

Director of Youth Ministry

First United Methodist Church of Winter Garden
Full-Time, flexible schedule including evenings and weekends

Position Summary

The Director of Youth Ministry will lead and grow a dynamic, Christ-centered youth program for middle and high school students. This individual is called to ignite a passionate and active faith in young people, nurturing their spiritual growth in the love and grace of Jesus Christ.

This leader will build strong, trusting relationships with youth and their families, develop student leaders, and create meaningful opportunities for discipleship, service, and outreach. As part of the church staff, the Director will collaborate closely with clergy, staff, and volunteers to cultivate a vibrant and welcoming youth ministry that reaches both churched and unchurched students.

Duties and Responsibilities

Spiritual Leadership & Programming

- Plan and lead weekly youth gatherings that foster spiritual growth, biblical understanding, and authentic community
- Select and implement engaging curriculum aligned with United Methodist Church theology and the church's vision
- Create a dynamic, Spirit-led environment that encourages youth to live out their faith

Relational Ministry

- Build strong relationships with young people and their parents/guardians through consistent communication and presence
- Provide mentorship and spiritual guidance to students
- Engage youth beyond church walls through schools, community events, and local partnerships

Leadership Development

- Recruit, train, and support a team of adult volunteers committed to investing in youth
- Develop student leadership opportunities, empowering youth to lead, serve, and grow in discipleship
- Foster a culture of encouragement, support, and retention among volunteers

Digital & Communication Engagement

- Create and manage digital content (announcements, devotionals, updates) to enhance engagement
- Maintain accurate records using the Realm database

Events & Missions

- Plan and lead mission opportunities (local and beyond) that cultivate service and compassion
- Organize retreats, camps, and special events that deepen faith and build community

Administration & Collaborate

- Develop and manage the annual youth ministry calendar in collaboration with staff
- Partner with the Business Manager to prepare and oversee the annual budget
- Plan and lead fundraising efforts to support ministry activities and mission trips
- Participate in monthly Church Council, staff meetings, Director meetings
- Ensure all volunteers and leaders comply with the Florida United Methodist Child and Youth Protection Policy

Qualifications & Skills

- A clear and sincere call to youth ministry
- A personal and active faith in Jesus Christ, with willingness to become an active member of First United Methodist Church of Winter Garden
- Bachelor's degree in a related field or equivalent ministry experience (minimum 3 years preferred)
- Experience in youth ministry or working with adolescents
- Strong relational, leadership, and communication skills
- Ability to lead and collaborate with both staff and volunteers
- Energetic, creative, and adaptable personality
- Familiarity with digital tools, social media, and Microsoft Office

Reports To

The Director of Youth Ministry is directly accountable to, supervised and guided by the Pastor. He/she also relates to the Staff Parish Relations Committee according to the Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church. The first three months will be a probationary period with required weekly communication with the Pastor. Annual evaluations will be conducted by the Pastor and/or the Staff Parish Relations Committee and potential salary increases will be discussed at that time.