

Director of Youth Ministries/Job and Duties Description
First United Methodist Church, Bainbridge, GA

Purpose: The Director of Youth Ministries bears primary responsibility for the disciple-making ministry for youth (6th-12th grades). This includes building personal relationships with youth and their families; providing leadership for youth programs; recruiting adult leadership to assist with youth programs; promoting youth programs within the congregation; working with youth directors/pastors of other churches to create joint ministry and disciple-making activities; and to work with the church staff and other church leaders to promote the general program of the church.

General Goals: The Director of Youth Ministries will be responsible for developing and implementing programs specifically directed for those in grades sixth through twelve. The program will be designed to maintain the interest of those involved, to facilitate spiritual growth, and to lead all who participate to a deeper faith relationship with Jesus.

Criteria

- A committed Christian who feels called to ministry with youth with genuine love and passion.
- Bachelor's Degree (Seminary or equivalent training is a plus)
- Embraces United Methodist doctrine and theology
- 3 years experience in youth ministry
- Works cooperatively with all other ministry areas and staff
- Possess highly-developed organizational and interpersonal skills
- Has competency in budgeting
- Computer skills required
- Pass a criminal background check

Accountability

- Reports to the Pastor and Staff-Parish Relations Committee.
- Attends and presents written or verbal reports at Staff Meetings, Church Council, and Charge Conference.

Duties

- Maintain an up-to-date list of all active and inactive youth in the church.
- Develop personal relationships with youth and families by visiting in homes, visiting at school (when permitted), and attending and supporting youth in their school events.
- Recruit adult leadership (not limited to parents) to assist in the leadership of youth programs (Sunday School, Sunday night speakers, Wednesday night cell group leaders, chaperones for trips, host homes and group leaders for Disciple Now).
- Establish and maintain office hours at the church.
- Establish and lead a youth/parent team to help in planning, guiding, and implementing programs and events for the youth program. The team should meet on at least a quarterly basis (although monthly may be preferred) to establish a calendar of events to be published and sent to parents and youth.
- Develop and maintain lines of communication to inform and remind youth and parents of activities. This includes giving to the Church Secretary in a timely manner information to be printed in the weekly newsletter, posted on the church website, and printed in the weekly order of worship sheet.

- Establish relationships with other youth directors/pastors in the community to create joint ministry and disciple-making activities. This is especially important in planning for and participating in the Disciple Now weekend.
- Develop and lead youth in mission activities in the community.
- Work with the Director of Music Ministries to assist with the Youth Choir, especially regarding the annual Music Camp trip. Youth Choir is NOT, however, the responsibility of the Youth Director.
- Maintain sensitivity to the fact that different age groups and genders receive and process information differently; therefore, plan for learning opportunities and leadership where the group may be divided (male/female, middle school/high school). Some activities may also be divided in a similar way (boys' camping trip, girls' sleepover, etc.)
- Be responsible for forms and paperwork relevant to the area of youth ministry (health forms, registration forms, permission forms, etc.)
- Develop an inventory of equipment in the basement and report any repairs/replacements needed.
- Develop an annual youth budget and submit to the Finance Committee.
- Attend and support all worship services.
- Attend Church Council meetings, Staff Meetings, and others meetings when be asked to do so.
- Other duties as may be assigned by the Pastor.

Current Youth Ministry at BFUMC

The Youth Ministry of Bainbridge First United Methodist Church is an active and vital part of the life of our congregation whose purpose is to develop young people as followers of Jesus in keeping with our church's purpose of making "disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our community and the world."

Youth Sunday School: Held every Sunday in the Sunday School Building, classes are divided into Middle School and High School groups and are led by volunteers.

Youth Choir: Under the leadership of the Director of Music Ministries, the Youth Choir meets for rehearsals on Sundays from 4:30-5:30 PM. They sing regularly for worship services, present concerts, participate in music ministry seasonal services/programs, sing for community events, and attend an annual church music and arts workshop.

Snack Supper: Between Youth Choir and UMYF, youth share in a snack supper provided by church volunteers.

Sunday Night United Methodist Youth Fellowship: The Sunday night program involves a time of teaching and time for recreation. If possible (with appropriate numbers and leadership), the groups are divided into age groups (middle school and high school).

Wednesday Night Cell Groups: Following the weekly Christian Fellowship Dinner, the youth meet in the basement and are divided into gender and age groups (high school girls, middle school girls, high school boys, and middle schools boys) for teaching on a common topic for the entire group. Often the Wednesday evening and Sunday evening themes are connected.

Trips and Other Activities: Along with the annual trip to Music Camp, the youth take day trips to fun activities (Tallahassee, Six Flags, etc.). A ski trip for December/January is currently being planned.