



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Reverend E. Weston Mathews, *Rector*

Position Overview

The Director of Youth and Family Ministries will provide vision, dynamic leadership and oversight to youth and family ministries, nursery through twelfth grade, at Grace Episcopal Church in The Plains. This position equips volunteer lay leaders to nurture the spiritual growth and development of children, youth and their families, to build a thriving parish community rooted in our faith, characterized by belonging, inclusion and service.

Current children's ministry offerings include baptism and baptismal preparation (in collaboration with clergy), and a preschool partnership with Grace Montessori School, a children and family ministry of Grace Church.

Future youth ministry offerings might include: Sunday family worship and Christian formation, Sunday evening or a weekday youth group, Confirmation, local service opportunities with youth mission partners and area schools, mission trips, participation in Diocesan youth events, and worship leadership including acolytes.

Grace in The Plains seeks to expand upon current family and parent fellowship and formation opportunities. This is a "start-up" position for a candidate who wants to creatively build new traditions, invite, welcome, and connect new families to Grace, and serve existing parish families based on their needs.

Key Responsibilities

- Collaborate on creating a comprehensive vision for Youth and Family Ministries with the rector, vestry, Head of Grace Montessori School, Parish Families, and other key stakeholders and align programs to the vision;
- Share the Good News of God's love through planning and organizing an annual calendar of regular, engaging and creative youth formation activities;
- Promote the development and growth of lay leaders to lead youth and family ministries;
- Equip and build relationships with adult caregivers as primary faith-builders in children and youth families and build community among families;
- Coordinate regular visits to Grace Montessori School by clergy and staff to build relationships through formation and pastoral connection;

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www.gracetheplains.org



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- Establish and implement systems of pastoral care for youth and their families, in collaboration with clergy, lay leaders, and other professionals;
- Communicate children and youth ministry formation activities (including acolyte ministry), events and opportunities to serve, with youth and their families, and church staff through both targeted and broad communication channels (website, bulletin, emails, social media, newsletters, etc.);
- Collaborate with the clergy to ensure the inclusion of children and youth in worship;
- Collaborate closely with the Grace Music Director;
- Maintain a database of youth and their caregivers and teachers;
- Manage budget needs for youth and family ministries in collaboration with the rector and Finance Committee
- Provide oversight to nursery ministry, including staffing, regular cleaning and caregiver engagement;
- Participate regularly in staff meetings and maintain open lines of communication with staff and clergy, advocating for youth and families in parish-wide discussion;
- Attend and actively support worship and fellowship opportunities with Grace Montessori School, parish youth and their families;
- Network in the community, with local schools, non-profit organizations serving youth, other churches, in the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia and in the larger Christian formation community to develop a mutual resource base of children, youth and family expertise;
- Develop and implement effective safety measures, including sexual misconduct and abuse prevention church practices and policies for all who work with youth at Grace in The Plains, in collaboration with the church staff and Vestry.

Reporting Structure and Position Classification

The Director of Youth and Family Ministries reports directly to the rector. This is a part-time (20 hours per week- 5 hours for Grace Montessori School and 15 hours for parish youth and family ministries) position.

Required Qualifications

- A Bachelor's Degree or the equivalent;
- Deep and thoughtful Christian faith and love for the Episcopal tradition;
- Training or willingness to receive training in children and youth formation curricula;
- Experience with and passion for working with youth and their families;
- Organizational and administrative skills for program and team management;
- Strong oral and written communication skills, and comfort with social media and communication platforms.

Preferred Qualifications

- Previous training or experience with Catechesis of the Good Shepherd;
- Continued education in a related field of study (youth ministry, Christian formation, spiritual direction or practice, etc.)
- Training or education in human development and learning



Compensation is commensurate with experience and comparable Episcopal positions including salary and benefits. Grace in The Plains is open to considering candidates who are lay, ordained, or graduating seminary.

Please send a resume, cover letter, and two references to Kyle Crosen, Director of Parish Operations and Communications, at: gracechurch@gracetheplains.org.

A successful candidate must also pass a background check and complete safe church training before coming on board with Grace Church.

Deadline to apply: July 1, 2024

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