



Director of Student Ministries

Purpose: Primary responsibility for leading a thriving Youth Ministry program driving the spiritual formation and growth of Advent United Methodist Church students (Grades 7th-12th).

Summary: Advent UMC is seeking our next full-time Director of Student Ministries who will continue to shepherd, nurture and grow Advent Student Ministries program. Our overall Church mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. At Advent, we embrace this mission and believe that students are not only the church of tomorrow; they are the church of today. We strongly believe that it is our mission to pour into the lives of our youth and their families, while emboldening and empowering them to be disciples within and outside our church walls.

The successful candidate will have demonstrated experience in reaching and inspiring youth, ages 12 – 18, during their formative years of Christian discipleship. We seek a mature, positive and enthusiastic yet humble leader who can work effectively as part of a team. The Director will oversee weekly youth programming and special events for our current group of 200+ students and 60+ adult volunteer leaders, while building relationships with youth within and outside Advent UMC. In addition, the Director will serve as a mentor to our Assistant Director of Student Ministry, and both will be responsible for recruiting and equipping our team of adult volunteers. The Youth Ministry team also includes the Director of Contemporary Music, who oversees, mentors and influences the Cross youth band and Crescendo youth choir.

The Director should have a vital, personal relationship with Jesus Christ and be committed to living and modeling a godly lifestyle inside and outside of church. S/he should have at least a college degree, coupled with relevant experience and a demonstrated passion for Youth Ministry.

About our Church – Established in 1987, Advent UMC is the 10th largest UMC congregation in South Carolina with a mission for continued growth. Advent UMC is a dynamic and growing congregation, situated in the Five Forks community in Greenville SC that has been recognized as one of the top areas within the United States for growth and quality of life.

Position Structure and Compensation: Full Time and commensurate with experience and abilities, year-round

Position Accountability: Guidance for this position will be offered by the Pastors

Position Description:

Qualifications:

- Personal faith and commitment to Jesus Christ and support of the mission of The United Methodist Church
- Heart for reaching and encouraging youth in their faith journey. Ability to develop young disciples for Christ by innovating, nurturing and implementing a comprehensive Youth Ministry program
- Demonstrates evidence of a sincere calling to Youth Ministry
- Ability to humbly lead a Youth Ministry program with optimism, enthusiasm, energy and passion
- Ability and relevant comfort level with speaking and presenting in front of groups.
- Previous education, training and experience in Youth Ministry that demonstrates an understanding of the diverse needs of all youth (Grades 7th-12th); A College degree is preferable for this Director position
- Demonstrated prior organizational skills and initiative to develop and manage a large and growing Youth Ministry program
- Ability to listen to and communicate with people of all ages and the ability to work with other adults, parents of youth, youth ministry leaders, and youth.
- Other skills needed include the ability to delegate responsibility and follow up to complete tasks.

Responsibilities:

- Manage and support youth programs, projects and activities, including: Sunday night Elevate Student Ministry, small group Bible studies and weekday LifeGroups, mission trips and spiritual retreats
- Participate and co-lead Elevate each week – serving as a leader, preparing and sharing the message (with the Assistant Director of Student Ministry and the Director of Contemporary Music)
- Encourage Advent youth to participate in LifeGroups and to serve as a resource for their adult leaders
- Identify overall trends in Youth Ministry and creatively innovate and execute new curriculum and programs for Advent
- Effectively communicate and connect with youth, their parents and adult youth leaders
- Work with other Advent leaders to integrate youth into the life and leadership of the church as a whole
- Work with the Director of Contemporary Music to engage youth in music outreach at Advent
- Be available and willing to cultivate and maintain a personal relationship with Advent youth
- Encourage and guide the Youth Ministry Team and Youth Council (chosen 9th-12th grade student leaders)
- Ability to cultivate, orient and mentor a team of strong adult volunteers who will lead and influence our Advent youth.

- Encourage, empower and inspire Advent youth to continue their passion for Advent Missions on a local, regional and international basis
- Serve as a mentor for and work in collaboration with the Assistant Director of Student Ministry
- Ensure that the conference child safe sanctuary policies, procedures, and requirements are followed in all aspects of Youth Ministry programs.
- Other duties as may be assigned by the Senior Pastor.