



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF RIVER FOREST

Position Overview: Director of Youth Ministries

Vision: For the middle and high school students of First Pres to become committed, lifelong disciples of Jesus Christ, they need a strong faith foundation. The Director of Youth Ministries will foster students' personal relationships with Jesus Christ, and help them to connect joyfully with God's Word, Christian community, and God's world. We envision a youth ministry that is integrated with ministry to the whole family, and integrated with the life of the larger congregation. We want our students to become people who integrate their faith and everyday lives, and who invite others to know and follow Jesus.

Role: The Director of Youth Ministries reports directly to the Senior Pastor. First Pres is open to configuring this role in a variety of ways to suit the ideal candidate. Part-time or full-time options are available. The Director of Youth Ministries will focus on:

- Strategy
- Program implementation, including youth Sunday School, youth groups, small groups, mission
- Biblical teaching and spiritual formation
- Community building, including social activities, small groups, and retreats
- Building relationships with students and supporting them
- Engaging students in mission
- Volunteer recruitment and development
- Parent communication and family support
- Partnership with the Youth Ministry team within our Discipleship Ministry

Qualifications: We seek candidates with:

- A strong personal faith in Jesus Christ, well grounded in God's Word
- The highest ethical standards
- At least a 4-year college degree—seminary/graduate level courses a plus
- Strong relational skills and a high degree of emotional intelligence, including ability to forge connections between students who attend different schools
- The ability to work independently—self-motivated and self-directed
- Strong oral and written communication skills—to engage students, parents, volunteers, and church leaders
- Ministry design skills—to extend beyond the current year and current students
- The ability to plan, organize, and communicate complex events
- A desire to learn and grow in ministry, and an aptitude for networking

Our Context: First Pres. River Forest is a healthy, growing, family-oriented, mid-sized congregation in the western suburbs of Chicago. We have a small but highly valued group of middle school and high school students, and a large group of elementary-age students. We want to build a program that is ready for them and their families. Our worship services are traditional but accessible; our leadership is egalitarian. Our congregation's core values are Cherishing Christ; Loving Others; Worshipping in Spirit and Truth; the Power of Music; Biblical Teaching; and Belief in Action. There is theological diversity in the congregation, with an evangelical heartbeat and traditional values.

To Apply: Please send a resume and cover email to Pastor Donna Marsh
donna.marsh@firstpresrf.org