



Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church

8600 Potter Road, Weddington, NC, 28104

searchcommittee@spiritofjoy.us

Director of Family (& Youth) Ministry

Church in suburban Charlotte, NC, seeks full-time Family Minister. Primary responsibilities include evangelism, fostering households of faith, and quarter-time youth ministry. Our congregational focus is DEEPER FAITH (80% come back to church each week to deepen faith), JOYFUL COMMUNITY (we are multigenerational and view church as family), and REACHING MORE (25% of our budget is used for missions). Spirit of Joy is a bible-believing church in the Lutheran tradition (LCMC). Professional level salary, commensurate with experience.

For more info, contact us at searchcommittee@spiritofjoy.us.

this August's VBS



Family Minister

Evangelism Communication Relationships Youth

Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church

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Foundations

BECAUSE THERE ARE MANY definitions for “Family Ministry,” Spirit of Joy defines it like this ...

Church as Family Church itself is Family. It is young and old ... married and single ... full house and empty nest ... widowed and divorced. The Family Minister should seek to inspire a sense of “family” and connection among all members throughout all the ministries of the church – primarily this will not occur by creating new programs, but by encouraging “family” and participation in any and every offering of the church.

Family as Households of Faith The family minister shall aim to equip parent(s) and caregiver(s) to nurture faith within their child(ren). Sadly, most parents in American Christianity abdicate this role – because they don’t understand their calling, don’t prioritize this responsibility, and/or don’t feel unequipped to do this well. The family minister shall inspire and equip families to share their faith. Generally, this shall not be about adding more busyness (and guilt over participation in programs); rather, it should be through helping families prioritize God, faith, and church over the false priorities and busyness of the world.

Ministries as Cooperative Family Ministry is not a stand-alone-ministry within the congregation; it is largely a mind-set. We want every ministry to be Family Ministry, and even when opportunities are aimed at parents, youth, or children, they still need to be woven into the fabric of the church and must seek to utilize the gifts of all generations and involve all kinds of households (including singles, for example). In terms of ministry being cooperative, Youth Ministry, for example, is not a stand alone ministry that starts when a youth enters sixth grade. Strategically, it’s an extension of the six previous years of children’s ministry. Ministries should be likened to relay racers handing off their batons to the next runner. Likewise, then, how does youth ministry prepare youth for college ministry? Family Ministry shall work cooperatively with the staff and throughout all our ministries to create a cooperative Church-as-Family culture.

Responsibilities

FAMILY MINISTRY The Family Minister is expected to focus about three-quarters-time on Family Ministry. Responsibilities include ...

- ☼ **Evangelism** A primary responsibility is drawing young families to the church. Some days this may mean being involved in the community as much as working inside the church. It is networking, serving, modeling faith, and being a neighbor.
- ☼ **Communication** Coordinate Spirit of Joy’s social media presence. Since a major portion of this job is connecting with young families, a primary role for the Family Minister is coordinating and advancing the primary communication tool for this generation.
- ☼ **Worship** Help families make worship a weekly priority.
- ☼ **Intergenerational** While this calling must aim at young families, the family minister must foster a sense of family among all generations.
- ☼ **Facilitate** The Family Minister should facilitate programming appropriate for families, like parenting classes, milestone ministries, etc. As stated before, the goal is not to add to busyness at church or in homes, but to look always for ways to strengthen family.
- ☼ **Cooperative** To foster faith within families by working cooperatively with all of the ministries of the church, including existing children’s ministries.

YOUTH MINISTRY The Family Minister is expected to spend about a quarter of their working time on fostering our youth ministry program (grades 6-12).

- ☼ **Relational** This is first a relational ministry. It is a first priority of the Family Minister to be available to youth in person and through calls, texts, social media, etc.
- ☼ **Programmatic** This ministry shall provide weekly gatherings that are interactive, engaging, and faith focused. It shall also include occasional (but regular) fellowship and service opportunities.
- ☼ **Developmental** Using the resources of the rest of the church, this ministry should develop and be part of a process for intentional spiritual development for the youth.

Qualifications

Love of God A love for God, a traditional understanding of His Word, an appreciation of Lutheran theology and ways, a rich personal spiritual journey and prayer life, and an abiding faith even in the face of soul-searching circumstances.

Love of People A love for children, youth, families, singles, etc.; an appreciation of their unique and individual gifts; a passion for God’s plan for the family; and a growing passion for those who do not know Christ (nearby and around the world).

Character A strong personal moral ethic and an ability to establish appropriate boundaries.

Communication The ability to communicate with people of all ages in a variety of ways.

Leadership The ability to administer programs, shepherd task forces, maintain schedules, manage budgets, and advocate the needs of youth and family.

Availability Be available to families, parents, children, and youth for fellowship, counsel, support, and encouragement.

Work Ethic Must be self-motivated, hard-working, and willing to see ministry as a way of life and a way to do family rather than a job.

Accountability This position reports to the Senior Pastor and works cooperatively with the Church Council and Congregational Staff and volunteer leaders.

Details

- ☼ Full-time position.
- ☼ Professional level pay commensurate with experience.
- ☼ Will consider: Married, Single, or Married-Couple-as-a-Team.