

1-1-2002

## Editors' Notes

Markus H. McDowell

Eleanor A. Daniel

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.pepperdine.edu/leaven>



Part of the [Biblical Studies Commons](#), [Christianity Commons](#), and the [Religious Thought, Theology and Philosophy of Religion Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

McDowell, Markus H. and Daniel, Eleanor A. (2002) "Editors' Notes," *Leaven*: Vol. 10: Iss. 1, Article 2.  
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.pepperdine.edu/leaven/vol10/iss1/2>

This Editor's Notes is brought to you for free and open access by the Religion at Pepperdine Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Leaven by an authorized editor of Pepperdine Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [bailey.berry@pepperdine.edu](mailto:bailey.berry@pepperdine.edu).



## Editors' Notes

ELEANOR A. DANIEL AND MARKUS H. McDOWELL

Church programs designed specifically for teenagers are a relatively new part of church ministries, since "teen culture" itself is a new phenomenon. While many church traditions jumped on the bandwagon early, most churches of the restoration movement were slow in developing youth ministry programs and hiring ministers to work exclusively with teens. Today, however, we find that even many of the smaller churches among our traditions have at least a volunteer youth ministry.

Yet because this is still a somewhat young endeavor in our churches, we felt that an issue of *Leaven* on youth ministry would be helpful both to our fledgling and more experienced youth programs. We have drawn on those among us who have spent many years in training and in the ministry itself to write about what they thought were important issues.

Our first three articles deal with larger issues facing youth ministry today. **Eleanor A. Daniel** makes use of her extensive training and experience in education to provide some intriguing survey data and an argument for a developmental approach in her article, "A Developmental Approach to Youth Ministry." **Walter Surdacki** draws on a project he researched in a Doctor of Ministry program at Fuller Theological Seminary in "Remembering the Family in Youth Ministry." In his article, "The Dangers of Spirituality without Theology," **Scott Talley** draws on his 20-plus years of experience in youth ministry and emphasizes the importance of grounding our teens in scripture and theology in light of the postmodern world.

To help our many volunteer or part-time youth leaders, we have included some practical articles as well. **Tim DeFor** stresses the virtues of teaching teens how to serve by working with adults who serve in "Tapping into the Power of Mentoring and Service Learning." **Markus H. McDowell** draws on his 13 years of experience as a youth minister and his biblical training in "Teaching Scripture Effectively to Teens." **James White** draws from his own experience and focuses on the importance of the minister's relationships with teens as a way to teach them how to have healthy relationships in "Helping Teens Develop Authentic Relationships."

A reading resource guide presents useful books, training sessions, websites, and music resources for youth ministers. A number of experienced youth ministers suggested the resources in this helpful guide. Reviews of books related to youth ministry follow.

Thanks to Eleanor A. Daniel, who worked with me as co-editor of this issue in bringing together the writings of some of our prominent youth works in the Christian Church and Churches of Christ.

May God be with us all as we serve him by serving the teenagers of our congregations.

MARKUS H. McDOWELL

