movement is aligned to the vision and mission of the new apostolic church.

### **Vision**

*A church in which people feel at home  
and inspired by the Holy Spirit and their love for God,  
align their lives to the Gospel of Jesus Christ  
thus prepare themselves for his return and eternal life.*

### **Mission**

*Reaching out to all people to teach  
them the gospel of Jesus Christ  
and to baptize them with water and the Holy Spirit.  
Providing soul care and cultivating a warm fellowship  
in which everyone shall experience the love of God  
and the joy of serving Him and others.*

This young people's guide aims to shed light on the concept and provide guidance on its roll out within your congregations and areas.

# Young People in Chirst

## WHY

The purpose of Young People in Christ is to ensure that all young people feel equal as participants in the celebration of their faith and in so doing to create a sense of belonging and acceptance of all those who are eligible to join the movement. All young people of all backgrounds, no matter the circumstance, are eligible and welcome to attend and participate.

We want young people to:

Experience their faith as fair,  
Relate to their faith,  
Embrace the teaching, and  
Live and profess their faith to the world.

## WHAT

**Acts 17:28** *“For in him we live and move and have our being, as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring”* is the word on which the movement is built, and the basis of the tagline:

***We are the young people in Christ, in Him we live and move...***

**LIVING** and **MOVING** in Christ is how we relate our teachings to our relationship with God, our prayer life and inevitably ensure our soul's salvation. It involves us striving towards fulfillment and a deeper sense of purpose.

*Young People in the collective term, post confirmation until the age of 35, refers to:*

- Youth as we currently know it, also including young parents both male and female
- Young married couples
- Young divorcees and/or widows/widowers

# HOW

The movement is implemented through the ten building blocks and the key role players responsible for each of these.



**BUILDING BLOCK 1**  
**Ministers**



**BUILDING BLOCK 2**  
**All Divine Services**



**BUILDING BLOCK 3**  
**Soul Care**



**BUILDING BLOCK 4**  
**Meetings for young people**



**BUILDING BLOCK 5**  
**Bible Study / Catechism**



**BUILDING BLOCK 6**  
**Social Gathering**



**BUILDING BLOCK 7**  
**Trips**



**BUILDING BLOCK 8**  
**Outreach**



**BUILDING BLOCK 9**  
**Review and Plan**



**BUILDING BLOCK 10**  
**Parental Support**



## MINISTERS

Ministers are the spiritual backbone that provide guidance to young people. Bearers of blessing are able to enrich the lives of young people and are ultimately responsible for soul care.

The minister involvement includes attendance to young people activities, offering transportation to events, acting as a support to the young people leader and providing spiritual insight at activities when requested. The most crucial part of the role, however, involves the engagement with young people showing a sincere interest in their lives.

How to apply this principle as young people leader	How to apply this principle as a young person	How to apply this principle as a minister
1. Involve ministers in appropriate activities to share spiritual guidance.	1. Ask your minister for assistance and spiritual guidance where required.	1. Show a sincere interest in the lives of young people.
2. Encourage ministers to make a personal connection with young people and to build relationships.	2. In instances where transportation to activities is required, ask for assistance.	2. Offer your transportation services {if available} to young people where required for activities/events.

## ALL DIVINE SERVICES

Divine services are the core activity in which young people engage with their faith. Services provide spiritual enrichment and upliftment to young people by strengthening their faith. Young People need the holy trinity, the divine word and the sacraments to attain eternal life.

It provides a platform for young people to praise, worship and thank the Lord. Divine services also create an opportunity for fellowship with God's children and to build an everlasting relationship with our Heavenly Father.

### How to apply this principle as a young people leader

1. Emphasize the importance of divine services in the lives of young people during activities – make the link between spiritual strengthening/enrichment and divine service.
2. Implement young people driven and/or focused fellowships after divine services to gain more young people buy in.

### How to apply this principle as a young person

1. Attend divine services regularly.
2. Participate in fellowship with fellow young people or congregation members after services.

