

Job Description: Director of Young Family Ministries
Laurel Heights United Methodist Church (San Antonio, TX)

Vision and Value Statement

Laurel Heights United Methodist Church is dedicated to building a community that supports the faith formation of young children and their families. This commitment reflects the core values of relationships, children in worship, intergenerational community, and church participation. This congregation welcomes everyone and intends to stay affiliated with the United Methodist Church. We celebrate the unique gifts God has shared with each one of us and we, in turn, share our gifts through worship, study, friendship, and serving. Laurel Heights UMC is a #BeUMC congregation that welcomes all worshippers.

The Director of Young Family Ministries will seek to create and nurture an environment that builds relationships, nurtures a sense of belonging, and supports participation of children 0-11 years old and their families. An effective director will recognize how ministry happens in many locations and will work to be a bridge between the intergenerational church community, the Laurel Heights Weekday school, and the greater San Antonio community. The director will spend time representing the church in all locations, getting to know families, and finding intentional ways to invite them into the work of faith formation. In addition to relational ministry, the director will develop and carry out faith formation ministry experiences for young children and their families at the church throughout the week, expanding opportunities beyond Sunday morning.

Job responsibilities

The Director will:

- Build relationships with families in the church, weekday school, and community, staying attentive to their hopes and needs as to inform faithful ministry
- Be active in the local church, weekday school, and the community
- Create a safe space that fosters a sense of belonging and participation in the life of the church
- Develop and nurture inclusive ministries for all types of families with children between the ages of 0-11 years old that engage the church, the weekday school, and the community.
- Implement an intentional volunteer ministry plan that supports an inclusive and thriving ministry at LHUMC and in the community
- Advocate for all kinds of families while finding ways to include children in the ministries of the church both at LHUMC and in the greater community
- Oversee children's Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, nursery care, and ministries beyond the walls of LHUMC
- Honor the congregation's overall goals and how they are achieved through the congregation's ministry with families.

- Work with others to plan and carry out ministry with families in various programs that include worship, learning, wondering, fellowship service, and play.
- Guide the work of the team that will support young family ministries by assisting with team visioning, meeting planning, and modeling inclusive leadership that encourages participation of all members.
- Maintain a healthy and growing spiritual life and leading others to do the same

Spiritual Gifts and Qualifications

The Director will:

- Have a college degree; prefer formal training in the area of Education, Faith Formation, and/or Human Development.
- Have a faith in Jesus Christ and a desire to support others as they grow in the Christian faith.
- Hold beliefs that are theologically compatible with Laurel Heights UMC
- Be knowledgeable and respectful of the UMC and its history, doctrine, and theology
- Have an understanding of human and faith development and how that impacts family faith formation
- Demonstrate relational skills including the ability to connect with children and adults.
- Have strong communication and leadership skills
- Have experience supporting volunteer teams
- Have experience leading faith formation ministry with children and families
- Have strong gifts for project and time management
- Value intergenerational ministry and the inclusion of children within the life of the church
- Have knowledge of marketing and use of modern tools (including social media) to communicate effectively with today's family

Status: Full Time

Salary: TBD

Start Date: July 1, 2023 or sooner

This is a full-time position with hours and compensation to be determined based on experience and qualifications. The Director is accountable to the charge conference through the Staff Parish Relationships Committee and Administrative council and is under the direct supervision of the Senior Pastor.

Apply Today: Heather Weidenbach, Administrative Manager heatherw@mylhumc.org