

Young Adults Ministry Profile: **Angela Landrum**

One of those remarkable people is thirty-one-year-old, Angela Landrum. Even though Angela's home Parish is St. Stephen in West Salem, she has been a loyal member of the Young Adult Ministry from the very beginning. From day one, Angela has felt overwhelmingly welcomed by the rest of the group. Stating that she feels everyone is like "brothers and sisters" to each other. "The relationships do not stop at the church walls", she explains. While being a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University, she currently is a successful insurance saleswoman. For fun, Angela enjoys kick boxing, cardio, camping, and traveling to beautiful places like our National Parks. Her favorite trip so far was to sunny San Diego.

In 2024, Angela found herself in a dark time in her life after suffering a very difficult break-up with the man that she thought she would spend the rest of her life with. It was a beautiful blessing that her friendship with Leah McKee provided for Angela the community that she so desperately needed within the Young Adult Ministry. It was here that Angela found a place of belonging that she looked forward to going each week. It became her "safe place" that had no judgement; only friendships that today are a part of her everyday life. It has meant so much to her to have been invited to bridal showers and weddings over the past two years. Angela returned the favor by hosting the 2025 Youth Adult Ministry Summer Party, where there was so much laughter, funny moments to share, and memories made that people still talk about today. The party was filled with both current members of the ministry as well as returning students that had graduated high school and went away for college.

When asked how being a part of the Youth Adult Ministry has impacted Angela's life and her faith, she explained that she was completely blind-sided by her break-up in early 2024. It shook her to her core. Although Angela believed that her faith was strong, the heartache that so many of us can relate to caused her to start to question her faith. The Youth Adult Ministry gave her a place to go where others understood her struggle. She found herself grounded in a community where she could show up and be surrounded by those who could be strong for her when she was not strong herself.

As it is Angela's goal to pay her blessing forward, she states that "If you are looking for community and need any help at all, come to the Young Adult Ministry. Here you will see how we navigate our faith through the ups and downs of life." She further explains, "that if you have questions or need examples of how to apply your faith while facing whatever you may be going through, then we are the group for you"!

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Angela humbly admits that she has a hard time reading scripture and applying what she has read to her life. The ministry helps her to apply her faith to her real-world experiences. Angela knows that God communicates to her through what she sees and feels through her experiences. The experiences that the Young Adult Ministry have given her so far have brought her closer to God.

Angela is one of many participants in the ministry that has had their life so positively impacted and the group prays for even more young adults to get involved. While primarily leaning on the word of mouth to spread the opportunity to join the Young Adult Ministry, it is our hope that this article stirs interest and enthusiasm. New members are welcome with open arms. All personalities are embraced; you do not need to feel pressured to read scripture or provide your own testimony. “It is a priority to make everyone feel comfortable”, Leah commits. Angela promises that “anyone new who comes to our Tuesday meetings will not leave feeling like an outsider”!

If you or a loved one is between 18 and 35 years old and are looking to grow in the Catholic Faith, the Young Adult Ministry is here for you. If you want to surround yourself with genuine friends that will have your back and be by your side through life’s journey, then the Young Adult Ministry is here for you. If there is a desire to know God better and you want to celebrate your love for God while growing in community with one another, then the Young Adult Ministry is here for you.

We would be so excited if you would like to know how to get involved! If you have any questions or interests, please email Leah McKee at lmckee@stmarywooster.org