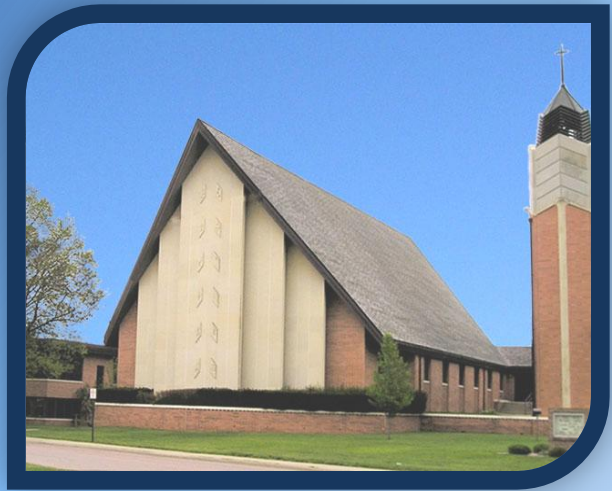


Welcome!

Job Description for:

Director of Discipleship



Grace at A Glance

Founded in 1888, Grace United Methodist Church is located on the southeast corner of the campus of Morningside College in the Morningside area of Sioux City, Iowa. The Morningside suburban area features large regional shopping malls and retail shops, growing residential subdivisions, medical clinics, recreational facilities, and excellent schools. This congregation of 300 worshippers gathers weekly for worship, spiritual growth, fellowship, and ministry. Our worship services include a rich blend of liturgy, music, media segments, and preaching. Our 500-seat worship center includes a pipe organ, grand piano, and state-of-the-art media equipment; reflecting our desire to honor past traditions and explore new ones. Our Sunday School averages 50 elementary-aged children, 20 youth, and 25 adults. Our Wednesday evening “Grace Nights” program brings people together for a light meal, musical group rehearsals for all ages and interests, activities for 20 elementary children, and youth group activities for 20 middle school and 10 high school youth. Additional events during the year include special children’s programs, Vacation Bible School, and men’s and women’s group activities and retreats.

Grace United Methodist Church
Sioux City, Iowa



Director of Discipleship Ministries

Job Description Summary

Our Director of Discipleship Ministries will design and direct our spiritual formation ministry across all age groups. Discipleship Ministries includes what has traditionally been called Christian Education but places more emphasis on living a life of discipleship than simply teaching Christian concepts. Spiritual formation looks beyond the classroom to consider how our entire church life supports people in their spiritual journey. This includes how we worship, the use of small groups, retreats, and special spiritual formation experiences in prayer, witnessing, and service. In short, the primary task of our Director of Discipleship is to design and direct a series of experiences across all ages which call, challenge, and coach people into intentionally living as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Program Focus

Our Director of Discipleship will build on our existing Sunday morning and Wednesday evening programming. We want Sunday School, Dynamite Disciples, Grace Night Suppers, adult classes, confirmation, our Children's Christmas program, and Vacation Bible School to be developed into stronger disciple-making programs. Administering these programs require a variety of duties including volunteer enlistment and supervision, curriculum selection, communication, and coordination. The Director of Discipleship will place a priority on developing stronger programming for children and family life opportunities in our Congregation.



Director of Discipleship Ministries

Specific Duties – Primary

- Lead Grace Church in its design and implementation of a Sunday morning program of discipleship formation for all ages. This includes enhancing our existing Sunday School for all age groups, our weekly Wednesday evening children's program (Dynamite Disciples), as well as specific programs such as Vacation Bible School and our children's Christmas program. This work will be done in consultation with and support from Grace Church's Children's Ministry Committee and Youth Ministry Committee. Develop new groups to focus on involving children and youth in Sunday worship. This might be accomplished through Readers' Theater, worship drama, liturgical dance, etc.
- Develop an integrated plan and curriculum/resources for classes, small groups, retreats, and discipleship opportunities on a yearly basis.
- Lead Grace Church in developing a vision of Christian discipleship that includes basic beliefs and essential spiritual practices.
- Lead Grace Church in its enlistment and support of volunteer teachers and group leaders. This includes casting vision, giving guidance, providing accountability, and recruiting and developing leaders.



