



Grace Church, an Episcopal Community in the Southern Berkshires, seeks a full time, year-round Director of Gideon's Garden to manage our 1.5 acre farm, to mentor, teach and supervise local youth, interns and community volunteers.

Gideon's Garden is a youth operated garden in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Supported and staffed by Grace Episcopal Church in partnership with Taft Farms, it supplies 100% of its fresh produce to hungry folks in the area, free of charge.

Ordination is not required, though we do require the director to be fully engaged in their own faith journey. The candidate must love creation and see farming as a method of ministry. They must also have a strong passion for working with youth, and a desire to meet and impact young people where they are – whether they are Christian or not. (We do not expect the outcome of this work to “fill our pews”, but rather to translate the love of God into the language needed by those who will work in the Garden.)

The ideal candidate will take part in other ministries of the church as well, including pastoral care, worship and – should they so desire - preaching. They will also have some experience in farming and youth leadership. Because Gideon's Garden is located on the land of a commercial farm, the ability to communicate well with professional farmers and seasonal workers is essential. So too is a natural gift for relationship building with young people, and a heart for making community with people across difference of all kinds: volunteers, food access partners, local non-profits, former interns, and people from the Grace Church community.

Day-to-day responsibilities of the Director include: planning, planting, tending, harvesting, and delivering healthy, organic produce to local food pantries. Running the Summer Internship Program for local youth is central to the work of the director, who will also:

- create an accessible curriculum suitable for interns with a wide range of abilities
- lead and organize the 9-week Summer internship Program
- mentor, support and cheer on all young people involved with the garden
- train and supervise a young adult to serve as Summer Youth Supervisor
- create and implement a budget
- produce regular updates for the Grace Church weekly newsletter

Partner with our priest to:

- build and support a robust volunteer base from within the Grace Church community
- maintain year-round relationships with school counselors and teachers
- gather former and current interns seasonally for community building and fun
- organize, publicize and staff the Garden's regular planting days, harvest celebrations, and volunteer opportunities for the community at large
- take their part in leadership of Grace Church's Sunday worship service as desired

Proficiency in Spanish a plus!

Salary commensurate with experience.

Full benefits provided.

For more information, visit www.gideonsgarden.org

To apply, please send a cover letter and resumé to Joel at jcjorgensen97@gmail.com & to Pennie at penledge@hotmail.com by November 15th, 2024