

<b>Role Title:</b>	<b>Director of Christian Faith Formation</b>	<b>Reports to:</b>	Senior Pastor/Elder
<b>Church</b>	Baker Memorial United Methodist Church, St. Charles, IL (western suburb of Chicago) <a href="https://bakermemorialchurch.org/">https://bakermemorialchurch.org/</a>		
<b>Credentials:</b>	College graduate and/or seminary (preferably United Methodist). Open to United Methodist ordained clergy or qualified Protestant lay person		
<b>Hours and Benefits:</b>	Full time with Sunday mornings and some evenings/Saturdays required. Vacation and a health cost reimbursement stipend included. Ordained clergy benefits are consistent with UMC/Book of Discipline.		
<b>Inquiries:</b>	Rev. David Aslesen, 708.441.5179, <a href="mailto:pastordavid@bakermemorialchurch.org">pastordavid@bakermemorialchurch.org</a>		

**Role Summary:**

Responsible for building teams to vision and implement all Christian formation programming for children and youth (birth through 12<sup>th</sup> grade), and their families. The desired outcome is for families to connect to the community of Christ's church while experiencing the joy of faith growing through worship, age-specific programming, multi-generational programming, and service opportunities. We are looking for engaging, formational, and invitational weekly/monthly/annual programming presented by well-prepared leaders and volunteers.

**Key Responsibilities:**

**Infant:** Engage paid nursery staff to ensure a safe and inviting environment for infants. Work with parents to help them get to know nursery staff and programming so they can feel confident in letting their child be cared for.

**Pre-School/Elementary Children:** Work with part-time staff member to vision, plan and implement development of 10:30 Sunday morning formation programs (called ReCharge). Currently these include age-specific formation using a commercial curriculum on most Sundays, and a monthly "Sunday Funday" with a camp or vacation bible school like atmosphere for outreach and engagement. Annual events that also fall under this ministry include Halloween trunk-or-treat, a pre-Christmas breakfast event, an Easter (typically Good Friday) event, Parents Night Out, and Vacation Bible School. Some of these events may be done collaboratively with other nearby United Methodist Churches.

**Youth:** Recruit and directly work with volunteers to vision, plan and implement 10:30 Sunday morning formation programs (called ReCharge). Currently these include age-specific formation using a purchased curriculum on most Sundays, and a monthly "4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Baker Youth" event that has a camp-like atmosphere and is sometimes done collaboratively with two other United Methodist Churches located nearby. This person would also work collaboratively with the pastor and nearby United Methodist Church pastors to invite and prepare students for Confirmation. Annual events include a youth mission trip & special summer events.

**Family:** Recruit and directly work with volunteers to vision, plan and implement family oriented faith formation events. Currently these include two (2) Growing Faith for Families events held on Sunday mornings at 10:30 during our "ReCharge" hour.

**Post-Program Connection:** Build bridges with students who are beyond high school by working with church volunteers to send care packages and monthly mailings. Vision and implement "reunion" programming for the recent youth graduates.

**Additional Details:**

- Education/faith formation falls under the leadership of the Spiritual Formation and Discipleship (SF&D) Leadership team. The candidate will need to work collaboratively with the SF&D team, the pastor, and the entire staff team to keep events well communicated, invitational, and engaging.
- Ensure the vision, values and activities of the children, youth and family ministry teams are aligned with the overall church vision, values, and activities. We are a welcoming congregation who desire for all people to feel invited to come to know Christ as Savior.
- This position takes overall responsibility for ensuring that background checks and child, youth, and vulnerable adult policies are established and followed.

***For ordained clergy, additional pastoral responsibilities may include the following:***

Worship leadership including preaching (online & Sunday service and special days), member care (i.e. shared visitation), officiating weddings and funerals, small group leadership, strategy team for congregational vision and mission, UMC and ecumenical partnerships and connectional events. Clergy are accountable to the congregation, Staff Parish Relations Committee, District Superintendent and Bishop.

**Other Characteristics**

**Education/Experience:**

Experience and passion for Christian Education/Formation, Teaching, Child Development, Event Management/Planning or other closely related fields. Bachelors degree in one of these fields preferred but not required.

**Skills and Characteristics:**

- Strong personal faith with United Methodist theological understanding and welcoming mindset
- Committed to the inclusive, welcoming church
- Ability to recruit, form, and sustain healthy teams, and to recruit, equip and manage volunteers
- Passionate about faith formation for children, youth, and families
- Desire to reach out beyond the congregation to engage new people, including people new to Christian faith
- Creative and able to envision and implement new programming
- Energetic and energizing
- Open, affirming and accepting of all children, youth, families
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Detail oriented in terms of implementation
- Good problem solving skills
- Self-directed and self-starter while being a strong team player
- Organized and timely
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office suite of products, social media, and internet conferencing (ie Zoom)

**Courses/ Training:**

Baker Memorial UMC supports ongoing education in ministry specific areas such as Christian Education, Family Ministry, and Spiritual Formation