

Some ideas or proposals for how your congregation can continue to (or better) connect with College Students /Young Adults:

Give Scholarship Money

Offer scholarship help to your church's college students to enable them to participate in special events such as campus ministry retreats, mission trips, or international experiences.

Coordinate a Winter Break Get-Together

Invite all college-agers to a fellowship event over the Winter Break – a simple meal at someone's home, a mission project, or a social event (such as a team for a 5K walk, dinner & a movie or Happy Hour at a local bar), is easy to coordinate and a good chance for college students to connect with one another. Utilize Facebook to plan, promote, and get RSVPs!

Stay in Touch

Have the parents and/or grandparents of college students send you the students' birth date, email address and street address. Assign a volunteer to send them a birthday card, care package, or a supportive monthly email. Make sure to have this updated every Spring because students often have a different residence each year in college.

Host Students During Breaks

Have members offer to host students (including international students) who can't afford to travel to their homes during breaks or holidays.

Start at High School Graduation

Have your Youth Pastor, Youth Director, or a volunteer find out which College/University your graduating seniors will be attending. You can use the PC (USA)'s Campus Ministry Locator at www.ukirk.org. Or, if the school does not have a Presbyterian ministry, just get a list of the college ministries on that campus from the school's website. You may also consider looking up any Presbyterian Churches in that town. Then, send the ministry's contact information to the HS senior, as well as the HS senior's contact information to the Campus Ministry or Church contact. If they are staying home, joining the military, or working, be sure to make a special effort to keep them connected to the church – perhaps by being an "at home" connection for those college students who are also in town.

When the High School Students graduate:

- Give seniors a daily devotional*
- Assign them a church deacon or elder to pray for them*
- Invite them to assist with a worship service over their Winter Break*

Invite PCM to Worship

Presbyterian Campus Ministry students love to visit local congregations. Several PCM Alumni who have stayed in Tucson after graduation have joined one of our congregations because of their connection through PCM. It's always fun to be welcomed by your congregation!

Include College Students on your Prayer Lists

Including college students by name on your church's prayer list or prayer chain is a great way to stay connected. Cards can also be sent to the students the following week to let them know that they were lifted up in prayer. Remember to include your graduate, medical school, doctorate, associate's degree, and second-career students, too!

Provide Meals for PCM

Presbyterian Campus Ministry at the University of Arizona and Pima Community College is always in need of Tuesday Night Dinners and Monday Lunches for the Pima Fellowship. Your congregation's participation is a great way to support other congregations' college students!

Contact the Parents

Empty-Nest Syndrome is very real for many parents. Consider putting together a support group or having the parents of college students gather periodically for prayer and discussion.

Please contact Rev. Ellen Dawson with any comments or questions! pcmarizona@gmail.com, 520-954-5931