

## Youth Minister Job Posting

**St. James Lutheran Church** in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, is seeking a full-time Youth Minister to partner with the congregation to nurture its children and youth of the church, help them to create a deeper relationship with Christ, an understanding of living out their Baptism, invigorating their relationship with the Christian community and continuing their commitment to serving others.

The ideal candidate is a driven but highly relational leader with the pastoral gifts of shepherding, teaching, and counsel. They will be good at recruiting, caring for, and developing a diverse set of volunteers capable of handling the complex combination of tactical detail and people skills that youth ministry requires.

### **The Church**

St. James Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and is located in historic Gettysburg, PA. We are a diverse community of families and singles, older adults and children, and everyone in-between! On any given weekend, about 300 people come together for worship at one of three different worship services.

Initially founded in 1847, St. James is a very resilient congregation. It has survived fires and wars and is blessed with an abundance of young people and young families. The membership is a healthy cross section of the community and members come from all walks of life.

St. James is a diverse and generous congregation that seeks to build disciples who “respond to God’s abundant grace by being hearers, proclaimers and doers of the Word.” The Church boasts strong music and youth programs, as well as community outreach.

### **The Community**

Gettysburg was founded in 1786 and named after Samuel Gettys, an early settler and tavern owner. The Borough was incorporated in 1806. The confluence of ten major roads of the period caused it to be attractive to travelers and settlers alike. Although known primarily for its proximity to the battlefield, the Borough of 7620 residents is also known for its institutions of higher learning. The Lutheran Theological Seminary was founded in 1826 and Gettysburg College was established in 1832. Harrisburg Area Community College also has a campus just outside the geographical boundary of Gettysburg.

Centrally located in Southern Pennsylvania, Gettysburg is 52 miles from Baltimore, 90 miles from Washington, DC, and 102 miles from Philadelphia. The main thoroughfare is US Route 30 (The Lincoln Highway), which was the first trans-continental highway.

For three days in July of 1863, a costly battle raged between the Union and Confederate armies in and around the Borough. Over 51,000 casualties occurred during this battle. Although the Civil War continued two years following the battle at Gettysburg, the battle is viewed as the turning point of the war.

## **The Position**

The Youth Minister will play an active role in the operation of St. James as a member of the professional staff and will develop a core team of volunteers who shares in the primary responsibility for youth ministry programs.

### Principal Accountabilities:

1. Collaborate with the Leadership Team to envision, develop and oversee programs for all youth.
2. Communicate well with the church staff, parents, congregation and youth and exhibit a spirit of community.
3. Plan and execute elementary, middle, and high school youth group functions in partnership with the Youth Ministry Committee.
4. Develop, announce and publish a schedule of all youth activities.
5. Plan and promote youth involvement in select services and community service projects.
6. Carry out educational programming during Youth Group gatherings.
7. Develop and implement summer programming.
8. Support Youth Ministry Committee fundraising projects.
9. Manage the Youth Activities Budget and the Work Camp/Youth Gathering fund.
10. Encourage participation in Synod and local ecumenical activities.
11. Assist, coordinate and participate in Vacation Bible School events, youth retreats, work camps, and national youth gatherings.
12. Extend the ministry of St. James into the community.

## **Benefits**

- Full Time Salary
- Health, Dental & Life Insurance
- 403(b) Plan
- Paid holidays as well as a generous vacation, sick, and personal time off

## **Qualifications:**

- Ability to share the Lutheran faith.
- Strong managerial and relational skills.
- Team building skills: recruiting volunteers, training and supporting them.
- Excellent communication skills with both youth and adults.
- Group processing and facilitation skills.
- Organizational skills: program building, team building, time management, delegation, long-range planning, financial management and budgeting.
- Ability to relate with empathy and build trust with youth and staff in a group and on a one-to-one basis.
- Ability to work collaboratively with Pastors, Staff, Congregation Council, parents and youth.
- Ability to function without direct supervision.
- Knowledge of adolescent spiritual and personal development, youth culture and sociology.
- Experience in youth ministry.
- Previous experience working with youth in a Christian setting is highly desirable.
- Experience in teaching and/or counseling helpful.
- Active member of ELCA congregation.
- Bachelor's degree preferred.

Candidates must be willing and able to acquire favorable child abuse, criminal background and FBI clearances.

Interested candidates should forward a cover letter and resume to the attention of Rev. Michael Allwein, Senior Pastor at: [mallwein@stjamegettysburg.org](mailto:mallwein@stjamegettysburg.org). Applications should be submitted no later than Saturday, June 15, 2019.

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**EEOC Statement**

St. James Lutheran Church does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, retaliation, parental status, military service, or other non-merit factor.