

Things youth like and appreciate about their home churches

- Youth group IIIII
- Youth program is entertaining & interactive
- Open discussions during youth group II
- Contemporary worship II
- Hymns III
- Energy
- Montreat
- Lock-ins II
- Mission trips/mission opportunities II
- Welcoming, open environment III
- Everyone knows everyone/sense of family III
- Everyone sticks together II
- Laid-back
- Openness II
- Lack of judgment II
- Elders
- Senior pastor
- Associate pastor III
- Church involves the youth in church services II
- Mix of traditional and contemporary music
- Strong music program
- Youth are devoted
- Hymn Sing Sundays

Differences their churches could make that would enhance their experience

- Greater involvement of youth
- Youth graduating out and fewer people to “take their places” – keep building up the program so it doesn’t weaken or die after a very involved group graduates out
- Do energizers to wake up congregation
- More intergenerational activities – programs, meals, mission, etc.
- Have something for high-schoolers during the week
- Alternative worship
- Bring more youth into the church III

- Huge generation gap
- Less formality & worship at different times (like Mondays)
- Worship outdoors
- Make worship more casual (no thys/thous)
- Make worship more missional
- Have the sermon involve a dialogue and not just listen to a talk
- If there is a children's sermon that distills the sermon in language that young children will understand, why can't the same be offered for teens? Even once a month would be appreciated
- Technology – less is more
- More contemporary
- Mentors for youth
- Variety
- Modernize II
- Greater acceptance of all people/inclusion III
- Youth elders/youth involvement – have at least 1 youth serving on each committee. Listen to the youth. Let the youth know that they have a voice! III
- More inviting atmosphere
- More contemporary music III
- Understanding the Scripture now
- Outings
- Less politics
- More outreach in neighborhoods
- An elder visit youth groups once a month for dialogue about what youth need, want, and are looking for – also ways they want to be involved in the church beyond youth group
- Less grudges

Ideal faith community

- It would be like Massanetta, where everyone treats one another well, has a sense of being brothers and sisters in Christ and feels totally comfortable being themselves II
- Sense of community/family/familiarity III
- Supportive III
- Accepting
- Strong, active programs
- Game nights
- Church suppers

- More youth
- Contemporary
- More community support
- Comfortable
- Youthworks
- Less judgment – stick together
- Inclusive (multi-racial, people of different religions, ages, backgrounds) IIII
- No prejudice II
- Variety of worship styles and ways to hear message. We all learn differently (visual, experiential, etc.) so let's be creative in how we worship so that it speaks to all.
- Taize service
- Hands-on worship
- Diversity
- Willingness to participate/committed members II
- Deepening of faith II
- Bible interest II
- Communication II
- Mission
- Focus on what's important
- Openness with everyone (as a whole congregation)
- Talk to anyone anytime – everyone is there for one another
- More events for the whole congregation
- Multigenerational
- Lots of interacting together