

YOUTH MINISTER OPPORTUNITY

The First Congregational Church of Madison Connecticut is seeking an earnest and engaged individual to join our church staff as a Youth Minister starting with our 2025-2026 program year. In this role, you will be responsible for facilitating the spiritual development of students in grades 6 - 12 through Sunday School lessons, Youth Group events and Confirmation classes. The Youth Minister will report to the Senior Ministers and work closely with the Director of Children and Family Ministries to plan, schedule and execute various events throughout the year.

This role is an opportunity to grow in your own faith as you work not just with youth but as an important member of the overall church community, which is continually exploring how to live out our faith in different ways. The First Congregational Church of Madison is an open and affirming church and is known for its welcoming and supportive environment. We welcome applicants from faith backgrounds not limited to the United Church of Christ.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Sunday School

- Sundays, 9:30 - 11:00 AM
- With Senior Ministers, design and/or select weekly, faith-based curriculum for students in grades 6-12 for weekly Sunday School classes at the First Congregational Church of Madison.
- Instruct and guide students using self-designed or selected curriculum. Develop relationships with students and assist in the cultivation of faith practices. Occasionally coordinate with Senior Ministers and Director of Children and Family Ministries to align lesson plans.
- Assist in planning, designing, and executing the annual Youth Sunday service that showcases youth involvement in the church and highlights graduating seniors from the congregation.
- Coordinate with Senior Ministers in advance when unable to attend Sunday School to identify and communicate with a substitute teacher.

Youth Group

- Sundays, 5:30 - 7:00 PM, rotates with Confirmation Classes (below)
- With Senior Minsters, design and/or select weekly, faith-based curriculum for students in grades 6-12 for weekly (or bi-weekly) Youth Group meetings at the First Congregational Church of Madison.
- Communicate youth group schedule and events with families and youth in an effective and timely manner.
- Instruct and guide students using self-designed or selected curriculum.
- Develop relationships with students and assist in the cultivation of faith practices.
- Identify and coordinate service projects that align with and provide an opportunity to practice Youth Group lessons. Assist high school students with designing and implementing their own service projects throughout the course of the school year or summer.
- Plan, publicize, and oversee various Youth Group events and activities throughout the year, including but not limited to:
 - Annual Youth Sleep Out
 - White Elephant Christmas Party
 - Winter Outing (e.g. snow tubing)
 - Fall Outing (e.g. pumpkin patch visit)
 - Easter Sunrise Service and Breakfast

Confirmation Classes

- Sundays, 5:30-7:00 PM, rotates with Youth Group (above)
- With Senior Ministers, design and/or select weekly, faith-based curriculum, primarily for students in grade 8 (with the occasional student in grade 7 or 9) for weekly (or bi-weekly, depending) Confirmation Classes at the First Congregational Church of Madison. Meet with Senior Ministers to confirm calendar and outlines for classes. Lead classes on a weekly or bi-weekly basis.
- Publicize, communicate and meet with parents to prepare for the Confirmation Classes.

- Identify mentors for confirmands and facilitate relationship building between mentors and mentees.
- Coordinate activities that correspond with Confirmation Class material to help students put their faith into practice. Identify possible guest speakers from outside or within the church to speak with students as relevant to lesson material.
- Select, order and present Confirmation gifts on behalf of the church for all of the confirmands.
- Plan and execute the culminating Confirmation Service for confirmands.

Youth Service Trip

- Plan, schedule and execute fundraising activities for the annual youth service trip to Appalachia.
- Participate in the planning as well as attending and chaperoning the week long, annual youth service trip to Appalachia that takes place over the summer, typically, in June.

Additional Responsibilities

- Coordinate one-on-one outings with students (dinners, ice cream, smoothies, etc.) on an as needed basis to build relationships and provide pastoral care and support.
- Track spending for supplies and materials to keep within budget limits.
- Attend weekly FCC staff meetings.
- Attend appropriate workshops and training, as able.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Ability to organize and plan education programs and group events for teens.
- Ability to plan and effectively communicate schedules with the church, families and youth.
- Exceptional interpersonal and relationship skills with middle and high schoolers.
- Energy, passion, and enthusiasm, backed by a strong faith.

- Demonstrated teaching and creative thinking skills.
- Must be able to work effectively and positively with diversity.
- Must be a team player with flexibility.
- Christian theological education programming background preferred.
- Ability to partner with other congregations within the community to improve the effectiveness of the FCC programs.
- Commitment to follow the congregational and safety rules of the church.

GENERAL

Hours and Pay

- Averages 10 hours per week with some time periods longer and some shorter.
- \$25 per hour

Applications

Please express your interest by e-mailing your resume to:

Rev. Sarah Vetter at svetter@fccmadison.org

Interviews

- Interviews will be held with the Senior Ministers and current Youth Minister.
- Interviews will be held at a mutually convenient time at:

First Congregational Church of Madison

26 Meeting House Lane

Madison, CT 06443