

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES FORT COLLINS FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

DEPARTMENT: Life Long Faith Formation
SUPERVISOR: Executive Pastor
FULL/PART TIME: Full Time

PURPOSE/MISSION OF THE POSITION:

- “Make disciples who make a difference” with a particular focus on 6th-12th grade students through organization, development and direction of the ministries and activities for this age group.
- The ability to teach Jesus’ approach, working with a “Belonging. Behaving. Believing.” paradigm.
- Engage youth in the mission of FCFUMC, which is a dynamic community of approximately 1,500 members who share a commitment to open hearts, open minds and open doors.
- To facilitate the ability of the church members to fulfill the vows the church has taken for its children at their baptism.
- To facilitate the ability of the church members to fulfill the great commandment by loving our kids and families in the name of Jesus.

SPECIFICS OF THIS ROLE:

- This director will be the day-to-day leader of the youth ministry, focusing on 6th-12th grade students, parents, adult leaders, and staff.
- This director will teach classes including Sunday school, as well as administer the Confirmation classes for 8th and 9th graders at FCFUMC. The director will also facilitate UMYF on Sunday evenings as well as Wednesday “check-in” meetings for high school students at a local restaurant.
- This director will spend a significant part of his or her time each week communicating to, recruiting and supporting adult lay leaders, parents and volunteers. The director will utilize the Youth Council as a planning resource and sounding board.
- This director will support the vision of “Life Long Faith Formation.”
- The director will act as liaison between the church and youth organizations that meet at FCFUMC, such as the Boy Scout troop that meets at the church.
- Part of this director’s focus will be mobilizing students to serve in other areas in the church, including liturgists, fundraising activities, and filling needs for events.
- This director will work with Youth Council to develop and implement a plan to attract and integrate youth from both the FCFUMC community and the greater Fort Collins community, including high school lunch visits.
- This director will work with Youth Council to provide at least three (3) mission opportunities every year for the youth of FCFUMC, such as an out-of-state/out-of-country mission for Grades 9-12, a Denver mission (DENUM) for Grades 7-8 and a Fort Collins mission for Grades 6-12.
- This director will coordinate the Human Sexuality workshop with the Larimer County Health Department for middle schoolers, typically held in January.
- This director will serve as a member of the Lifelong Faith Formation Team, which includes the Director of Children’s Ministries and the Adult Faith Formation Director, as well as

representatives from College and Young Adult Ministries, Youth Council and a supportive team of clergy, staff and volunteers at FCFUMC.

- This director will oversee the Youth Leadership Team consisting of members of the youth group and assist them with coordinating meetings and events.
- This director will be responsible for praying for youth and their families, as well as being available for offsite meetings with youth on a one-on-one basis and their parents. The director must be available by cell phone. Safe Sanctuary rules will always be observed.

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

- College degree preferred. Professional certification in Youth Ministry in the United Methodist church is preferred. An ordained minister, a licensed local pastor or a certified lay minister designation is preferred or work toward any of these designation is required.
- Proven experience in youth ministry and a proven leadership record
- Can articulate their call to youth ministry, loves young people and has a passion for evangelism and outreach, both personally and at the ministry level
- Effective written and oral communication skills with both youth and adults
- Adept at social media and communications
- Ability to create and work within a budget
- Ability to create energy and enthusiasm and understand the value of both fun and setting boundaries in discipling teens
- Willingness to work with and submit to United Methodist polity and this church's specific reconciling ministry.

10 Values of the Children & Youth Ministry

1) Equipping: As a staff we can't expect to have a deep discipleship influence on every single one of our kids alone, but need lay leaders to partner with us. We will rely on them for a large part of our ministry to students.

2) Excellence: Attention to detail and follow-through on commitments is important. Having something well planned, well-organized, and finished in advance communicates its value. Conversely, when we drop the ball or make the same mistakes repeatedly it lowers expectations of our ministry.

3) Modeling: The values we communicate to kids need to also be evident in our lives. Specifically, when we tell students to be in worship and a small group, we must be doing that ourselves.

4) Focus: Constantly asking the purpose of why we are doing what we are doing. (For example, we don't do Wednesday night programs just to do Wednesday night programs.) We want to constantly be defining the 'win' and focusing on that outcome.

5) Celebration: We celebrate publicly that which we value. We determine what we are trying to accomplish and then stop and celebrate it visibly to remind the church that it's important.

6) Energetic: Leaders need to be authentically enthusiastic about what we're doing. If an environment is created that the kids really WANT to be a part of, it creates a natural desire in them to be present and invite others. (NOTE: 'Serious' topics and fun don't need to be mutually exclusive.)

7) Big & Small Events: We need to have a balance between big and small events because there are pros and cons to both. Small groups are essential, but it's also important for the whole group to gather together regularly to give students a sense of belonging and unity.

8) Family-Focused: We don't just focus on the student, but on the whole family. Instead of isolating kids from their families we want to partner parents and provide them with tools to take part in discipling their kids.

9) Intergenerational: Students need to be involved in the larger life of the church in worship, fellowship, and service with all the generations at times. The many generations represented at FCFUMC are a vital asset that should be used.

10) Innovative: We want to create a culture of innovation where change is welcome and expected. Small changes can help set the stage for bigger changes down the road.