



Director of Discipleship

Reports to: Senior Pastor

Overview of the Position

The Director of Discipleship is a full-time member of the Linworth UMC staff team. They provide leadership for all aspects of discipleship ministries with specific focus on ministries with children and youth. The Director will supervise volunteers and any part-time staff necessary for effective ministries in all areas of discipleship.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Facilitates the design, implementation, and support of ministry teams who will provide direction and leadership for discipleship ministries with children, youth, and adults.
- Participates as a full member of the staff team providing perspective and expertise related to age-level and intergenerational engagement in all aspects of the church's ministry.
- Provides innovative leadership for ongoing ministries with Children and Youth:
 - Sunday School
 - Linworth Youth Fellowship
 - Club 456
 - New ongoing ministry settings
- Provides innovative leadership – in partnership with current volunteers - for all youth and children's special events. This includes, but is not limited to, Vacation Bible School, Fall Festival, Advent Festival, retreats, outings, local mission experiences, mission trips, lock ins.
- Advises adult discipleship ministries concerning needs, content, and expanded groupings.
- Serves as staff liaison to LCC (Linworth Children's Center) Advisory Board.
- Develops and implements a comprehensive volunteer recruitment, training, support, communication, and recognition process.
- Initiates curriculum review and selection with leaders from various ministries.
- Creates an effective attendance and follow-up system for all aspects of discipleship ministries.
- Reviews, updates, and maintains Safe Sanctuaries child protection policies, training, and record-keeping assuring that all staff and volunteers are current with all aspects of the policies.
- Coordinates with worship leadership to effectively involve children and youth as participants and leaders in worship.
- Implements strategies for greater church connection/involvement with LCC families and those living in immediate proximity of the church.
- Reaches out to visitors/new families with children/youth to provide information about ministry opportunities at LUMC.

- Communicates in an effective and timely manner through a variety of avenues concerning all discipleship ministry activities, enabling church family members adequate time to plan for involvement.
- Coordinates the every-other-year confirmation program with the Senior Pastor.
- Facilitates the scheduling and educational preparation for baptisms with the pastors and individuals/parents.
- Works with staff and appropriate committees to propose and manage an adequate budget for all discipleship ministries programs and activities.
- Coordinates staffing, supervising, and scheduling of childcare for all church functions in accordance with applicable church policies.
- Works with Senior Pastor and SPRC (Staff/Parish Relations Committee) to evaluate and address additional staffing needs to maintain, enhance, and expand discipleship ministry for all age groups as needed.

Characteristics and Qualifications

The following characteristics have been identified as key to successful ministry for the Director of Discipleship:

- A relationally gifted team player who can connect with people of all ages across the congregation.
- An excellent listener and communicator.
- A creative innovator.
- A person with a love for ministry with children and youth.
- An excellent time manager.

The following qualifications are ideal for the Director of Discipleship:

- Bachelor's or advanced degree with focus on youth and children's ministries.
- An understanding of and appreciation for United Methodist/Wesleyan theology.
- Local church experience with focus on youth and children's ministry.
- A committed follower of Jesus with a willingness to grow in faith and knowledge to enhance themselves personally and professionally.
- A demonstrated ability to empower others in ministry.
- A working knowledge of best practices and available resources for discipleship settings.
- Passport holder or ability to obtain a passport.

LUMC Work Culture

- Office setting with core hours of 8:30 -4:30.
- This is an exempt position and will regularly include evening and weekend hours.
- Work/life balance is valued and encouraged.
- Continued learning and spiritual growth is expected.
- Linworth UMC is a Reconciling Congregation.

To see our statement of inclusion, visit our website at www.linworthumc.org/about-lumc

To Apply

Please send a cover letter and resume to Rev. Anna Guillozet, Senior Pastor, at pastoranna@linworthumc.org. Applications will be received until April 14 or until the position is filled.