

St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Alexandria, Virginia is seeking a faithful, welcoming, flexible, creative, and inclusive Minister to Youth, Children, and Families. This person will develop faith and spiritual formation programs for children and youth, and support parents in their own faith and parenting, working closely with clergy and staff. We are open to a lay or ordained person, so long as his or her passion is for this segment of ministry.

EXPECTATIONS:

- Deep and grounded faith that undergirds and infuses ministry
- Authentic relationships with youth, children, and their families to become both a pastoral presence and emotional support, and a resource for faith, learning, and spiritual practice
- Develop and maintain programs and resources for youth, children, and families that are enjoyable, safe, instructive, challenging, encouraging, creative, developmentally appropriate, and steeped in Episcopal and Christian identity

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Overseeing Sunday morning formation for youth and children
 - Plan and organize Sunday morning formation for preschool through 6th grade kids including selecting curriculum, coordinating supplies, recruiting, training and supporting volunteer teachers, and providing a ministry of presence on Sunday mornings. (Currently our curriculum includes both Godly Play and Whirl Lectorary, but we are open formation ideas.)
- Leading youth groups
 - Plan and organize Sunday afternoon/evening gatherings for middle and high school students, including recruiting, training and supporting volunteer leaders, coordinating dinners provided by volunteers, planning faith-building activities and experiences, helping to build community among youth (and helping to bridge the gap that sometimes exists between youth from public and private schools)
 - Consider continuing weekly week-night Bible study
 - Planning and leading a summer mission trip or pilgrimage for youth, including fundraising
 - Involvement in diocesan-wide youth formation and training opportunities
- Supporting parents as the primary faith-builders in their families and helping to build community among parents
- Leadership in family worship services
 - Collaborate with clergy to coordinate and strengthen regular Sunday 9 am family-friendly service
 - Help plan and lead regular all-parish opportunities for hands-on faith building
 - Help plan and lead special seasonal family services throughout the year (e.g., Family Ash Wednesday Service, Family Stations of the Cross, Family Easter and Christmas presentations, Christmas and Epiphany pageants, Annual Youth and Children Sunday)
- Chaplain to St. Paul's Episcopal Preschool
 - Lead weekly chapel services
 - Develop relationships with and provide pastoral support to teachers, staff and school families
- Develop ways to integrate school families into church worship and activities
 - Organize and implement Vacation Bible School each summer
 - Work in conjunction with clergy to prepare interested teens for Confirmation
 - Plan and lead regular outreach opportunities for youth, children and families
 - Plan and lead yearly auction event as fundraiser for children and youth ministry
 - Communicate regularly with staff and the St. Paul's community through email, newsletters, and social media
 - Take part in weekly staff meetings, morning prayer, and Wednesday Eucharist

QUALIFICATIONS

- Deep and thoughtful Christian faith and love for the Episcopal tradition
- Experience with and passion for working with children and youth
- Enthusiasm for reaching out to and including newcomers, including non-traditional families
- Organizational and administrative skills for running programs and recruiting help
- Experience in managing a budget
- Oral and written communication skills