Youth Minister: St John’s, Ross

St John’s Episcopal Church in Ross, CA (www.stjohnsross.org) is looking for a full-time Youth Minister (YM) who will lead us in reimagining and rebuilding our ministry with youth.

We are interested in a seasoned builder of youth programs, someone who can gather and equip volunteers to carry out a vision for youth ministry that has spiritual depth, a focus on service, and a broad reach in the community. But first and foremost we are seeking a candidate who has demonstrated ability to build meaningful, appropriate relationships with youth, offering spiritual guidance, emotional support, and an ongoing connection to Christian faith.

St. John’s is a thriving Episcopal parish in Marin County, California. Clergy and lay ministers serve together with staff and volunteers to provide a robust environment of fellowship and faith formation for youth and families. We are hoping to have the right person in place and working by September 2016.

Qualifications:
Applicants should have:

- a demonstrated capacity to connect with and inspire youth.
- considerable previous experience working with youth in a Christian church.
- experience in building or revitalizing youth programs.
- experience recruiting, training, and supporting volunteers in youth programs.
- the ability to communicate with parents in an organized and thoughtful way.
- experience in developing creative responses to families living in a very secular context in which youth live busy, programmed lives.
- willingness to explore creative options such as regional youth ministry and ecumenical collaboration.
- a deep and evident personal faith.
- interest in continuing to learn about youth and their spiritual development.

Familiarity with the Episcopal Church is preferred, but not required. St. John’s is open to both lay and ordained candidates, though ordained candidates should note that this position is focused on ministry with youth rather than a broader mission of parish leadership.

Supervision:
The Youth Minister will be supervised by, and report to, the Associate Priest. Many of the YCM’s duties, as listed below, will also require some degree of collaboration with other staff. Annual review of the position will entail a mutual review overseen by the Rector.

St. John’s has decided to make ministry with youth a central commitment of our life together, so the youth minister will be a core member of our ministry team.

Primary responsibilities:
We are looking for a YM who will prioritize building relationships with youth and families and inviting them into deeper spiritual commitment. The YM must be able to make good use of social media and communications technology to stay in touch with youth (i.e., Instagram, texting, etc.)

The YM is responsible for gathering and equipping a team of lay leaders in order to minister with youth. The YM will inherit a well-organized program that is in need of creative rebuilding and restructuring in collaboration with youth and parents (and possibly in collaboration with other Episcopal parishes). Programming will need to continue even as it grows and changes. The existing program includes our weekly youth Sunday School program during our 10am service, Junior and Senior High Youth Groups, Confirmation preparation, and annual mission trips for youth.
We anticipate that the YM will have at least one other major area of responsibility which will be determined in collaboration with the Rector and Associate Priest based on the gifts of the candidate. Possibilities include but are not limited to: communications for the parish, leadership in our 9am family service, family mission trip planning, coordinating the participation of families with young children in service activities, and outreach to families in the Ross Valley.

**Other responsibilities:**
1. Coordinate, plan, and lead youth in service activities.

2. Coordinate special events to engage families of youth and reach out to new families.

3. Offer opportunities for youth to engage in the wider parish and lead parish in effectively welcoming and integrating youth into participation and leadership.

4. Support parents of youth in their roles through conversation, connection, and programming.

5. Keep the Youth Ministry portions of the St. John’s website relevant and up-to-date.

6. Collaborate with other staff to create a bridge into the Youth Group from Sunday School or the 9am service.

7. Function as an essential component of the Program Staff, providing administrative leadership for all Youth Ministries as they relate to the larger life of the parish.

8. The YM is also responsible for implementing Diocesan policies regarding youth ministry, including training and background checks for volunteers.

9. Additional duties as assigned.

**Time and Compensation**
This is a full time position. Compensation includes salary commensurate with experience. Health, dental, and other benefits as defined by Diocesan policy will be offered.

**To apply**
Please send a résumé and cover letter to: Youth Minister Search
St John’s Episcopal Church
PO Box 217, Ross, CA 94957
Attn: Ginger Strickland

Or by email: info@stjohnsross.org