

Expectations of ***Pastor of Student Ministries***

Liberty Evangelical Free Church
Pella, Iowa

General Description

The Student Ministries Pastor will focus on the spiritual and educational needs of Liberty's students (children's, middle school, high school, college). The vast majority of their time and focus will be ministering to middle school and high school students. The Student Ministries Pastor will establish the setting and structure for these ministries, being consistent with Liberty's Philosophy of Ministry and Constitution under the authority of the Senior Pastor and Elder Board.

THE PERSON

- ▶ A person who is consistently applying the Word and pursuing a deeper life with Christ. They have a passion for prayer. They are "*an example to others in life, in speech, in love, in faith, and in purity*" (1 Timothy 4:12). They have a deep sense of calling to youth ministry.
- ▶ A person who is in agreement with the purposes, vision, and Philosophy of Ministry of Liberty Evangelical Free Church. Is also in agreement with the *Doctrinal Statement* of the Evangelical Free Church of America.
- ▶ A person who demonstrates a servant's heart and is willing to work well together with the staff, the leadership, and youth leaders at Liberty E-Free. The staff relationship must be one of mutual loyalty, support, and encouragement. Is willing to cooperate with the larger vision of the church as it strives to share the Good News both locally, and around the world.
- ▶ Has received biblical training so that they have a good understanding of the Scriptures, and also possesses a grasp of foundational theological truths. Has a Biblical worldview which equips them to address many of the cultural issues and questions facing youth today.

THE PASSION

- ▶ Has a genuine love, concern and enthusiasm for middle school, high school, and college students. Has the wisdom and ability to assist youth with the struggles that they face.
- ▶ Desires to evangelize students for Christ, and challenges all students to move to their next level of spiritual maturity.
- ▶ Is able to create healthy discipling environments that allow students to pursue a deeper life in Christ.
- ▶ Has the ability to communicate God's Word with accuracy, authority, love, and relevance to students. Is able to challenge students to think and process information from a biblical worldview.
- ▶ A person who has the ability to recruit, train, oversee, and encourage a core of adult leaders who will assist with student ministries.
- ▶ Has the ability to relate well with parents, and the congregation as a whole.
- ▶ Has an ongoing desire to grow in their ministry skills and biblical understanding (Psalm 78:72). Has a teachable spirit.
- ▶ Is able to maintain a proper balance between his relationship to Christ, his relationship with his family, and his duties as the Student Ministries Pastor.

THE POSITION

- ▶ **Oversight--** The primary responsibility of the Student Ministries Pastor will be guiding and directing the middle school and high school ministries. A limited amount of time will be required to provide oversight and encouragement to those who direct the various children's ministries (Awana, Sunday School, etc.). The purpose is to provide an integrated approach for all of the ministries that serve our children and youth. Oversight will also be required for any college ministries taking place through Liberty E-Free.
- ▶ **Planning & Implementing--** Plans and implements middle school and high school youth group gatherings. Balances topical, theological and expositional teaching in the curriculum development. Coordinates middle school and high school summer activities, trips, and group-building activities. Regularly contacts students in a variety of settings, including school functions.
- ▶ **Recruiting & Developing Leaders--** Recruits, trains, and encourages a team of youth leaders who will assist with the youth ministry. Conducts regular youth leader meetings for the purpose of training, encouragement and communication. Holds the youth leaders accountable for pursuing a deeper life with Christ. Encourages the youth leaders to spend time in intercessory prayer. Will abide by Liberty's *Child Protection Policy* when recruiting youth leaders.
- ▶ **Staff Relationships--** Is directly accountable to the Senior Pastor. Is represented on the Elder Board by the Senior Pastor. Attends scheduled staff meetings, staff retreats, and other activities deemed important for staff unity. Is involved in other relationships for the purpose of accountability and encouragement.
- ▶ **Worship/Events--** Participates in Sunday morning worship. Will participate in all-church events that are deemed important to the life of our church. Attends congregational meetings. Is willing and able to fill the pulpit on occasion when needed.
- ▶ **Outreach--** Develops creative strategies that will encourage the students to develop relationships with non-Christian students, eventually leading to the communication of the Gospel through a variety of methods. Provides training in outreach. Has ongoing contact with unchurched students in non-church settings.
- ▶ **Serving--** Encourages and allows the youth to be actively involved in ministry, both to their peers and to the extended church body.
- ▶ **Missions--** Encourages and allows the youth to be actively involved in missions opportunities that take place locally, nationally or internationally.
- ▶ **Communication & Administration--** Communicates effectively with students, parents, and the church body using various formats. Develops avenues to promote the vision and goals of student ministries to the church family. Oversees the budget for student ministries.
- ▶ **Special Events--** Coordinates summer trips, camps, retreats, EFCA conferences, etc. for middle school and high school students. Participates in Central District youth events such as IMPACT, Winter Blast, etc.
- ▶ **District Events--** Will attend the monthly Central District Student Ministries (CDSM) gatherings. Will attend at least one day of the following: the Central District Conference and the Central District Pastors/Wives Retreat.
- ▶ **Life Long Learning--** Will attend at least one training event each year in order to grow in their knowledge and understanding of youth ministry, or theological depth. Observes other youth ministries for the purpose of gathering ideas and skills. Will pursue licensing with the Evangelical Free Church of America.

TIME COMMITMENTS

- ▶▶ **Time--** This is a full-time staff position. This position is expected to require approximately 50 hours a week with the understanding that some weeks will require more time and some less. Liberty Evangelical Free Church is committed to helping the Student Ministries Pastor maintain a proper balance between ministry and family commitments.

- ▶▶ **Days Off--** At least one day a week should be scheduled as a day off.

- ▶▶ **Vacation--** 3 weeks (15 days) of paid vacation per year. These may be split up into single days, however no more than 3 Sundays may be taken without special consideration by the Senior Pastor. The Senior Pastor needs to be notified when vacation days are going to be taken.