



Job Title: Director of Youth Ministry

Position Status: Full Time

Church of the Ascension is a growing, vibrant, and historic church in Pittsburgh. We are seeking to worship and grow in Christ, and to be equipped to offer His healing to the city and world around us. Our community is intergenerational and draws from the wider area, with our youth ministry serving students from our church and several local congregations. We desire to see our children and teenagers encounter Jesus, grow in the knowledge of the love of God, and be empowered by the Holy Spirit in life, relationships, and service to others. We desire that Church of the Ascension's Youth Group (CAYG) would come alongside parents and families to encourage the whole-life discipleship of their students.

Job Role

The Director of Youth is responsible for the spiritual health and vibrancy of the youth ministry. The Director oversees both middle and high school ministries including a part-time assistant youth minister, any curate assigned to youth ministry, and volunteer leaders. The ministry consists of 95 students and approximately 15 volunteer leaders.

Core Job Responsibilities

Supervision of Paid and Volunteer Leaders

- Overseeing and utilizing a part-time paid leader (avg. 7 hours/week).
- Recruiting and developing volunteer leaders.

Communication

- Communicates in a clear and engaging manner with youth, parents, and leaders.

Weekly Youth Group

- Planning and executing regular weekly gatherings for middle and high school students.
- Creating avenues of relationship for students and leaders through fun, small groups, etc.
- Overseeing the teaching of God's Word in developmentally effective ways.

Summer Missions Opportunity

- Deciding on effective locations/agencies for service.
- Recruiting adult leaders for the week of service.
- Coordinating necessary details and communicating clearly with students and parents.
- Overseeing fundraising efforts.

Special Programming

- Collaborating with clergy to create a robust confirmation preparation process including catechesis, mentoring, and a retreat.
- Planning an annual retreat (currently part of the parish-wide retreat), Christmas party, overnights, Diocesan gatherings, etc.



- Orchestrating further avenues for relationship and Christian formation outside of Sunday mornings/evenings (e.g. Catechism classes, Bible studies, leadership formation, etc.).

Core Competencies and Attributes

Called to Work with Youth

- Loves working with students.
- Has discerned a call to youth ministry for the foreseeable future.
- Desires to commit to this position for 5+ years.

Effective Leader

- Creates a culture in which people want to do their best and motivates team members.
- Can assess people's passions and gifts and place them in roles where they shine.
- Empowers students and leaders, invites feedback, and shares ownership.
- Generative and creative in their problem solving. Willing to take risks and adapt as needed.

Biblically and Theologically Formed

- A robust, christological understanding of Scripture and theology.
- A fundamental understanding of Anglican Theology and the ability to teach Anglican distinctives.
- The posture of a learner.

Strategic Thinker

- The ability to pastorally diagnose the needs of our teenagers and their families.
- The ability to create structures, recruit leaders, and delegate responsibility with others.
- The skills needed to coordinate/execute programs.
- A critical mind able to evaluate current systems versus outcomes, and then adapt.

Emotionally and Spiritually Healthy

- Strong Christian faith, a healthy devotional life of prayer and reading the Scriptures, commitment to corporate worship, and willingness to embrace the communal life of Church of the Ascension and the Anglican Diocese of Pittsburgh.
- Can be gracious, unhurried and non-anxious in a manner that is sensitive to, and patient with, the interpersonal anxieties of others.
- Builds rapport by being a good listener, thus an "early knower": one who receives informal and incomplete information in time to do something about it.
- Is capable of addressing conflict/issues directly and pastorally, resulting in growth/reconciliation.

This is a full-time position, including Sundays as workdays. Ascension staff work Mon. to Thurs. or Tues. through Fri. Compensation and benefits are competitive and commensurate with experience. All applications, nominations, and inquiries are invited. If interested please send a CV/resume and a cover letter to josh.bennett@ascensionpittsburgh.org. References will be requested at a later time. The deadline to apply is April 4th, with the hope of the candidate starting over summer 2025.