

# Old Orchard Church

Job Title: **Youth Ministries Director**

Old Orchard Church, a member of the Presbyterian Church in America located in Webster Groves, MO, is seeking a man or woman to be our part-time Youth Ministries Director, starting immediately.

## *The Vision and Personality of Old Orchard Church*

Old Orchard Church sees its purpose to be a community of Jesus Christ: a people who in our time and place, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, enjoy God and bring pleasure to him, living as a demonstration of who He is for the sake of the world. Our way of doing ministry has been profoundly influenced by Francis Schaeffer and the L'Abri Fellowship.

The Youth Ministries Director is responsible for the youth of Old Orchard ranging from the sixth to the twelfth grade in a way that is consistent with the mission and guiding philosophy of Old Orchard. He or she is accountable to the Senior Pastor and to the Session.

## *Purpose and Goal:*

1. To develop and facilitate Old Orchard's ministry to youth and families in accord with the vision and personality of this congregation.
2. To nurture the spiritual formation of our sixth through twelfth graders in the truth and grace of the gospel that each would progress toward the chief end of glorifying and enjoying the Lord Jesus Christ forever.

## *Hours:*

This is a part-time 12 to 15 hr/week position with 5 or so fixed hours and 5-10 flexible hours; noting that some seasons of the year will be more demanding than others.

## *Primary Responsibilities:*

- **Coordinate Children and Youth Sunday-School Classes:** This program runs from 9:00 to 10:00 am during the school year with approximately 36 total sessions per year. The director will select curriculum with an eye to the overall scope and sequence (preschool through high school), will recruit and train teachers from within the congregation, and will ensure that youth gain a working knowledge of Scripture and a growing ability in personal Bible study and application of the gospel to their own lives.
- **Lead the Youth Group:** This program has traditionally run Sundays from 5:00 to 6:30 pm during the school year (but could be moved to the 7:00 to 8:30 pm timeslot). The director will cultivate an environment and culture of welcome, inquiry, and curiosity exploring worldview issues

surrounding what people believe, where these beliefs come from, and what motivates our choices. Winsome engagement with ideas and presentation of the gospel is critical to the vitality of this ministry. Guest speakers, interviews, book studies, case studies, movie screenings, themed dinners, and exposure trips are all welcome strategies to nurture engagement in relevant topics. The emphasis at Sunday Night youth group is on spiritual-formation and the application of the Christian faith to the real-world context and situations that youth find themselves in now and are likely to encounter in the future.

- **Connect with Families (Contact Work/Discipling Ministry):** One of the strengths of the small church is that each student and family can know and be known by the youth director. We want you to spend time hanging out with families over meals and demonstrating interest in the lives of our young people outside of their church involvement. In as much as it depends on you, become a guiding star and a safe adult to talk to in the lives of our youth.

#### *Secondary Initiatives:*

- **Summer Connect Events:** Summer is a slower time of year. Sunday Night “Youth Group” is typically replaced by cookouts and connect events. We seek to maintain and continue to develop the connections that have grown throughout the school year.
- **Outreach to Neighborhood:** Provide opportunities, events, and programs serving the youth and families of the Old Orchard Neighborhood; meeting their needs, and drawing them into greater engagement with us.
- **Youth Confirmation/Membership Program:** We are seeking to develop a process to prepare older youth to make a profession of faith and thereby enter into the full membership of the church. We currently offer a class for younger children to be admitted to the Lord’s Table and a class for adults to become members.

#### *Qualifications:*

1. **Love for the Lord:** A genuine love for and commitment to Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior is a must. The gospel will inform every aspect of ministry here.
2. **Good With People:** Puts others at ease and knows how to build bridges to all kinds of people; is cheerful and hopeful about life; enjoys being with others; and willing to get close to people, but also knows how to respect proper boundaries.
3. **A Disciplined Self-Starter:** Comes to the work of this ministry already highly motivated to do it; willing to take initiative; has sufficient organizational skills to develop and maintain this ministry without constant oversight; a good manager of time.
4. **A Teachable, Peace-Making, Team Player:** Truly regards oneself as a learner; loves the unity of Christ's body and is willing to do what it takes to find peace and reconciliation in conflict situations without compromising truth; sees oneself as part of a team and therefore strives to get along well with other people and welcome their input and ideas
5. **A Good Overseer:** Is convinced of both the usefulness and the limitations of authority and hence is not afraid to exercise it, but does so with restraint; knows how to inspire others and enlist them in serving our young people, and through encouragement, exhortation, and

admonition knows how to maintain them in the work; has enough objectivity to recognize with something is not working well and has the courage to address it.

6. **A Heart for Unbelievers:** Has a passion for engaging with non-Christians and the skill and patience to build bridges toward them; is committed to help our youth seize opportunities to share their faith and grow in their ability to winsomely defend it.
7. **Comfortable in a Confessionally Reformed Context:** Happy to serve within the PCA and able to offer a “good faith subscription” to our theological standards.

*Oversight and Evaluation:*

The Director reports to the senior pastor and is overseen by him in the day to day work of this ministry. Oversight is intended to nurture a more closely coordinated and fruitful ministry; and will include a secondary focus on ongoing personal development. Collaboration with the wider church staff is encouraged.

*Compensation:*

Annual salary in the range of \$18,000 to \$22,000 paid in monthly installments and inclusive of four weeks of time off per year (including Sundays)

Health care and relocation expenses will not be provided.

*To Apply:*

Send resume and cover letter to:

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314.283.7988

Our website

[www.oldorchardchurch.org](http://www.oldorchardchurch.org)