

Parkdale United Church – a Centre for Spiritual Growth and Social Justice

Building Connections ♦ Living Faith ♦ Acting for Justice

Our Community Values:

We are people with a deep yearning for God and God's vision of equity, justice, and well-being for all. We are sustained and energized to do God's work through a strong and caring community.

We help each other to recognize that, at different times, we each need . . .

- ♦ rest to refresh and rekindle passion
- ♦ stillness and reflection to discern our callings
- ♦ lifelong learning for personal and spiritual growth
- ♦ engagement with others to become stronger individually and collectively
- ♦ challenges and opportunities for social action

We are a diverse Christian community who covenants with each other to . . .

- ♦ listen to and for God
- ♦ be authentic and align our actions with our God-given gifts and callings
- ♦ trust that whatever steps we each take on this journey are the right ones for us
- ♦ encourage people to participate through personal invitations, believing that saying "yes" and saying "no" are equally honourable
- ♦ practise gratitude generously

PRIORITIES FOR 2010 - 2011

1. Create a Communications & Marketing Group to publicize and promote the church,

focusing first on updating the website by:

- a. adding discussion boards that can be used for interactive dialogue, especially relating to weekly reflections
- b. maintaining current information (e.g. weekly calendar, dates and times for special services- memorial, wedding, etc.) that can be easily accessed
- c. including audio files of sermons

2. Discover new church leaders by establishing a Volunteer Coordination Team.

3. Strengthen and expand Children's, Youth, and Young Families Ministry by implementing the plan that has already been initiated.

4. Educate the congregation and increase support for the Mission & Service Fund.

Educate the congregation on our external partnerships with Project Ploughshares,

Band-Aid, Add Your Light, and Canadian Humanitarian (*presently under consideration*).

New Position to support our goals -

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY FACILITATOR (Part-time Congregational Designated Minister)

(New position)

As a member of the ministry team and with the mentorship of the Faith Development Minister and the input of the stakeholders within the children's ministry program, the Children's Ministry Facilitator plans and delivers programming that contributes to the spiritual and faith development of the Children at Parkdale United Church.

As part of the Ministry Team at Parkdale United Church, the Children's Ministry Facilitator:

- Focuses on the greater good of the congregation and its spiritual and faith development, and, in particular, on the spiritual and faith development needs of children (kindergarten to grade 5);
- Works collaboratively with other members of the ministry team;
- Participates in regular ministry team meetings as required or needed.

Specific Duties and Responsibilities

Under the guidance and direction of the Faith Development Minister and the Children's and Youth Advisory Committee:

- Prepare for and implements age-appropriate spiritual and faith development programs for the children of the congregation;
- Develops a rapport with the children of the congregation offering pastoral care and spiritual guidance, when appropriate, to encourage the development of their Christian faith;
- Serves as the leader for children's programming which include a Sunday morning Christian Education program and a monthly family oriented event;
- Facilitates the participation of children as full members of the congregation in worship, community-building events, outreach, and service;
- Participates in the children's work of the United Church of Canada through Calgary Presbytery, as time allotment allows.

Administration

- Participates in regular, special and ministry team meetings as needed or required.
- Meets regularly as negotiated with the Faith Development Minister to discuss ongoing planning and needs for resources
- May call a staff meeting;
- Maintains ongoing communication with all youth, parents, congregation in person and through the Bulletin, Newsletter and Website.

Relationships

- Faith Development Minister as mentor and resource
- Ministry colleagues
- Other staff
- Ministry & Personnel Committee
- The children of the congregation and their families
- Committees related to the areas of work – Children and Youth Advisory Committee; Faith and Justice

Accountability

- Mutual accountability with ministry teammates
- Children and Youth Advisory Committee
- Ministry & Personnel Committee
- Council and Executive

Qualifications & Experience

- Ability to articulate faith and engage children in the Christian story;
- Demonstrated knowledge and experience in the spiritual development of children.
- Organizational and communication skills;
- Interpersonal skills;
- Spirituality and character to fit with the ethos of Parkdale United Church and the United Church of Canada.
- Knowledge of the United Church of Canada's Ethical Standards and Standards of Practice for Ministry Personnel document (2008)

Hours of Work and Wages

The average work week is 7 hours; September 2010 through May 2011

Remuneration within the guidelines for Congregational Designated Ministry