

Soapstone United Methodist Church

12837 Norwood Road, Raleigh, NC 27613

Position Title: Director of Youth Ministries

Reports To: Associate Pastor

Work Schedule: Full-Time

Position Overview

Soapstone UMC is a congregation of curious, engaged, affirming and service-oriented disciples in northwest Raleigh, and our youth ministry is one of the most vital expressions of who we are. The Director of Youth Ministries leads a dynamic ministry for middle and high school students, building the kinds of relationships that help young people experience the good news that they are known, loved, and called by God. This role is about more than programming: it's about accompanying young people on the journey of faith—through the questions, the milestones, and the ordinary days—helping them discover what it means to follow Jesus in the church and in the world.

Duties & Responsibilities

Ministry Leadership & Vision

- Shape and steward a comprehensive ministry for middle and high schoolers—including Sunday morning Sunday School, Sunday evening Youth Group (UMYF), Confirmation, Bible Studies, and Small Groups, as well as special events and seasonal programs. Sunday evening programming is a particular priority and opportunity for deep faith formation and community building.
- Partner with the Youth Council on annual ministry plans; recruit, equip, and celebrate volunteers; and build a ministry where worship, study, fellowship, and service are woven together rather than siloed.
- Actively create pathways for youth to lead in worship, service, and congregational life.
- Cultivate a culture where youth are the “pilots” of their own ministry—owning events, leading initiatives, and taking real responsibility—while adults serve as trusted “co-pilots,” coaching and supporting alongside.
- Along with youth, plan, coordinate, and chaperone the annual calendar of youth trips—which typically includes weekend retreats, mission trips, and events with the North Carolina Conference of the UMC. This includes logistical work - securing transportation, housing, and meals, as well as leading devotionals and small group conversations that help to deepen these formational experiences.
- Offer guidance in selecting curriculum and resources that support Christian living and faith formation.
- Encourage the creativity and leadership development of Youth Ministry volunteers.
- Tend your own spiritual life with intention, and bring that same care to the youth, teachers, and volunteers you serve alongside.

Community Engagement

- Cultivate relationships with individuals, families, schools, and organizations in northwest Raleigh, listening well to their hopes and needs, and helping the congregation be genuine neighbors and a welcoming presence to the youth in our community.

- Connect with the North Carolina Conference and other United Methodist churches to stay current with denominational resources, discipleship events, and partnership opportunities.

Administration & Compliance

- Attend weekly staff meetings and monthly Youth Council meetings.
- Make ministry recommendations to the pastors and Church Council, noting emerging needs and priorities for the future development of youth ministries.
- Purchase resources, curricula, educational materials and supplies.
- Provide closing evaluations and reports of major activities and programs to the pastors, Youth Council, and Church Council.
- Ensure implementation of appropriate policies and procedures to maintain the safety of all people in compliance with Safer Sanctuaries policies.

Advisory & Support Relationships

- The Youth Council serves in an advisory role for program planning and evaluation.
- The Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) designates an official liaison to advocate for and support the Youth Director.

Qualifications & Requirements

- Education: Four-year college degree required; theological education a plus.
- Experience: Meaningful experience in youth ministry required. We're looking for someone who genuinely loves teenagers—the whole, complicated, wonderful reality of them—and has the leadership skills to build and sustain a healthy team around that love.
- Must complete Safer Sanctuaries training and background check prior to beginning employment.

To apply:

Please submit a resume and cover letter to hr@soapstoneumc.org.