

Decatur Methodist Church
Youth Pastor/Minister
March 23, 2023

Principal Function/Job Summary:

The Youth Pastor/Minister is responsible for coordinating and promoting the church's ministry to junior high and senior high students, with the main role of building and growing a healthy next generation of leaders and disciples for Jesus Christ who believe in the inerrancy of Holy Scripture. The Youth Pastor/Minister is responsible for providing guidance to our youth (6th to 12th grade) in their understanding of themselves and their faith. As a member of our leadership team, the Youth Pastor/Minister will help our church family reach, love, and make disciples of our youth and young adults while encouraging them to grow in sanctification so that they achieve spiritual growth.

The Youth Pastor/Minister will lead and organize an effective youth ministry, implementing fellowship, worship, biblical teaching, discipleship, and evangelism. Most importantly, the Youth Pastor/Minister should demonstrate a hunger for more of God and possess a passion to lead the youth of our church and community into that same hunger.

Working Relationships:

The Youth Pastor/Minister works under the direct supervision of the Executive Pastor (in coordination with the Lead Pastor) and he/she will supervise/oversee related interns, staff, and volunteers of the Decatur Methodist Church team. The person who holds this position will automatically be a member of the Youth Ministry Team and the Administrative Board as a non-voting member.

Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Provide discipleship pathways for youth and inspire youth to live out their commitment to participate in the ministries of the church through their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.
2. Develop and provide a written, biblically based, annual ministry and discipleship plan for review and approval by both the Lead Pastor and Executive Pastor.
3. Provide planning, coordination, execution, and leadership for weekly discipleship opportunities (i.e., Sunday morning, Sunday evening, Wednesday evening) and other activities (i.e., fellowship, missions, worship, retreats, outreach) that affirms Holy Scripture as the Biblically inerrant Word of God.
4. Be acquainted with the personal lives of the young people - either directly or through youth leaders (i.e., visit homes, attend school events, and make hospital visits). This also includes being aware of current youth development, culture, social media, etc.
5. Provide opportunities for parents to be involved in the youth ministry, maintain contact with students and parents, keep them informed of ongoing activities, and make parents aware of ministry strategies and plans in a way that encourages partnership, involvement, and buy-in. Support parents in effectively fulfilling their Christian parenting roles, in concert with other pastoral staff. Find avenues to foster partnerships with parents/guardians.

6. Be available to mentor students and/or parents when needed. When appropriate, provide counseling and/or spiritual direction to youth to help them in their faith journeys and personal growth needs.
7. Evaluate and make recommendations concerning biblically based teaching materials and methods used in all youth discipleship opportunities.
8. In coordination with the Staff Parish Relations Committee and administrative staff, help administrate and enforce the Decatur Methodist Church Child Abuse Prevention and protection policy including applications and background checks for all staff and volunteers, and ensure that the policy guidelines are carried out within the Youth Ministry area.
9. Attend weekly worship services and church events, while encouraging youth to do likewise (lead by example).
10. Recruit, train, and deploy volunteers to more effectively minister to youth and to provide ministry opportunities for congregational members. Ensure responsibilities for all events are delegated and understood by youth ministry leaders.
11. Participate in and contribute to staff meetings, one on one meetings with the Executive Pastor, and other meetings necessary to lead an effective youth ministry. Collaborate with the church's staff in the creation of new ministries as needed to accomplish the vision and mission of the church.
12. Pre-schedule all activities in their entirety, including post-activity plans. Publish the same to staff, parents, and youth in a timely fashion.
13. Recommend and administrate the youth ministry budget. Manage student fees and fundraising money for events and ministry/mission trips.
14. Maintain close working relationships with public and private schools of our community and cooperate with organizations like the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Young Life, and First Priority to make connections with students from our schools, drawing them into church fellowship and a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Develop and maintain effective relationships with various leaders in the community for purposes of swift outreach programs, especially those leaders of our schools and other youth organizations.
15. Continue growth and development through conferences, reading, and exchange of ideas with others (iron sharpens iron).
16. Provide accessible "on-ramps" for those moving from Children's Ministry to Youth Ministry and cultivate relationships with children and their families to build trust and facilitate ease of transition.
17. Perform other ministerial duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Executive Pastor.

Qualifications, Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

1. Evidence of a strong relationship with Christ who lives out their faith, affirming the biblical inerrancy of holy scripture. Must have a clear testimony to a justifying and sanctifying relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. Model a Christ-like lifestyle and a passion to reach the lost for Jesus Christ.
2. Holds a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited college, seminary, or divinity school.

3. Must integrate, teach, and support Wesleyan/Methodist doctrine and theology within the youth ministry. Prior knowledge and understanding is preferred, however, a candidate may still be considered if he/she is willing to do the necessary work to attain a significant working knowledge and understanding of Wesleyan faith and practice.
4. Demonstrated gifts and calling to youth ministry, love for young people, and a passion for evangelism and outreach, both personally and at the ministry level.
5. A self-motivated leader, capable of casting and imparting vision for ministry, possessing relational skills with youth, parents, and staff as well as excellent leadership, administrative, and organizational skills.
6. Must possess strong communication skills and a desire to be active in community outreach.
7. Experience in using relevant technology (including software, apps, and social media) to carry out duties and functions of ministry responsibilities
8. Must have the ability to research the community, utilizing demographics, technology, and social media to reach the unchurched youth of our community.
9. Able to work as a team player, cooperating with church staff and committees.
10. Work with minimal supervision and provide guidance to church leadership in all areas concerning youth ministry.
11. Exhibit a proven ability to teach and train youth toward a deeply enriching faith experience.
12. Sensitive to the needs and pressures of youth, with knowledge of possible solutions.
13. Able to respond to changing needs throughout the daily and weekly schedule.

Job Specific:

Job Type: Full-time, Exempt

Schedule: Approximately 40 hours per week - Wednesdays and Sundays mandatory.

Pay: \$40,000.00 per year, but commensurate with education/experience.

Vacation: 2 Weeks paid vacation after one year of service

Supplemental pay considerations:

- Cell Phone
- Retirement
- Insurance Stipend
- Other

Ability to commute/relocate: Reliably commute or willing to relocate with an employer-provided relocation package.

Decatur, Alabama is a family-friendly city on the banks of the Tennessee River approximately 20 miles west of Huntsville. Decatur Methodist Church is a new church start with over 100 active families and a growing youth department. Interested applicants should send a cover letter and resume to:

тчastain@decaturchurch.com