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Description automatically generatedJob Title: Director for Youth and Justice Ministries**

**Reports to: Bishop of the Nebraska Synod**

**Status: Full Time – Salaried Position**

**Summary**

The Director for Youth and Justice Ministries is responsible for supporting the people, programs, and work of the Nebraska Synod’s youth and justice ministries.

**Position Responsibilities - Youth Ministries**

1. Cast a vision articulating the Synod’s role, responsibility, and work with youth ministry
2. Oversee faith formation events and experiences for youth in middle and high school (grades 6-12) at the Synod and Churchwide level, providing opportunities for young people to be engaged, equipped, and empowered to serve as disciples in the world. Events may include Lutheran Youth of Nebraska (LYON); Middle School Gathering (MSG); the Journey; ELCA Youth Gathering; ELCA Youth Ministry Network; ELCA Youth Ministry Extravaganza.
3. Support adult leaders walking with youth by curating resources, providing learning opportunities, and connecting through consultations and building networks.
4. Utilize Two-Deep and Safe Sanctuary procedures and policies, assuring implementation and adherence to at all synod-wide events.
5. Be intentional in raising up leaders through special events, mentoring, and providing leadership opportunities.

**Position Responsibilities - Justice Ministries**

1. Create a unified strategy for justice, equity, diversity, and inclusivity throughout the Nebraska Synod utilizing resources from Churchwide, local organizations and justice-driven leaders.
2. Identify, generate, curate, and create resources for working for justice and peace which can be used to equip and empower all people to be intentional bearers of justice and peace as disciples and stewards of God’s love.
3. Coordinate the teams, networks and committees of the Nebraska Synod focused on work in the areas of gender, race and ethnicity, aging, disability/all abilities, hunger, poverty, immigration, and advocacy at the local, state and national level. This includes serving as a staff coordinator for Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity Committee (JEDI); the LGBTIQA+ Affirming Team; Racial Awareness, Reconciliation and Engagement Team (RARE); Micah 6:8; AMMPARO; and others as assigned.
4. Generate a strong partnership with area ministries and organizations working in the area of justice and peace.

**General Staff Responsibilities**

1. Connect with congregations, individuals, groups, and ministry sites of the Nebraska Synod through presentations and visits.
2. Work closely and cooperatively with synod staff and lay leaders building trusted relationships
3. Provide content for communication resources including e-news, mailings, website, and social media.
4. Relate to boards, committees and networks of the Nebraska Synod providing support and resources as needed. Provide reports, data, and leadership in strategic vision.
5. Participate in staff meetings, Synod Assembly, Fall Leadership Gathering, and other synod wide events.
6. Fulfill other duties as assigned.

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**Expectations and Requirements**

1. Faith in Jesus Christ.
2. Familiarity with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), the ministries of the Nebraska Synod, and Lutheran theology and practice.
3. Thorough knowledge of the Nebraska Synod’s structure, policies, and procedures (Resources will be provided).
4. Preference will be given to applicants who are actively participating or have actively participated in the life of the Nebraska Synod.
5. Typical Workload: 40-50 hrs/week. Some evenings, weekends, and travel required.

**Skills Necessary**

1. Effective communication skills including spoken, print, and electronic formats as well as the ability to use a variety of social media platforms.
2. Strong interpersonal skills, active listening, trustworthy, ability to maintain the confidentiality of sensitive information.
3. Effective organizational skills, self-starter, accountable, personal initiative, and ability to function responsibly with minimal supervision.
4. Ability to work collaboratively with others, including synod office staff, lay and rostered leaders, youth and individuals of many skills, backgrounds, and life stories/situations.
5. Strong working knowledge of Apple technology, Microsoft Office, Adobe, and other appropriate software.

**Education/Training and Work Experience**

1. Three years of proven success and related experience in faith formation, youth ministry and justice ministries.
2. Preference will be given to applicants with higher education degrees and/or professional certification in the areas of youth ministry, justice ministry, and leadership. Bachelor/Masters degree preferred in a related field of study.

**Benefits**

1. Health and dental insurance through Portico Benefit Services.
2. Retirement contributions through Portico Benefit Services.
3. 10 paid holidays and 2 personal days/year
4. 4 weeks paid vacation/year
5. Paid sick leave - accrued 1 day/month of employment, up to 66 days
6. Mileage reimbursement and/or use of Synod car pool for business-related travel

*Position is open as of October 16, 2023, and will remain open until filled.*

*Interested applicants: please email a resume and two references to* [*office@nebraskasynod.org*](mailto:office@nebraskasynod.org)

*For more information, please contact Bishop Scott Johnson –* [*scott@nebraskasynod.org*](mailto:scott@nebraskasynod.org)