### How to apply this principle as a minister

1. Prepare sufficiently for divine services – especially services focused on young people.
2. Drive fellowship after services.

## SOUL CARE

Soul care refers to the personal encounter between a minister and young person. This allows for spiritual development, guidance and further strengthening of their faith.

### **How to apply this principle as young people leader**

1. Encourage ministers to schedule time to meet with young people.
2. Encourage young people to confide in ministers about questions regarding their faith and any other issues that they would like to discuss.

### **How to apply this principle as a young person**

1. Initiate the soul care visit with your minister – prepare any questions of faith that you'd like to discuss.

### **How to apply this principle as a minister**

1. Prepare prior to meeting with young people; offer neutral guidance on relevant issues that they wish to discuss.



## MEETINGS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Meetings are opportunities for information sharing on spiritual and natural discussion points. Meetings create a platform where young people can communicate with each other and their leaders particularly about topics that affect them as a group.

### How to apply this principle as a young people leader

1. Create opportunities for young people to communicate –allow these meetings to be an opportunity to see into their souls.
2. Make this platform to speak candidly about various topics.

### How to apply this principle as a young person

1. Be open to participation and sharing of yourself.
2. Attend these meetings and find your voice.

### How to apply this principle as a minister

1. Adopt a non-judgmental attitude.
2. Be in attendance to contribute to conversations positively and with religious insights.

BIBLE STUDY | CATECHISM

Through bible study and catechism classes, Young People are encouraged to learn about their faith and share their knowledge of the bible and/or catechism. The ministers play an important role in these discussions as their understanding of the bible ensures that there is clarity. The bible or faith related topics chosen for discussion should be relatable to young people and situations pertaining to their lives.

How to apply this principle as young people leader	How to apply this principle as a young person	How to apply this principle as a minister
1. Promote the benefit of attendance to bible study classes.	1. Come to bible study classes with an open mind.  2. Make suggestions about passages that you would like to discuss and hear more about.	1. Relate the topics chosen to modern day concerns relevant to young people.  2. Make the bible study classes experience driven and not just about the bible.

## SOCIAL GATHERING

Young people need to foster fellowship through interactions in an informal setting. This helps young people to build relationships and to socialize with each other. Young people with similar interests are encouraged to gather together based on their commonality.

**How to apply this principle as a young people leader**

1. Establish the kinds of activities that interest various groups and offer these to ensure relevance to the different age groups and level of maturity.
2. Building relationships and socializing takes time; ensure that regular activity is available to cultivate this.

**How to apply this principle as a young person**

1. Be vocal about what interests you and the kinds of activities you'd like to participate in.
2. Be open to meeting other young people and also becoming involved in activities that may be new to you.

**How to apply this principle as a minister**

1. Allow young people opportunities to bond with other young people in more relaxed settings.
2. Find young people who you feel may connect well with other young people and make introductions.

## TRIPS

Trips include day, weekend and mission activities. Trips are focused on young people enjoying fellowship with each other, to see and experience new and different things and to profess their faith outside of their normal surroundings. Planning and organising plays an important role to ensure these activities are executed successfully.

### How to apply this principle as young people leader

1. Plan events holistically considering all factors such as finance, transportation, food (dietary requirements), accommodation and a spiritual purpose for the trip.
2. Focus on fundraising events throughout the year so that a kitty is available when bigger events are planned.

### How to apply this principle as a young person

1. Show interest in trips, particularly missionary trips.
2. Prepare adequately (in the spiritual sense) for these trips.

### How to apply this principle as a minister

1. Check in with young people leader to ensure that planning is up to standard and that weekends are suitable for young people.
2. Manage the financial aspects, ensure that fundraising is completed and that money is accounted for.

## OUTREACH

This refers to the initiatives that young people participate in as part of their social responsibility within their community. Participation in outreach programmes help us to display the values of our faith through supporting and developing our communities. Young people and their leaders can find out and arrange projects with local community leaders based on the community's needs.

