

## **DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES**

First Meridian Heights Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, IN

**Title:** Director of Youth & Family Ministries

**Accountability:** Accountable to the Pastor and Christian Nurture Committee

**Status:** Full-time, salaried position

**Health Coverage:** Medical, Dental, Vision – church pays 100% of employee coverage and 0% of spouse/dependent coverage.

**Other Benefits:** Paid Time Off and Continuing Education Funds.

### **Job Summary:**

First Meridian Heights Presbyterian Church is a progressive, welcoming, active congregation in the heart of the Meridian Kessler neighborhood in Indianapolis. Our congregation of about 200 members and friends is committed to our mission: “To serve, love, and grow in ever-widening circles of Christ’s grace.” We are seeking an outgoing, enthusiastic, faithful, and experienced leader to develop and implement faith formation ministries for children and youth in our congregation and neighborhood. Those ministries will include opportunities for study, service, worship, and fellowship.

While FMHPC has a long history of providing youth programs, we haven’t had active middle and high school youth groups for some time. The good news is we now have a solid core of middle school youth who are looking forward to a more active youth group. Before we know it, they will be in high school and our current elementary kids will be in middle school. So now is the time for the Director of Youth & Family Ministries to foster new opportunities for our youth!

Our children’s Sunday School program is growing, with many new families attending on Sunday mornings. We offer Children’s Church during Sunday morning worship for preschool through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. After worship we have “The Second Course” when adults gather for an hour of fellowship and study and children and youth gather for Sunday School. The Director of Youth & Family Ministries will work with staff and volunteers to offer engaging, meaningful Sunday morning opportunities for children and youth.

Last year, our Elders and Deacons embraced the idea of implementing the Logos Program at First Meridian Heights. [Information about Logos may be found here: <https://www.genonministries.org/pages/logos-all-about-logos>.] We are hoping to begin offering Logos in September of 2023. This intergenerational program will welcome children and youth from our own congregation as well as from the community. The Director of Youth & Family Ministries will be an integral part of launching Logos and ensuring its future success.

### **Responsibilities:**

The Director of Youth & Family Ministries will ensure that First Meridian Heights Presbyterian Church provides formative and engaging faith-building opportunities for children and youth by:

- **Overseeing Sunday morning Children’s Church:** Ensure age-appropriate worship and creative biblical activities. Schedule leaders.

- **Overseeing Sunday Morning Sunday School during the Second Course:** Work with the Pastor and other leaders to determine curriculum. Create schedules, recruit teachers, prepare supplies, lead teacher training, provide teacher appreciation, ensure training for and adherence to the Child Protection Policy, coordinate child check-in system, communicate with children, youth, and families, ensure classrooms are age-appropriate, inviting, and safe, be receptive to feedback from volunteers and families.
- **Overseeing Sunday Morning Nursery (and other childcare needs):** Coordinate and schedule staff and volunteers, ensure rooms are inviting, age-appropriate, and safe, provide materials for age-appropriate faith formation.
- **Overseeing the Logos Program:** Work with the Logos Team and Pastor to ensure the overall success of Logos, coordinate curriculum and lessons, schedule volunteers, coordinate registration, gather supplies, communicate with children, youth, and families, provide leadership for all portions of the program.
- **Creating Middle and High School Youth Group Opportunities:** Cultivate a core group of youth, recruit and train volunteer youth leaders, create and lead a youth group program that builds community and provides opportunities to grow in faith.
- **Creating fellowship opportunities for families with young children (possibly Messy Church):** Work with the Pastor and church members to determine if once a month Messy Church is still the best fit for our congregation or if another program should be created to connect with preschool children and their families. Coordinate that program.
- **Encouraging/coordinating participation in camp and conference opportunities.** Provide information to families about Camp Pyoca, Massanetta Springs, and other camp and conference opportunities. Coordinate group participation.
- **Connecting with children, youth, and their families outside of church programs:** Attend extracurricular activities when appropriate (ball games, drama productions, choir concerts), acknowledge birthdays, be present in the community.
- **Supporting other ministries of the church:** Work with the Pastor and Church Administrator to determine where your assistance is needed.
- **Participating in ongoing professional development:** Church leadership supports and encourages ongoing professional development, especially through The Association of Partners in Christian Education ([apcnet.org](http://apcnet.org)) or other PC(USA) organizations.

## **Qualifications and Knowledge:**

- A mature, inquisitive, joyful faith in Jesus Christ, a love of young people, and enthusiasm for sharing the faith with them.
- Warmth, authenticity, creativity, and the ability to connect with people of all ages.
- A firm understanding of Presbyterian (Reformed) theology and a commitment to supporting the mission, vision, and priorities of First Meridian Heights Presbyterian Church, including the welcome and full inclusion of LGBTQ+ persons.
- Strong organizational and communication skills.
- Experience in Youth/Children's Ministry, preferably within the Presbyterian Church (USA).
- A bachelor's degree in a relevant field is preferred.
- Experience with and willingness to use:
  - Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Publisher)
  - Dropbox
  - Facebook and Instagram
  - Text messaging for communicating with staff, church members, youth.