

Director of Youth Ministries
Grace United Methodist Church
North Augusta, SC

Position

Director of Youth Ministries

Purpose

To develop, plan, organize, and lead ministries for youth (sixth through twelfth grade) that are designed to fulfill the Grace United Methodist Church (Grace) Youth Ministries Vision.

Grace Youth Ministries Vision

Foster the mission of Grace UMC, which is “To Know Christ and Make His Love Known” (i.e. to make and grow disciples of Jesus Christ) by reaching out to and forming relationships with the youth of Grace and North Augusta in order to help the youth grow strong in the faith and prepare them to be leaders in Christian ministry wherever they go after they graduate high school. Important facets of Christian discipleship that are particularly applicable to Youth ministries are provision of Christian training and nurture (Proverbs 22:6, Ephesians 4:15-16), and promoting individual repentance (Matthew 4:17), acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior (Romans 3: 21-22, 2 Peter 3:18), individual transformation in Christ (Galatians 5:22-23), love of God and neighbor (Mark 12:29-31), Christian witness (Mark 16:15), and good works (Ephesians 2:10, James 2:17). Integrate the youth into the wider ministries of Grace and membership in Grace as much as possible, and enable and encourage youth to fulfill their confirmation vow to support the ministries of Grace through their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

Position Status

This is a full-time position working an average of 40 hours per week. The hours can be flexible with the exception of Sunday worship & youth meetings, and weekly Staff Meetings. This position makes extensive use of youth and adult leaders/volunteers. An office with phone and computer is provided and located in the Asbury Building.

Qualifications

- Must be an outgoing, Biblically-centered follower of Jesus Christ with a real passion for Youth Ministries.
- Must at a minimum have a Bachelor’s degree (preferably in related field such as Religion, Christian Education, or Management).
- Must be able to work a flexible schedule, as ministry requires. Must keep regular advertised office hours of around 10 hours per week. Fridays and Saturdays are normal off days, except when youth ministry events are scheduled.
- Must be proficient in all levels of communication including in person, by phone, newsletter, emails, and social media. Must be able and comfortable contacting people in person or by phone that are not known.
- Must be highly organized and self-directed, requiring little supervision.

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- Must be able to drive the church bus.
- Must pass a background check (Grace Safe Sanctuary Policy).
- Can relate, understand, and appreciate viable youth ministries, or in the absence thereof, to create ministries that generates excitement and opportunity for the youth (previous experience preferable).
- Can work in collaboration with others both within and outside Grace (previous experience preferable).
- Can lead and organize youth (previous experience preferable).
- Can work with people of all ages and backgrounds to meet the needs of the ministry (previous experience preferable).

Essential Job Duties

- To develop, plan, organize, and lead ministries for youth (sixth through twelfth grade) that are designed to fulfill the Grace United Methodist Church (Grace) Youth Ministries Vision.
- Teach consistent with the theology and doctrines of the UMC.
- Develop relationships with students, volunteers, and parents, and encourage and disciple them in their walk with Jesus Christ. This includes providing Christian leadership, example, support, guidance, and counseling, and referral to professional counselors when needed. This also includes attendance at Grace worship services by rotating between the LifeSong and the 11:00 Traditional services.
- Develop, plan, organize, and lead a Sunday night youth program that includes snack supper, a component of worship, and use of the Youth Praise Band (currently called AMPED).
- Develop, plan, organize, and lead a Wednesday night youth program that includes a component of Bible Study in conjunction with the Grace Wednesday night dinners and programs (currently call WINGS).
- Organize, support, and participate in youth Sunday School by obtaining volunteer teachers, promoting best practices, addressing needs, providing options and help with curriculum, providing training as needed, teaching as needed, and assessing the vitality of classes through participation.
- Attend at least one Salkehatchie summer camp with members of the youth each summer.
- Develop, plan, organize and lead retreats including opportunities and trips for mission/service, outreach/witness, and worship for the youth.
- Develop a connection with the youth within the Grace Scouting programs (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Venture Crew), invite them to Youth Ministry events/programs, and develop joint events/programs with the Grace Scouting programs.
- Develop, plan, organize, and lead outreach ministries that engage youth of North Augusta, including through participation and attendance in school and community activities involving Grace youth, as appropriate.

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- Maintain a roster of Grace youth and their attendance at Youth Ministry events/programs and reach out and encourage inactive youth to participate, and collect the names and contact information of non-Grace youth who attend Youth Ministry events/programs and reach out and encourage them to participate further.
- Cooperate with other North Augusta churches, the Greenwood District, and the South Carolina Conference for opportunities for the youth of Grace.
- Prior to Grace youth attending college, pass information to Methodist colleges and Wesley Foundations concerning Grace youth who will attend those institutions.
- Ensure that the Grace Safe Sanctuary Policy is followed for all youth ministries, events, and activities.
- Take on additional duties as needed and requested to further the youth ministries.

Cooperative Job Duties

- Reports to the Senior Minister.
- Works in conjunction with the Youth Council (staff member of the Youth Council and ensures that it meets a minimum of every other month) and other staff members to fulfill the purpose, vision, and essential job duties of the position.
- Works with the Director of Recreational and Sports Ministries for recreational and sports opportunities for the youth.
- Identifies, recruits, trains, and motivates volunteers and interns to support the Youth ministries. This includes development of the necessary training for volunteers that addresses roles, expectations, acceptable behaviors, and precautions for volunteers. It also includes regular meetings with Youth Ministry volunteers who work hands-on with youth.
- Identify individuals (students, volunteers, and parents) who attend Youth ministry events, including non-members, who would benefit from follow-up after the event and notify the appropriate staff members, pastors, or committee chairs with contact information for those individuals.
- Works with Treasurer, Finance committee, and Financial Secretary to develop, submit, manage, and balance annual Youth ministries budget. Additional funds may be raised to support the Youth ministries with prior approval from the Finance committee.
- Works with the Church Secretary for scheduling Youth ministry events.
- Works with the Church Publicist to publicize Youth ministry events, if needed.
- Submits reports in conjunction with the Youth Council for Church Council meetings, which meets every other month.
- Attends and participates in weekly staff meetings at 8:30 on Mondays (Attendance at weekly staff meetings is not required following weekend youth retreats.)

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Addendum

The following items should be considered by the Director of Youth Ministries:

- Innovation and the willingness to try new methods is encouraged, so long as it helps to fulfill the purpose and vision of this position/ministry.
- Age level objectives developed by the Education Committee.
- The possibility of the development of viable youth small groups, such as Bible studies, home groups, etc.
- The possibility of engaging the Youth Praise Band in Youth events and with other ministries of Grace and outside Grace as a witness for Jesus Christ.
- The possibility of having summer interns, particularly Grace College students, in order to help students discern whether or not they are called to youth ministry or the ordained ministry.
- The possibility of outreach to college students (Grace Students and those from Augusta University and University of South Carolina – Aiken).
- The Youth facilities, including stage, meeting area, kitchen, Sunday School classrooms, etc., are under the purview of the Youth Director.
- The Youth Director should not volunteer for any leadership position in the District or Conference for the first two years.
- Participation in continuing education activities is expected.