

Director of Student Ministries CenterPoint Community Church

Qualifications:

The following must be true of this individual:

- A solid commitment to Christ
- A good understanding of the Bible and Christian discipleship
- A passion to teach God's word to young people
- An understanding of and commitment to our theological convictions as contained in the Westminster Standards
- Maturity and the ability to communicate with all ages
- The ability to "wear well" with parents and youth
- A genuine love for youth and understanding of the problems they face
- A commitment to youth work as more than a job, but as real Christian ministry
- A commitment to team ministry and to our "Mission/ Vision Statement."

General Philosophy:

A. Effective student ministry brings God's Word to young people. This is because it is ultimately the gospel, and the work of the Holy Spirit using the Scriptures that is effective in changing people. Therefore, youth ministry must place a premium on the Bible. Our aim is to teach our youth how to read the Bible on their own, how to pray, how the Bible relates to vital issues they face, and how to share, defend, and live out their faith with friends.

B. Effective student ministry is performed by a body of believers, working together with common goals in mind. Therefore a significant portion of time should be spend in recruiting, training, and organizing adult leaders who will assist the carrying out of the ministry. The Director of Student Ministries is not expected to raise the children and youth of the church. The primary responsibility is to assist parents in the nurture of their children. Therefore, he/ she shall hold regular meetings (formal and informal) with parents to assist them with the nurture of their child(ren).

C. Effective student ministry is 'incarnational' in its method. Our goal is to communicate to young people how the gospel is lived out by faith in daily life. This instruction is both formal and informal. As Christ entered our world we must enter the world and lives of those with whom we work. Therefore, a significant amount of time must be spent with youth in their habitat (ball games, plays, etc.).

D. Effective student ministry focuses on the gospel. Our desire is not simply to see young people make a decision but to learn to live out of the gospel in a deepening commitment to

Christ. Obedience, self-discipline, witnessing, serving, etc., are not simply behaviors to be emulated post-conversion. They are fruits of the Spirit that the gospel produces.

E. Effective student ministry involves the youth themselves in the work of ministry.

They must be challenged with the call of Christ to serve him as they live in a culture that is intent on serving itself. Therefore we must challenge them to discover and use their own gifts and abilities to demonstrate the power of the gospel to others. Young people must be taught that they are part of the larger body of Christ. Their gifts and energies are part of what Jesus uses in building his Church. Therefore, they should begin to taste the reality and benefits of biblical rebuke, encouragement, and use of their gifts in the life of the church.

Guidelines:

1. The Director of Student Ministries organize and gather a Youth Ministry Team that will help plan the time, place, of meetings, outings, and ministry opportunities for Middle and High School Youth under the supervision of the Pastors and the Session.
2. DSM will make long range and short range plans for youth ministry, utilizing the gifts and resources of the Youth Ministry Team and submit those to the Session.
3. DSM will organize regular meetings of the Youth Ministry Team, and meet with others assisting in youth ministry.
4. DSM will emphasize "bringing friends" to those outside of the Church with the hope of drawing them into the body. He/ she will make ministry to those outside of the church a priority of ministry.
5. DSM will keep a regular calendar of activities, study time, Bible Studies, and individual discipleship sessions.
6. DSM will schedule regular meetings of the Youth Ministry Team and parents to keep them informed with the overall youth program of the church.
7. DSM will take advantage of the opportunities afforded to be a part of students' lives in local schools.