

**3<sup>rd</sup> Youth Sobor 2010**  
**Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA**

The following recommendations may be utilized on a parish level or a personal level. A good exercise to utilize with your youth group is to split into small groups of 2-3 and create a 2 minute commercial convincing someone to stay in the church. This will help teenagers if and when an actual conversation arises with this subject matter.

**Reasons to give teens/college students who are contemplating leaving the church to stay or who have fallen away from the church to return:**

- Attending church helps keep you in a straight path
- The church provides you with a support system (family unit, community)
- It is a place of peace without judgment (worship)
- It is a place you can become spiritually energized
- It is a Family experience
- It gives you the ability to practice your faith
- If you are questioning your faith, it is the best place to learn about your faith

**College Students**

- Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) provides a place of prayer and community that may be missing for you on campus
- You need to tend to your spiritual health
- The Church and OCF is a place to meet others like yourself who have the same beliefs
- Attending Church will help to relieve your stress

**Reaching out to peers who may be contemplating leaving the church or may be looking for a church to attend**

- car pool (thus makes it easier for people who don't have rides)
- social networking (to advertise upcoming parish events and increase awareness)
- bring a friend to church day and invite friends to church activities
- being open to talk about your religion to others- especially your friends
- let people know about events
- keep in touch with the youth in your church, visit those not attending (talking, contacting each other by phone or e-mail)
- meet with church friends after church and get together outside of church (fellowship)
- no pressure on the people to attend, just be there for them
- comfort (be there for people)
- get people to pray for everyone
- don't give up on anyone
- Send bulletins youth who have fallen away and give bulletins to your friends
- Let them come in their own time, don't try to force them to come
  - Jr. UOL

- activities (sports, board games, movie night, dance, karaoke night, camp, barbeque, etc.)
- informational e-mail appeal
- make a video that could possibly go on youtube (a power point)
- newspaper ad
- paste posters about town