

## **SUMMARY**

The central focus of this study is the church involvement of young adult members.

Following an introductory chapter in which the research methodology and *modus operandi* are being explained, a discussion, in the light of recent literature, is devoted to young adults as a unique generation of our time, shaped within a particular social context; their specific characteristics and spiritual needs; and possible reasons for their very slight involvement with the church (chapter 2).

In chapter 3, the empirical survey, conducted by means of questionnaires and structured interviews within the Uniting Reformed Church's Circuit of Wellington, is described and the results interpreted.

In chapter 4, certain conclusions are drawn. The indication from the literature reviewed, that young adults are mainly uninvolved with the church, was empirically confirmed. Finally, recommendations are made and guidelines given, aimed at a more effective ministry to the young adult member of the church.

### **KEY CONCEPTS**

Young adults; church; church involvement; church member; Uniting Reformed Church in South Africa (URC); congregation; Generation X; development task; social context.