

Youth Pastor

Living Word Church Job Description

ABOUT OUR CHURCH:

Living Word Church (LWC) is committed to seeing lives transformed through the Living Word of God. Our Core Values are sharing our faith, strengthening one another, serving God and others and praying for miracles. We are committed to reaching our community for Jesus Christ. LWC is located in West Houston. We are a multi-generational, culturally and economically diverse church. We have a vision to one day expand and to be a multi-site church. Currently we are working hard to implement several new ministries including: a Children's Learning Center, Counseling Center, Kids Sporting League and an on-going Mission Partnership with two churches in Guatemala. We are very excited about what God is doing in and through Living Word Church.

Job – Full-Time | Church Membership – 1,000 | Denomination – Church of the Nazarene | Location – Houston, TX

ABOUT THE POSITION:

The primary purpose of the Youth Pastor is to provide the leadership, vision, and direction necessary to make an impact for Jesus in the lives of youth (6th grade through College) and their families. This position has the responsibility to execute a ministry plan to bring students to faith in Jesus Christ and into membership in the LWC family; to help students grow in their faith, serve in meaningful ministry, and share Christ wherever they go. The Youth Pastor will train, organize and empower a strong team of volunteer leaders to work toward life-change in every youth in the community. The Youth Pastor will also equip parents to fulfill their calling as the primary spiritual leaders of their students. This position will lead and manage youth programming for all daily, weekly, summer, mission, and community - events and activities.

Success in this role will be determined by the following:

- Expansion of the youth ministry that is fun, creative, evangelical, discipleship-oriented and outreach-oriented.
- The development of an outreach strategy that successfully engages the diverse community surrounding LWC.
- Increased student, volunteer and parent involvement in the youth ministry.
- The development of an effective youth ministry through strong partnerships with our Children's Ministry, Sports Ministry and Spanish Ministry which in turn leads to overall church growth.
- The ability to lead, or organize volunteers, for an effective seasonal College Ministry that creates a place for students when they are home and reaches out to them several times while they are away at school.

WHAT WE ARE SEARCHING FOR:

Living Word Church is seeking a passionate, authentic, high-energy and motivated individual who can work both independently and collaboratively as the Youth Pastor. The ideal candidate will have good character, excellent relational skills with students and parents and the gift of teaching. They will also have a vision for how our Youth Ministry can reach, disciple, and send out middle school, high school and college students as missionaries in their relational contexts. They will be gifted in leadership, mentoring, administration, strategic planning, and possess strong organizational skills in order to effectively achieve the expectations of the position. They will have experience managing teams and building leaders with a high degree of innovation, development, and sustainable implementation.

The candidate will need to give equal attention to worship, ministry, evangelism, fellowship and discipleship. They will be a self-starter well-versed in youth culture. This individual will demonstrate the ability to love God and people by offering biblical counsel to youth and parents. The successful candidate will develop strategies, create new programming, inspire volunteers, and build a sustainable system to make LWC Youth Ministry exciting, relevant and fun. This individual will have an enduring passion for connecting with new and returning families and look for ways for the church to reach out, connect, and embrace un-churched students within the diverse community surrounding LWC. The Youth Pastor will partner closely with the children's ministry, the Sports Ministry and the Spanish Youth Ministry to work together to strategize, develop and implement outreach events which will not only help connect with unreached students but also strengthen the spiritual formation of the families in the community. As the leader of the Youth Ministry, they will have a good understanding of contemporary youth culture and family dynamics within the context of a growing church. This individual will be marked by an approachable and relatable pastoral personality that identifies across diverse age groups, from youth to adults. We desire a candidate who is passionate about winning and discipling students. There needs to be a strong sense of pastoral vocational calling, and a realization of the need for total dependence on the help of the Holy Spirit in all matters.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Work with the Lead Pastor in developing an overall Youth Ministry strategy that produces sustainable growth.
- Develop an outreach strategy that successfully engages the community by being inclusive and sensitive to the needs of youth and their families.
- Partner with the Children's Ministry by collaborating with the Children's pastor and bridging the gap between pre-teens and the student ministry.
- Partner with LW Sports Ministry by building bridges to the students who participate.
- Partner with the Spanish Youth Ministry to create an environment where both English and Spanish youth and families are growing in their faith together.
- Create a clear discipleship and assimilation process for youth and their families. This process will align with the vision and values of LWC.
- Create environments where students are challenged to model Christ-likeness through servanthood and sacrificial giving.
- Lead, guide and counsel youth in personal Christian growth and development.
- Be involved in the community & local schools and develop strategies to connect the students in our community with LWC.
- Communicate consistently with parents, keeping them informed of ongoing activities as well as providing the tools they need for spiritual leadership. Effectively helping build a strong partnership between church and family.
- Create a system that engages, develops, deploys, and sustains an ever-increasing team of volunteers in both youth and adults who support the Youth Ministry at LWC.
- Create opportunities for youth to experience other cultures and ministry opportunities through mission trips and community service projects.
- Work with the district and denominational youth programs, involving our students, when possible, in district activities, district camps, zone activities and national & international church events.
- Responsible for the promotion of Youth Ministry through multiple platforms, including social media.
- Hospital Calls. Share responsibility with staff pastors in ministering to the sick, especially as related to teens.
- Calling on Prospects. Share responsibility with staff pastors in calling on new prospects, especially as related to youth and their families.
- Serve on leadership teams, work groups, and carry out other responsibilities as assigned by the Lead Pastor.

QUALIFICATIONS:

This individual should be both filled with and led by God's Spirit. They must maintain a close personal relationship with God through Bible study, prayer and accountability. They must have a heart for service and reaching the lost. It is in this spirit of love and cooperation with God that the Youth Pastor exhibits the following:

- A Bachelor's degree.
- Must be in agreement with the doctrines and beliefs of the Church of the Nazarene.
- Must be in agreement with the mission, vision, and core values of LWC.
- Although experience with the direction and administration of church Youth Ministry is preferred, we are also open to candidates with other backgrounds who have a strong passion and calling for ministering to youth and families.
- A genuine passion for youth and a calling to minister to them.
- An authentic and strong team-player who is enthusiastic about helping fellow staff members, when needed, with the goal of furthering God's kingdom.
- Ability to attract, assess and equip volunteers and develop them to their fullest potential.
- Capable of working with youth, families and volunteers from a variety of backgrounds and experiences.
- Ability to create fun and engaging community-wide events for youth and their families.
- Ability to craft and cultivate relevant, high energy environments for students.
- Passionate about learning new technology and keeping abreast of changes within the Youth Ministry field. Ability to integrate the latest technologies into the ministry: via curriculum design and application, worship experiences, etc.
- Motivated to always keep current on and implement the most modern and creative approaches to learning and teaching.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to use appropriate judgment in the areas of discretion, sensitivity and confidentiality.

Your role is vital in our mission. While our staff is made up of multiple ministries, we all work together as one team and we do not hesitate to jump on board to help one another, when needed. If you are a passionate Youth Ministry leader who desires to be part of a strong team atmosphere that is committed to reaching its community for Jesus Christ, you would be a great fit at Living Word Church!

TO APPLY:

If you are interested, please submit the following information to apply@livingword.church:

1. Your Resume (include your Spiritual Gifts & Strengths Finder Results, if available)
2. A statement of your philosophy of ministry (included with your resume)
3. A recent picture of you (and your family, if applicable)