

Position Profile

Responsibilities to Children, Youth, Families, and Volunteers

- Enact and establish Jacob's Well Community Church's vision *to be a people growing into Christ's likeness for the sake of our community and the world* in our ministries to and with children, youth, and families.
 - Working with current volunteers, develop, equip, and encourage a core group of leading volunteers to support the vision of Jacob's Well Community Church in our ministries to and with children, youth, and families.
 - Recruit, train, schedule and lead teams of qualified volunteers. This includes trainings related to child safety required by the State of Illinois.
- Oversee all programming and ministry for children ages birth-12th grade, which currently consists of Sunday mornings, summer programming (e.g., Creation Camp), and special events (e.g., Joy Days, Christmas Program).
 - Prepare curriculum for each program and each age level. For Sunday mornings (age 4 through 5th grade) we ask that you continue using StoryMakers NYC throughout your first year.
 - Prepare curriculum and activities that are developmentally appropriate for 2-3 year-old class that aligns with lessons for older children.
 - Gather necessary materials and have them ready for use when children and youth are meeting for programming.
- Create environments, activities, and programming for each age group that will facilitate learning and encourage spiritual growth.
 - Promote and maintain ministry presentation excellence, including: cleanliness, order, safety, and signage.
 - Ensure our ministry areas and activities are as welcoming and inclusive as possible.
 - Plan with the Church calendar and the whole church's ministry in mind.
 - Begin planning for creating two separate learning groups/classes among age 4 through 5th grade, including recruiting and scheduling volunteers and envisioning the use of space in the children's ministry area.
 - Working with Lead Pastor, volunteers, and parents, begin conversations and about including children and youth in portions of Sunday morning worship service or all of Sunday morning worship service at regular intervals (e.g., first Sunday of the month).
 - Working with Lead Pastor, volunteers, and parents to help children and youth join and participate in the ministry of our whole church.
 - Begin working now to envision and implement necessary adjustments and additions to facilitate a ministry to and with, first, junior high students, and, second, high school students.
 - Assist with coordinating childcare or children's activities (either separate from adults or with adults) for special church events (e.g., Adult Christian Education classes/events, Christmas Eve Service, Ash Wednesday Service, Good Friday Service, etc.).
 - Work with Lead Pastor, volunteers, and parents to develop catechesis directed at teaching foundational knowledge of Christian faith (e.g., books of the Bible, Scripture memorization, Sacraments, the Lord's Prayer, the Apostle's Creed, the Ten Commandments, etc.).

- Build relationships with children, youth, and families in the Jacob's Well community both within and outside of church events.
 - Continue the tradition of Jacob's Well's children's ministry being a place kids are known and cared for and know and care for one another.
 - Be prepared to "grow with" our children's ministry and into youth ministry.
 - Provide Church/home communication about lessons taught (such as a take home sheet or weekly email and/or updated social media platforms so parents can talk to their kids about what they are learning).
 - Assist parents/grandparents/guardians as primary pastors to their children; envision and enact ways of extending the church's ministry into the lives of families as support to parents/grandparents/guardians.
 - Allow ministry to move beyond programming and teaching to reflection upon lived experience as the place God encounters us in Jesus, prayer, and worship.

Responsibilities to Staff, Elders, and Leadership Team

- Attend quarterly Leadership Team meetings, contribute to decision making processes, and provide updates on developments within children's and youth ministry.
 - Attend monthly elder meetings as needed.
- Carefully plan and manage the children's and youth ministry budget.
- Be willing and able to preach on Sunday mornings (frequency TBD).

Competencies

- Relationally oriented with a sense of calling to ministry to children, youth, and families.
- Team player who values collaboration over competition, humility over hubris, and joyful participation over exacting execution.
- Working knowledge of Scripture, theology, and Christian spirituality.
- Willingness to say, "I don't know, let me find out more" or make referrals when ministry demands go beyond her or his training/ability/competency.
- Capable of working with people of all ages, including teaching, mentoring, and discipling.
- High standards for safety, timeliness, organization, and creativity in ministry.
- Values growth of whole persons (heart, soul, mind, body, cf. Mark 12.30-31) in discipleship over a "decision-for-Christ" oriented ministry or outreach.

Character

- Commitment to a growing relationship with the living and Triune God through regular Christian practices, both personal and communal.
- A person of Christian integrity, demonstrating and cultivating the fruit of the Spirit, committed to the way of Jesus, and full of the love of God and neighbor.
- A person of prayer and peace who is committed to loving and serving our community in the name of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Relatable to people of all ages and abilities.
- Able to work alone and on a team; willing to "go together to go far" instead of "going alone to go fast".
- Interested in growing in leadership competencies and cultivating gifts beyond current competencies.

Position Details & Compensation

- Full-time (40-45 hours/week) with a gross annual salary to be determined, commensurate with education and experience.
- Housing allowance and Retirement Contributions (contingent upon credentialing with Fellowship of Evangelical Churches).
- Vacation Days and Holidays per employee handbook.
- Direct Report: Lead Pastor and Elders
- Successful completion of a background check is required prior to employment.