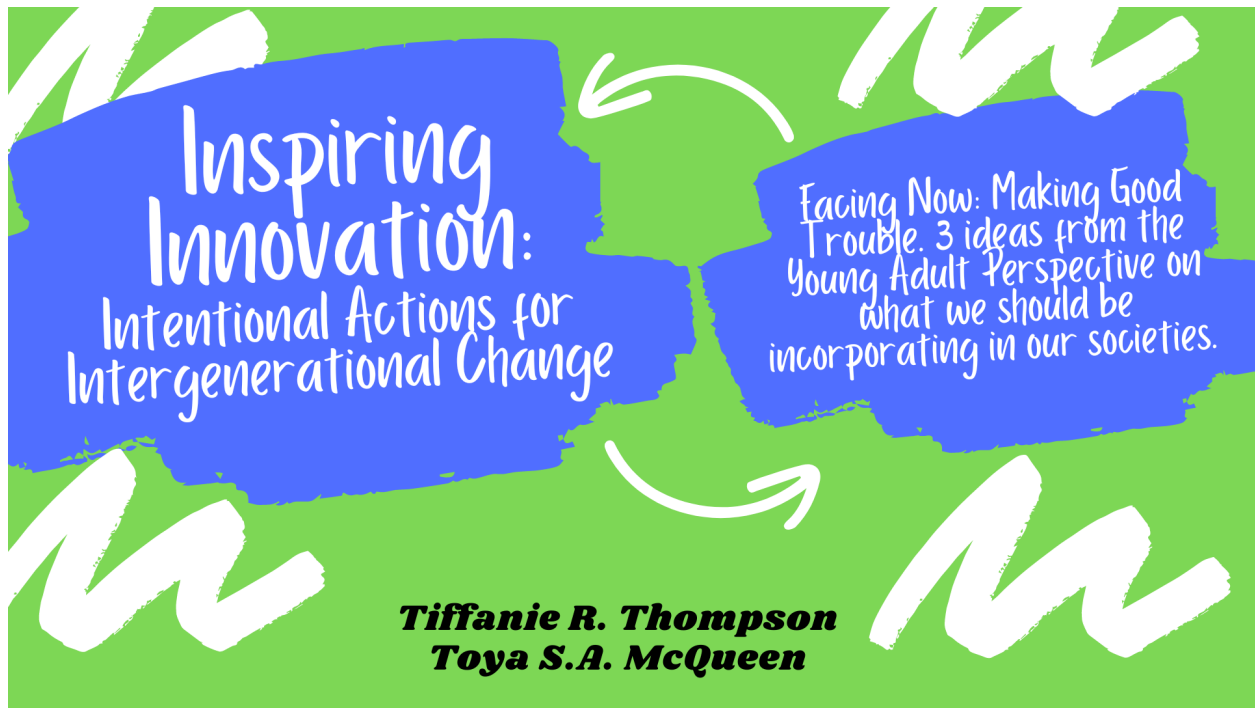


Introduction:

The title of our presentation is “Inspiring Innovation: Intentional Actions for Intergenerational Change. As we are “Facing Now: Making Good Trouble - Providing 3 (three) from the Young Adult perspective on what we should be incorporating in our societies.”

On the handout - You will find the QR code on the left side of the handout to access a poem relevant to our presentation. On the right side, you will find the QR code where you can scan to access the presentation.

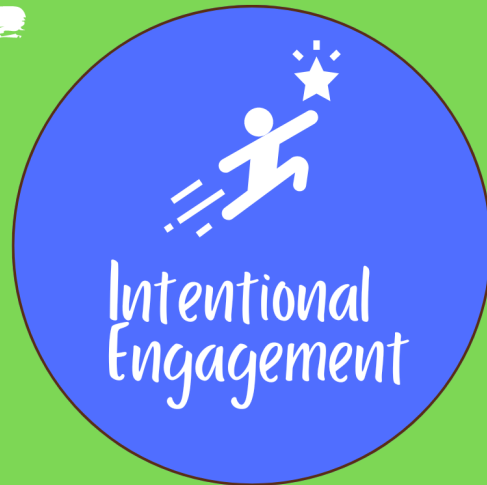
Presentation





Proverbs 21:5 ESV

- Understanding Needs and Interests.
- Targeted Outreach.
- Creating a Welcoming Environment.