Director of Discipleship Ministries

Specific Duties – Primary (continued)

1. Lead Grace Church in its design and implementation of a Sunday morning program of discipleship formation for all ages. This includes enhancing our existing Sunday School for all age groups, our weekly Wednesday evening children's program (Dynamite Disciples), as well as specific programs such as Vacation Bible School and our children's Christmas program. This work will be done in consultation with and support from Grace Church's Children's Ministry Committee and Youth Ministry Committee. Develop new groups to focus on involving children and youth in Sunday worship. This might be accomplished through Readers' Theater, worship drama, liturgical dance, etc.
2. Develop an integrated plan and curriculum/resources for classes, small groups, retreats, and discipleship opportunities on a yearly basis.
3. Lead Grace Church in developing a vision of Christian discipleship that includes basic beliefs and essential spiritual practices.
4. Lead Grace Church in its enlistment and support of volunteer teachers and group leaders. This includes casting vision, giving guidance, providing accountability, and recruiting and developing leaders.
5. Supervise and coordinate college work–study students who are employed at Grace from Morningside College.



Director of Discipleship Ministries

Specific Duties – Primary (continued)

6. Supervise Grace Church's Youth Director in order to integrate Grace Church's youth ministry into the discipleship life of the Congregation.
7. Lead Grace Church's Confirmation program for 8th graders (with assistance/support from Youth Ministry Director).
8. Provide timely information and reports. This includes submitting written material for the church newsletter, worship folders, and church web site.
9. Provide support for families in their ministry of Christian parenting.
10. Teach classes and lead small groups when needed and appropriate.

Specific Duties – Secondary

- Team with volunteer leaders to respond to visitors and others seeking information about Grace Church.
- Depending on ability and time commitments the Director of Discipleship may be given opportunity to speak/preach/present in worship about discipleship formation.



Director of Discipleship Ministries

Qualifications

1. Possess a mature personal faith, a heart for God and people, and a commitment to help people come to and grow in their faith in Christ. Come to Grace UMC with a background of church membership (preferably United Methodist). Must have an appreciation, knowledge and respect for the ministry and mission of The United Methodist Church, and a desire to be part of the life of Grace UMC and participate in its mission and ministry by guiding children, youth and their families in Christian discipleship.
2. Be a self-starter with motivation to follow through with limited supervision and have the ability to manage one's own time while handling multiple responsibilities.
3. Be able to support the senior pastor and complement the senior pastor's ministry.
4. Be able to evaluate and select age-appropriate curriculum for use in Sunday School, small groups, and other special events.
5. Be able to cast a vision to the Grace Church Congregation to inspire and encourage church members to support discipleship ministries. Speaking, presentation and presentation skills are a must.
6. See himself/herself as a people developer. This includes calling people into ministry through the use of their gifts and talents and identifying potential leaders.
7. Must have a college degree in Education, Religion, Theology or a related field or its functional equivalent and demonstrated experience working in ministry, education, administration, or its functional equivalent.



Director of Discipleship Ministries

Organizational Relationships

1. Attends weekly staff meetings with the Senior Pastor and other church staff.
2. Attends the governing board meetings (Administrative Council).
3. Attends and reports to the annual Church Conference.
4. Meets as needed with Children's, Youth, and Adult Ministry Committees.
5. Reports to the Staff-Parish Relations Committee.
6. Meets as needed with the Senior Pastor.

Scope and Compensation

The Director of Discipleship position is a full-time position but holds the possibility of negotiating the number of hours (30-40) and weekly schedule (flex-time). Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings are a requirement as is a weekly Tuesday morning staff meeting. We are open to negotiating total hours within the range of 30 to 40 hours a week. We can also negotiate summer hours (June, July, August). Maximum compensation is set at \$35,000. This includes all expenses, including any Health Insurance and Pension contributions that may be requested subject to negotiation. Vacation - two weeks of vacation per year; unpaid vacation time is negotiable. Training/Continuing Education: \$500 to \$1,000 per year as negotiated with the Staff-Parish Relations Committee.



Director of Discipleship Ministries

Starting Date

Our goal is to have this position filled by May 2010.

Contact

Send resume to:

Jill Clem, Administrative Secretary
Grace United Methodist Church
1735 Morningside Avenue
Sioux City, Iowa 51106

Or by email attachment to jill@gracesiouxcity.org

Discover Your Pathway



Grace United Methodist Church
Sioux City, Iowa

