

The Community Church of Vero Beach Minister of Youth and Families Job Description

Position Summary

The Community Church of Vero Beach (UCC) is seeking its next Minister of Youth and Families. This leader will have energy and vision to recruit and nurture a vibrant community of volunteers and to create and nurture a safe, affirming, and spiritually vibrant environment where all children and youth feel welcomed, valued, and known. This position will primarily serve middle school and high school students while providing leadership and support to the children's ministry and children's ministry staff.

Rooted in the expansive theology of the United Church of Christ, this role will guide children, youth, and families in exploring and deepening their faith, engaging with the teachings of Jesus, and connecting that faith to their daily lives, relationships, and the wider world. The Youth and Families Minister will provide leadership in regular gatherings (bi-weekly or weekly), service opportunities, retreats, and events that help youth and children experience God's love, grow in faith formation, and find belonging and connection in the life of the church.

Key Responsibilities

Leadership & Faith Formation

- Establish and execute an overarching plan for faith formation for children birth through high school students and their families.
- Champion the spiritual formation of children and youth. This includes supervising any children's ministry staff and working collaboratively with them to foster an inclusive space where children, youth, and families of all backgrounds, identities, and abilities feel safe, respected, and heard.
- Integrate creation care, justice ministries, and service into children's and youth ministry as vital expressions of Christian faith.
- Ensure adherence to the church's Safe Church/child protection policies for all children's and youth ministry.
- Partner with church staff and lay leaders to integrate youth and children into the larger life and vision of CCOVB.

Youth Formation

- Develop and lead (bi-) weekly youth gatherings that are engaging, age-appropriate, and aligned with UCC values of inclusivity, compassion, and justice, facilitating opportunities for Scripture engagement, theological reflection, and open conversation about faith, doubt, and life's big questions.
- Creatively design engaging programs and experiences including youth service projects, mission trips, and social outings.
- Recruit, train, and support volunteers for youth ministry programs.
- Build meaningful, mentoring relationships with youth that encourage spiritual growth and personal resilience.
- Organize and lead confirmation preparation (if applicable) in collaboration with pastoral staff. (This is typically every other year).

Administration

- Maintain effective communication with youth and families via email, social media, and church publications.
- Oversee and manage the youth and children's ministries budgets responsibly.

Core Competencies

- **Connector:** Builds strong relationships within the church, local community, and broader faith network with a commitment to justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion as expressions of faith.
- **Initiator:** Recognizes needs and takes proactive steps to address them.
- **Collaborator:** Fosters partnership and shared leadership (with staff, church members, and the wider community).
- **Coordinator:** Organizes events and activities so staff and members work together effectively.
- **Communicator:** Listens deeply, conveys information clearly, and exchanges information or ideas effectively to foster authentic relationships.
- **Organizer:** Arranges activities and events systematically with careful planning and coordination of staff and church members.

Required Qualifications:

- Holds a bachelor's degree (or equivalent) and brings relevant practical/professional experience
- Demonstrates computer literacy
- Brings experience in lifespan education
- Brings experience recruiting, equipping, and coordinating volunteers
- Demonstrates strong relational, communication, and organizational skills

- Demonstrates the ability to create inclusive, affirming spaces and work respectfully with diverse populations
- Demonstrates a willingness to collaborate with church staff, lay leaders, and families
- Demonstrates a deep and growing Christian faith and a commitment to the theology and values of the United Church of Christ
- Brings experience working with middle and/or high school youth in a ministry or related setting
- Some formal theological education preferred