Mark 2:21-22 ESV

- **Embracing Technology**
- **Innovative Strategy**
- **Relevance of Activities**





Titus 2:1-8 NRSV

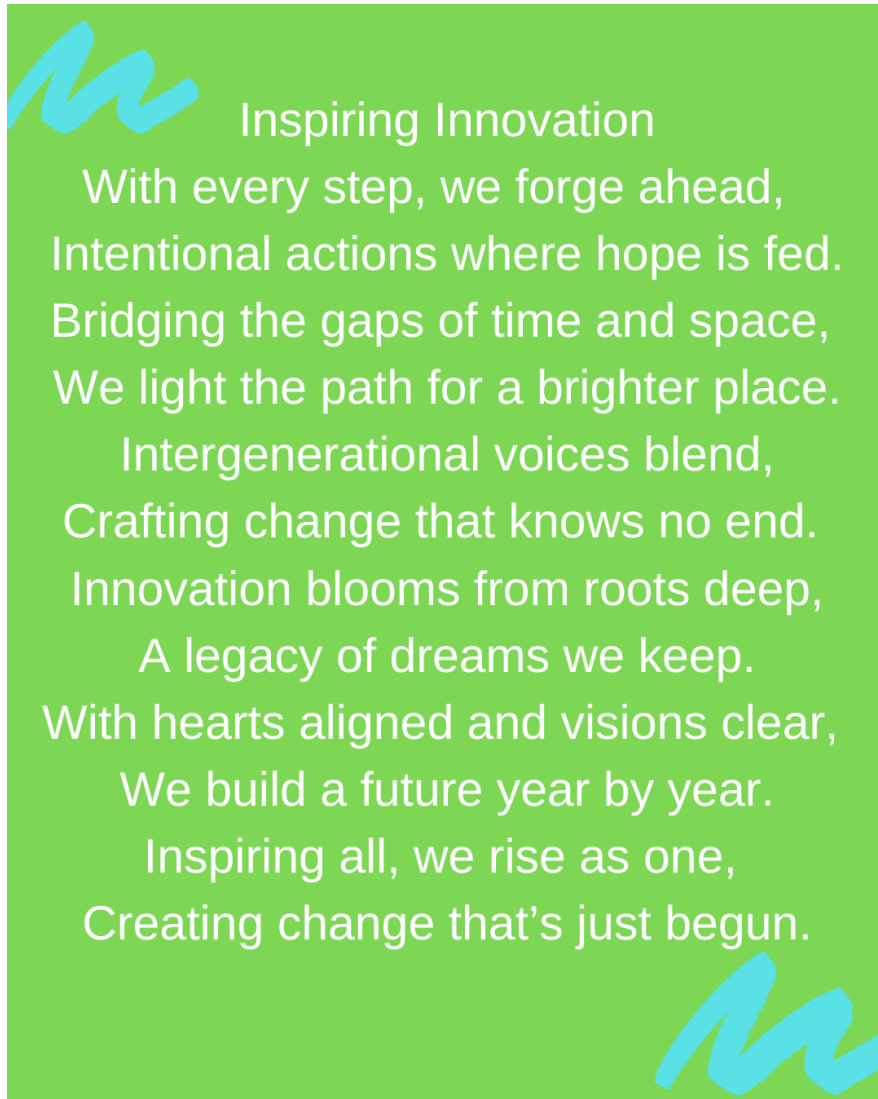
- Mentorship Programs
- Collaborative Projects
- Feedback Mechanisms



The
Ending
Notes



Poem:



After you have read the poem, could anyone give us a few reasons why you feel that young adults may not be engaged in the Missionary Council/Society.

Our first point - **Intentional Engagement (Proverbs 21:5 ESV)**

**“5 The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance,
but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty.”**

Being intentionally biblically means approaching life, decisions, and relationships with purpose and clear alignment with God's will as revealed in scripture.

A. Understanding Needs and Interests

- Reason: Young adults may feel that the society's activities do not align with their personal interests, leading to disengagement.

- Intentional Strategy: Conduct regular surveys or focus groups to identify the specific issues and activities that resonate with younger generations. This intentional effort can help the organization tailor its programming to better meet the needs of young adults.

If we are going to be intentional in our engagement, we must first understand the young adults needs and interests. Once we have accomplished that, we must then move forward in incorporating them in the planning on the front end instead of the back end.

