

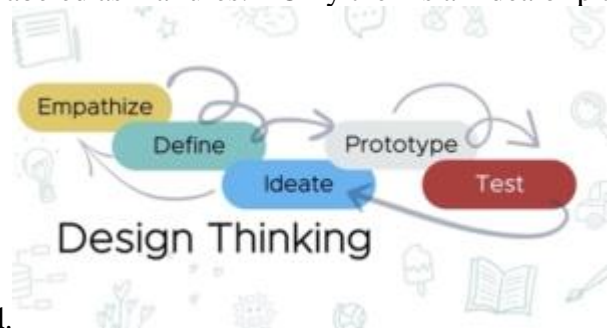
YLF Webinar with Megan DeWald - Building Innovative Ministry with Young People

Megan DeWald is the Director of the Institute for Youth Ministry at Princeton's Theological Seminary. On January 20th, Megan provided a zoom workshop to youth leaders of the Highlands Presbytery and beyond, titled "Building Innovative Ministry with Young People." You can see the recording [here](#), where you will learn, among many other things, how a McDonald's milkshake has to do with youth ministry development!

You can also find many other resources from the workshop here .

Megan drew on research and extensive experiences with youth ministry throughout the U.S. to challenge traditional models of programmatic planning for youth ministry.

She challenged participants to think about and name the "Sails" in their youth ministry - what has life and movement - and to consider the anchors - things that may be holding them back. She walked participants through design-centered thinking, which invites youth leaders to first listen, observe, seek to empathize with and understand what matters to youth and to discern the needs they are experiencing. The next step is to Ideate - to brainstorm ideas that directly address the needs that emerged from the process of listening. After brainstorming, it is time to prototype ideas, knowing they need to be tested and refined and should not be held too tightly. Learning and growth come from what might be labeled as "failures." Only then is an idea or plan for youth ministry ready to be fully launched



and tested.

Megan and the team at IYM would love to hear from you and support your youth ministry! To access more information about the many resources available at the Institute for Youth Ministry at Princeton Theological Seminary, including the Log College Project, visit: iym.ptsem.edu This Institute has been serving Christian Youth since 1995. The wealth of information they have will benefit every youth leader.