



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

POSITION DESCRIPTION: ASSISTANT PRIEST FOR YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES

OVERVIEW

The Episcopal Church of the Advent is seeking a transitional deacon or fairly newly ordained priest to share in the leadership of this Transition/Pastoral-sized, multigenerational, vibrant parish located in downtown Spartanburg. We look forward to welcoming a creative and energetic leader in the late spring or early summer of 2024 to spend 3-5 years in the full-time position of Assistant Priest for Youth & Family Ministries. This person will specifically lead all aspects of faith formation for families with middle and high school aged children as well as college-age young adults, but also will be fully engaged with our Director of Children and Family Ministries. In addition, they will serve as pastor, priest and teacher for the parish along with the Interim Rector and Associate Rector.

The Assistant Priest will plan, design and lead all programs for our youth and engage their families in the life of the church. They will build a network of volunteers to provide middle school and high school youth and college-age young adults with opportunities for formation, fellowship and service.

PARISH HISTORY

The Episcopal Church of the Advent has a current membership of approximately 1,000 and has been a vital part of the upstate community for more than 175 years. The Advent Foundation, our working endowment, just celebrated its 40th anniversary. We are a parish that finds strength and solace in traditional worship and music while also being fully open to new possibilities for spiritual growth and servanthood. We take great joy in an ongoing and far-reaching range of outreach programs recognized by local, diocesan and worldwide communities.

Since the 1990's, the Advent's youth leaders have been lay people. As the needs of the parish have grown, the position has evolved into a full-time and now a clergy position. Our commitment is to add an Assistant Youth Minister once the Assistant Priest is settled and as the program grows. Currently, the Advent has a program and administrative staff of 15 in addition to 20 teachers serving our preschool at the Advent Children's Center. Our ministries to young people and their families are vibrant and varied and have continued through the difficulties of Covid into this past year of transition and growth. We will welcome a passionate and charismatic leader who can continue to grow and strengthen our ministries to youth and families.

SKILLS AND GIFTS FOR MINISTRY

- A heart for engaging and caring for our children, teenagers and college students.
- Ability to work collaboratively with other worship, pastoral, formation and administrative leaders.
- Experience using various technologies and social media to communicate.
- Ability to plan and yet be flexible.

- Capacity to build and maintain programs as well as relationships.
- Excellent social, verbal and written communication skills.
- Strong sense of self-awareness and ability to draw healthy boundaries.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND EXPECTATIONS

- Plan and coordinate all youth ministry activities such as camps, conferences, retreats and mission trips with the Advent's program and facilities staff and with the Diocese of Upper South Carolina.
- Foster a safe, nurturing environment where youth can explore their faith.
- Support the youth of the parish in their various daily activities such as sports events, theater activities, prayer breakfasts, lunches and other special occasions.
- Lead a volunteer leadership team, offering spiritual guidance, direction, encouragement, Safe Church support, and training to leaders, teachers and chaperones.
- Support parish families in their spiritual lives through online resources, seasonal programs, baptismal preparation, and one-on-one interactions.
- Develop and teach various seasonal series and classes.
- Participate in the preaching and presiding rotation of the clergy.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

- \$76,279. Total clergy compensation (TCC) is based upon diocesan norms and experience, some of which may be allocated as housing (per IRS guidelines). TCC includes professional expense allowance and provisions for continuing education.
- Four weeks paid vacation.
- Two weeks paid continuing education time.
- Health insurance and dental plan, per Diocese of Upper South Carolina policies with the Church Pension Group plan.

All compensation and benefits are offered according to relevant IRS, Episcopal Church, Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina, and parish policies and procedures.

Prior to approval to hire by the Bishop, Rector and Vestry, candidate must pass required Driver's License, criminal, and credit background checks.