

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Salaried Part Time

DCLC Mission Statement:

As a missional congregation, we celebrate Christ's presence, invite people into a growing relationship with Jesus and equip them to serve in a broken world.

The mission of the youth and family ministry program is to build faithful relationships that equip youth and families as disciples of Jesus Christ to live out faith in daily life guided by worship, learning, and mission in the world.

Director of Youth & Family Ministry General Responsibilities:

The Director of Youth and Family Ministries is committed to the mission and growth of Desert Cross. Youth ministry is rooted in relationships, and our hope is to broaden relationships so that our youth not only grow in their relationships with God and members of the youth group but that they grow in relationships with other members of the congregation as well. The Director of Youth and Family ministry will have a gift for connecting youth with members of the congregation and the ministries at Desert Cross as well as equipping families for faith formation. This person will identify, lift up and encourage members of the congregation to walk beside our youth and young adults. This person will report to Associate Pastor and work in partnership with the staff, as well as adult volunteers, and will partner with other ministry team leaders as appropriate.

Ministry Responsibilities:

1. Relational Ministry/Evangelism:
 - a. Facilitate the building of relationships with youth and their families.
 - b. Facilitate the celebration of significant milestones.
 - c. Spend time with youth and their families by attending their activities.
 - d. Develop a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment.
 - e. Develop a base of professionals and resources for referral.
 - f. Develop community partnerships.
2. Faith Formation/Discipleship/Service
 - a. Serve as program coordinator for the faith formation of youth (i.e. education, retreats, etc.). Lead by example connecting youth with Christ and faith in daily life.
 - b. Lead an annual global mission trip for high schoolers and an annual local mission trip for middle schoolers.
 - c. Empower a sense of mission by facilitating group community service opportunities
 - d. Be present and involved in church activities. Promote and coordinate youth participation/leadership.
 - e. Work with Clergy to lead/oversee Confirmation program and manage/attend Campformation annually.
 - f. When feasible, promote and attend synod and national youth events.
 - g. Actively encourage / facilitate youth involvement in worship as musicians, acolytes, readers, ushers, communion assistants, etc.
 - h. Regularly communicate with multiple platforms to youth and families and the congregation.
3. Leadership Development

- a. Attend continuing education events pertaining to youth ministry. Connect with synod colleagues at available events.
- b. Nurture leadership in youth by involving them appropriately in planning and team building.
- c. Help youth discover their gifts and how to use them in church and life.
- d. Research developing a Peer Ministry Program and implement if feasible.

I. Accountability

1. The Senior Pastor is Supervisor to this position.
2. The Director of Youth & Family Ministries' position will be reviewed annually.
3. Participate in leadership and staff meetings.
4. Participate in the budgeting process.
5. Develop and meet yearly program goals.

II. Personal Witness

1. A strong faith in Jesus Christ and desire for life giving ministry with youth
2. A commitment to the mission and ministry of Desert Cross
3. Attend and participate in weekly worship as a role model for youth.

III. Qualities and skills needed for this position:

1. Vibrant Christian faith and a desire to grow in the understanding of the Lutheran theology and traditions.
2. Preferred minimum of two years relevant experience in a congregation in Youth and Family Ministry position or similar.
3. An energetic and youthful spirit with a passion for youth and family ministry. Relate well both with youth, parents and young children as an adult Christian role model who understands appropriate boundaries.
4. "Team player." Have the ability to work with staff, youth, parents, congregation council members, and other church leaders.
5. Capable of recruiting and training other leaders and volunteers.
6. Effective administrative, communication, and organization skills.