

LEAD + NOW



The Lead Now Leadership Process provides an opportunity for Senior High Youth (Grades 9-12) to purposefully engage in becoming spiritual, transformational leaders by leading within the life of their local church and community. Selected youth will work side-by-side with ministry leaders to implement projects and/or programs that benefit the greater good both within and beyond the church. The selection of leadership activities for young people will be created based on the individual's spiritual gifts and talents and in partnership with the youth, their parents, the Lead Pastor, and their assigned ministry partner. Leadership activities may extend beyond the local church into the community as the ministry passion of the young person emerges.

Between today and April 22, 2022, begin the process of recruiting and preparing one or two Lead Now students and their ministry mentor. It is suggested that if two students participate, they work together on one project. Begin by using a spiritual gifts inventory - <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/spiritual-gifts-inventory/en> – with the students and ministry mentor so that they can begin the conversation about what a leadership project could be!

Applications for grants will be available by January 1, 2022. Contact Kim Shockley for more information about grants – kshockley@susumc.org. Our funding sources do not allow offering grants for salary or stipend, so consider ways in which you can invest in the specific project costs. Involve the students in this conversation – a big part of leadership is fund raising. It may be important to identify specific investors for this project – who wouldn't want to help our young people explore and experience leadership?

The Kick-Off Retreat for students will be April 22-24, 2022, at Wesley Forest. Young people will begin to formulate their ministry plan and build relationships with other students throughout the Susquehanna Conference who will be participants together in coaching groups. This retreat will be low cost for students - \$25.

More information for Lead Now will be available at <http://igniteyoungpeople.org/>.

