

## **Ministry Job Description: Volunteer Youth Group Leader**

### **Goal of Position**

*“So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.” 1 Thessalonians 2:8 (NRSV)*

The primary purpose for Youth Ministry is to provide a safe, warm, and welcoming community where youth get a sense of belonging, are nurtured in their faith, and encouraged to live a life of discipleship. As such the goal of this position is for leaders to be seen as role models in conduct, speech, and attitudes, and who are intentional about building relationships with youth as they help facilitate various activities and opportunities that will guide youth in their faith formation.

### **Responsible to**

Youth Pastor - Rev. Henry Schenkel

### **Job Description**

The main role for the Youth Group Leader is to build loving and caring relationships with a group of teens and facilitate the effectiveness of group meetings. This includes the following:

- Help facilitate and lead our middle/high youth group meetings at our church.
- Prepare for meetings which includes some or all of the following: devotions, worship, interactive discussions on various topics, social and outreach activities.
- Cultivate a fun, safe and welcoming environment where youth can grow in relationship with others and with Jesus Christ.
- Help create opportunities/activities that enrich discussions and prayer times.
- Look for ways to develop meaningful relationships with youth in your group, connecting with them in different settings i.e.: Sunday worship, sports activities, school events etc.
- Involve group members in decisions about meetings, discussion materials, fun activities etc.
- Work with leaders to identify opportunities for youth participation in the wider church.
- Encourage youth participation in service/mission projects.
- Attend the annual youth group kick off retreat.
- Seek out youth who are not participating and help motivate them to become involved.
- Pray for the youth in your church and especially for those who are struggling.
- Connect with parents.
- Maintain accurate records of youth group members in your small group.
- Perform a weekly check in via the Youth Leader Check In Google Form.

### **Time required**

Youth leaders are required to participate in all youth group activities, including large group and small group meetings and special events. Additionally, leaders should take time during the year to connect with members of their small group on a more personal basis, getting to know each student and spending time with them in a meaningful way. On average leaders will commit to about 2-3 hrs. per week.

## **Length of commitment**

We typically ask for a multi-year commitment from our youth leaders since effective youth ministry is based on building quality relationships with our church's young people.

## **Training Provided**

To develop people in their ministry roles, it is important that Youth Leaders are provided with training so they can lead effectively and feel the support of being part of a team. At the beginning of a season, we will have an orientation meeting. This meeting will especially orient those who are new to this role and refresh those who have been part of the team for a longer period of time. Additional meetings and/or workshops throughout the season will provide a context for encouragement and additional training. Finally, Pastor Henry is available for one on one meetings, coaching, and support whenever you need it.

## **Qualifications or special skills**

The Volunteer Youth Leader is passionate about relating to teens and...

- Gives evidence of a sincere commitment to Christ and the Reformed faith
- Is a confessing member of our Church and committed to its values and ministry goals.
- Is a regular attender at Sunday worship at our church.
- Has a good relationship with family and others.
- Has a servant heart and shows spiritual maturity.
- Is a good communicator and listener and has a heart for youth.
- Has a positive attitude and knows how to have fun, laugh and enjoy life.
- Is flexible and open to what can sometimes be the messiness of youth ministry.
- Has a desire to see spiritual growth and transformation in the youth of your church.
- Is committed to work as a team member with other volunteer youth ministry leaders.
- Commits to participate in training events in order to build capacity for the role.

Lastly, the church is not just a place of worship and where ministry programs happen, but also a place of safety and trust. Parents will want to know that not only are their youth being cared for spiritually, but also that they are in a safe environment. As such, those serving in the Youth Ministry program will be required to provide information for a current background check and be required to go through our Safe Church application process. We will provide you the required forms that you will need to fill out.

## **Benefits to this position**

In your role as Volunteer Youth Leader, you will likely be challenged in some ways, but you'll also be blessed in abundance. Here are some things you can expect:

- *Develop some wonderful relationships with your Youth Ministry Team.*
- *Develop some very meaningful relationships with youth from your congregation.*
- *Witness the transformation of lives within your youth group.*
- *Growth in your own faith journey.*
- *Increase the ability to talk about your faith.*
- *Enjoy lots of fun opportunities in the building of relationships with youth.*
- *Joy in seeing God at work through this ministry.*