If we are going to be a part of this changing world (Missionaries: Boldly Facing New Challenges As We Serve A Changing World), we must understand that the needs and interests in 1964, 1984, 2004, 2014 are not the same as in 2024.

B. Targeted Outreach

- Reason: If the society does not actively promote its activities or fails to communicate how its mission aligns with young adults' interests, they may remain unaware of opportunities to engage.

- Intentional Strategy: Develop targeted marketing campaigns that highlight the relevance of the society's work to contemporary social issues. Using messaging that speaks directly to young adults' values can draw them in.

C. Creating Welcoming Environments

- Reason: Traditional settings and practices may feel unwelcoming or irrelevant to younger members.

- Intentional Strategy: Intentionally design events that foster a welcoming atmosphere, such as using inclusive language, involving diverse speakers, and ensuring venues are accessible and comfortable for younger attendees.

Our second point - **Innovative Approaches (Mark 2:21-22 ESV)**

“21 No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. If he does, the patch tears away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made. 22 And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the wine will burst the skins—and the wine is destroyed, and so are the skins. But new wine is for fresh wineskins.”

Pagers - Phones in the car (with the bags) - Flip Phones - iPhone 5 and iPhone 16

We can tell by the trajectory of electronics that society has forced us to adapt.

More recently with COVID - we could no longer attend our church in person. We had to be innovative on how we delivered God's word and gathered ourselves. What did we do? We invested in our AV capabilities and made sure we that we invested in Zoom and Facebook Live.

We had to ADAPT and We had to be INNOVATIVE.

Innovation makes us realize that those of us who have been in positions for more than five (5) years need more than just us to keep things fresh. What if innovation looked like us including those ages that are not normally represented?

A. Embracing Technology:

- Reason: Young adults are often accustomed to digital communication and may not engage in organizations that rely heavily on in-person interactions.

- Innovative Strategy: Leverage technology by creating virtual events, utilizing social media for engagement, and developing an online community platform where members can connect, share ideas, and collaborate on projects.

B. Relevance of Activities:

- Reason: If the society's activities do not address contemporary issues that matter to young people, they may feel disconnected.

- Innovative Strategy: Innovate programming by incorporating topics like mental health, climate change, or social justice into mission work. Organize workshops, discussions, or service projects that align with these interests, making participation more appealing.

What if once we accomplished the intentionality of our programming to include more innovative ideas that are relevant to who we are and those we serve (maternal mortality rate).

C. Flexible Structures:

- Reason: Rigid organizational structures can deter young adults who prefer collaborative and dynamic environments.

- Innovative Strategy: Introduce flexible, project-based initiatives that allow young members to take the lead on specific topics or projects. This approach can empower them to contribute meaningfully while fostering their leadership skills.

Our third point - **Intergenerational Engagement (Titus 2:1-8 ESV)**

"2 But as for you, teach what accords with sound^[a] doctrine. 2 Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. 3 Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, 4 and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, 5 to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. 6 Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled. 7 Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, 8 and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us."

A. Mentorship Programs:

- Reason: Young adults may feel disconnected from the wisdom and experience of older members if there are no formal mentorship opportunities.
- Intergenerational Strategy: Establish structured mentorship programs that pair younger members with seasoned leaders. This relationship can provide guidance, support, and a sense of belonging, helping younger members feel valued and engaged.

B. Collaborative Projects:

- Reason: A lack of collaboration between different age groups can create a divide, making young adults feel alienated.
- Intergenerational Strategy: Create intergenerational committees or task forces that work on community service projects, allowing members of all ages to collaborate, share perspectives, and learn from one another. This fosters a sense of unity and purpose.

C. Feedback Mechanisms:

- Reason: Young adults may feel their voices are not heard, leading to disengagement.
- Intergenerational Strategy: Implement regular feedback mechanisms, such as suggestion boxes or open forums, where young adults can share their thoughts on programming and initiatives. Actively incorporating their feedback can demonstrate that their contributions are valued and can lead to changes that enhance engagement.

The Ending Notes (Conclusion)

By addressing the reasons for disengagement through **intentional engagement**, **innovative approaches**, and **intergenerational connection**, the Black Traditional Women's Missionary Society can create a more inclusive and vibrant community for young adults. This comprehensive approach not only helps to attract young members but also empowers them to become active participants in the society's mission and vision, ensuring the organization evolves to meet the needs of all its members.