

Job Description:

This position is an exciting opportunity for the right person to join the staff of Saint Mark United Methodist Church as Minister of Children's Discipleship. Saint Mark is an established, dynamic church with both contemporary and traditional worship. It is located in Seneca, S.C. in South Carolina's beautiful "Lake and Mountain Country," a community of both affluence and need, with ample opportunity to make a positive impact through this ministry.

- Part Time - 30 hours/week.
- Reports directly to Senior Pastor.
- Collaborates closely with Associate Pastor and Youth Minister to provide a holistic approach to Christian faith formation for Saint Mark families.

Summary:

Provide leadership and direction that creates an exciting and enticing discipleship and evangelism program for the children, parents, and the Child Development Center of Saint Mark United Methodist Church. Encourage all children in the congregation and community to grow in faith as disciples of Jesus Christ. The effective Minister of Children's Discipleship will partner with the families of children to form them in the faith, that as they grow from birth through fifth grade they will have a thorough exposure to the stories of Scripture, an understanding of Wesleyan theology, and the ability to connect faith and real life.

Experience, Knowledge, and Skills Required:

- Education, training and/or experience in child development, education and/or children's ministry.
- An understanding of United Methodist theology or willingness to learn them and incorporate them in children's programs.
- Demonstrated commitment to children's ministry and to continuing development in the field.
- Demonstrated ability to interact with all demographics and groups within the church, including being a team player within the church staff.
- Proper background check via the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED).
- Sufficient computer experience in basic programs to carry out an effective ministry with current technology.

Lifestyle and Christian witness

Qualified applicants are those who have demonstrated the following:

- A desire to live a Christian lifestyle and maintain a Christian witness to others.
- A personality that is encouraging, caring, and joyful to which young people will respond.
- Dedication to the faith, particularly as expressed through ministry.

Essential Functions and Responsibilities:

1. In partnership with the families of children, plan and implement children's ministry which insures that as they grow from birth through fifth grade, they will have a thorough exposure to the stories of Scripture, an understanding of Wesleyan theology, and the ability to connect faith and real life.
2. Coordinate the Children's Sunday school program, utilizing the Orange Sunday school curriculum, which features a large group/small group format. As Children's minister, facilitate the large group time with scripture and topic introduction with children of all ages in one group. Maintain constant communication with the "small group" leaders who facilitate the lesson and activities in breakout sessions segmented by age. URL: <http://www.whatisorange.org>
3. Recruit, train, and maintain long term volunteers to provide consistency in the lives of the Saint Mark children, as well as volunteers who are well versed in the program.
4. Partner with parents and guardians for the faith formation of St Mark children through regular communication, which considers the importance of ministry to the whole family. Keep published office hours and visit as appropriate. Focus on the Orange guiding principle that two combined influences (church and family) make a greater impact on the faith of the next generation than just two separate influences.
5. Collaborate with the Youth Minister to insure effective transition from children's to youth ministry, which uses a common Orange curriculum, providing holistic approach to ministry of our young people.
6. Leverage the principles of this family-church partnership to initiate and coordinate Children's Church and Wednesday night activities, which encourage growth through elements of faith development, local service, and global missions.
7. Recruit and oversee the nursery staff, volunteers and overall program for our youngest children and their families.
8. Schedule and plan special events, including but not limited to special trips, Vacation Bible School, Christmas activities, Easter activities, and outreach to the community.
9. Serve as liaison between the Children's Ministry and the St Mark Child Development Center (CDC), including, but not limited to, weekly chapel.
10. Serve as an engaged member of the Saint Mark staff and congregation, attending assigned meetings, and attending worship services and congregational events. Maintain positive working relationships with staff and congregation.

Please send application letter and resume to: Mary Ann Schrecengost - schrec09@charter.net
Posting is open until position is filled.