### How to apply this principle as a young people leader

1. Find suitable initiatives for young people to become involved in.
2. Identify area of community outreach that are close to the heart of young people and ensure that these are included.
3. Plan the outreach initiatives, when, where and how these will be rolled out.

### How to apply this principle as a young person

1. Bring suggestions of initiatives that you'd like to contribute to in your area.
2. Commit to these initiatives and ensure that regular efforts are made towards supporting these.

### How to apply this principle as a minister

1. Support the young people's community projects.
2. Act as the spiritual representative of the church at community initiatives.

## REVIEW AND PLAN

The review and plan aims to identify ways of improving the young people's experience. This takes the form of a congregation-wide discussion and is based on what worked and what did not work in the past. The intention is to identify what can be done differently in the future and to allow young people to be involved in the planning for future activities so that they can have new and better experiences.

### How to apply this principle as young people leader

1. Prepare for the session by working through the review and plan documents, ensuring that you are confident when you have the conversation with the young people and ministers.

2. Ensure that the review and plan session is diarized by all ministers and encourage the attendance of all youth.

### How to apply this principle as a young person

1. Honestly reflect on the activities for the year and bring forth suggestions and constructive comments.

2. Be present.

### How to apply this principle as a minister

1. Attend the review and plan session.

2. Prepare your thoughts, concerns and touch points in advance.

PARENTAL SUPPORT

Parents are responsible for motivating and supporting young people to actively participate in activities. The involvement of parents enables young people leaders and ministers to surround young people with more support. The role parent's play is to encourage and empower young people to be self-responsible Christians.

How to apply this principle as a young people leader	How to apply this principle as a young person	How to apply this principle as a minister
<p>1. Make parents aware of your activities – encourage them to remain involved and to ensure that young people remain involved.</p> <p>2. Get parents involved beyond awareness – often catering, financial assistance or transportation is necessary to events. Enlist the assistance of parents in such instances.</p>	<p>1. Inform parents of activities (where necessary).</p> <p>2. Ask for support where needed.</p>	<p>1. Solicit the support from parents.</p> <p>2. Personally ask for their involvement in specific activities.</p>

# Young People in Chirst

## Who are the custodians of the young people concept?

As is evident from the three-way responsibility for implementation of each of the building blocks, the young people leader, ministers and young people all play a role in fostering the movement.

## YOUNG PEOPLE LEADERS

The young people leaders are the go between for the ministers and the young people. They keep the lines of communication between ministers, young people and parents open through the following activities:

**Facilitating lifelong  
friendship**

**Planning Activities**

**Leading by example**

**Encouraging oneness  
& be empathetic**

**Being understanding**

**Motivating and  
Inspiring**

**Being a voice for  
young people**

**Being visible**



# YOUNG PEOPLE

Without young people, the purpose of Young People in Christ would not be fulfilled. Young people's involvement in the movement is paramount to its success. An open mind and heart is necessary to make the young people's movement successful. The following mindset is expected of Young People:

**Willingness to experience  
something new & participate**

**Acceptance & welcoming  
attitude towards fellow  
young people**

**Sensitivity towards and  
no judgement of other  
young people**

# MINISTERS

The ministers are the spiritual backbone to young people, they provide guidance to young people pertaining to their needs.

The rector is the champion of the Young People in Christ – he is responsible for promoting young people activities. The rector is ultimately responsible to ensure his Young People remain active and informed.

Communication amongst ministers flows in the following way:

**Communication starts with the District Apostle who filters the necessary information to the respective Apostles or directly to the Young People Committee.**

**The District Apostle will also cascade information to the Apostles who in turn share information with the Bishops in the respective areas.**

**The Young People Committee or the Bishops share information with the Bishop Area Young People leaders & Rectors.**

**The Young People Leaders share relevant information with the Young People**



