

First United Methodist Church of Evanston

Job Description – Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries

Start Date: July 1st, 2023

Mission Statement

First United Methodist Church is a community of Christians inviting all people to grow in their relationship with God and to live their faith in the world.

The church’s vision for youth and young adult ministries can be found in these values and objectives as listed in the 2021 Strategic Plan:

Values

- A welcoming community that offers hospitality, congregational care, and fellowship.
- Strong, relevant ministries and programs that appeal to families and individuals of all ages.
- Numerous opportunities to support and participate in mission and outreach.
- Active engagement in and advocacy for social justice.
- Extensive faith formation and Christian education opportunities for children, youth, and adults centered in processes of reflection followed by action that explores identity, call, and vocation.
- A reconciling congregation that seeks the inclusion of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities both in the policy and practices of the United Methodist Church.

Objectives

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| 1.The Beloved Community - Cultivate a congregation that loves and acts in the example of Jesus. |
| 2. Relational Discipleship - Design and enhance in-person and virtual ministries that foster connectedness, engagement, and growth. |
| 3. Dismantling the Sin of Racism - Engage as a community of faith actively, critically, and courageously dismantling the sin of racism. |
| 4. Action for Justice - Integrate action for racial, social, LGBTQIA+ and environmental justice into congregational life. |
| 5. Financial Stewardship as Spiritual Discipline - Steward financial gifts and a balanced budget as a spiritual discipline and a tool for transformation. |
| 6. Collaborative Leadership - Promote leadership that fosters collaboration in order to educate and empower congregational discipleship and ministry formation. |
| 7. Building and Technologies as Fellow Disciples - Develop and maintain an efficient facility and effective technological resources as tools for sharing the Gospel. |

Reports to: Senior Pastor
Status: Full-Time
FLSA: Exempt

Job Summary

The *Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries* will provide dynamic leadership and oversight of youth and young adult ministries at First United Methodist Church of Evanston, helping them grow in their relationship with God, through learning, service in church, in the community and beyond, and connecting in fellowship groups.

Essential Functions

- Youth
 - Invite and nurture youth ministry participation
 - In partnership with the Youth Council, create a vision for youth and lead the youth ministry in a way that reflects the church's Core Values.
 - Recruit, equip, and train leaders for youth programs for students in grades 6 through 12, including Confirmation, Sunday school classes, and regular fellowship, service, and retreats. (6th grade responsibilities overlap with the Director of Children's Ministry.)
 - Create opportunities and programming to help youth grow in their relationship to God through shared hands-on experiences with missions and outreach into the Evanston community and beyond.
 - Establish regular communication with all FUMC Evanston youth and parents
 - Nurture faith formation and spiritual growth through classes, service, and fellowship.
 - Communicate and promote the youth program and its opportunities, in coordination with parents and the Communications Director, through regular website updates, newsletter articles, and other online and print publications.
 - Connect youth to weekly worship services
 - Manage social media strategy and presence with Director of Communication.
 - Raise funds necessary for mission travel and expenses
 - Lead Creation Camp with the Director of Children's Ministry
 - Serve as a trusted adult for youth who seek guidance and care
- Young Adults
 - Invite young adults, college age through age 35, into the life and service of our church
 - Connect young adults to Christian education and faith formation opportunities
 - Create regular fellowship and programming opportunities for young adults
 - Serve as a trusted peer for young adults who seek guidance and care

Other Responsibilities

- Participate in management staff meetings
- Participate as staff liaison in small group meetings related to relevant ministries
- Other responsibilities as assigned by the Senior Pastor

Minimum Skills and Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in education or religious studies (or equivalent)
- Excellent verbal and written communication
- Experience leading youth, grades 6-12

Reporting Relationships

The *Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries* reports directly to the *Senior Pastor*. Job performance reviewed annually by the *Senior Pastor* and the *Staff Parish Relations Committee*.

If the *Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries* is an ordained Elder or Deacon in the United Methodist Church, the pastor will be under annual appointment to the position by the Bishop of the Northern Illinois Conference. The pastor will be accountable to the District Superintendent of the Chicago Northwestern District who serves as the bishop's representative.

Contact Information

Interested and qualified candidates can contact:

David Cerra

SPRC Chair – First Church Evanston

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