Vision for Children and Youth Ministry within and beyond Christ Lutheran Church

Christ Lutheran Church (CLC) is a “Reconciling in Christ” congregation. The Good News of God’s grace is for all, regardless of age, abilities, physical and mental health, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, education or strength of faith. There is nothing we do, have done or will do that can separate us from God. God makes no exceptions nor do we. At CLC, children and youth of all races, economic backgrounds and countries of origin are welcomed and celebrated. The greatest gift we have to offer is a community that both accepts us as we are and encourages us to keep growing.

Our vision is to be a faith-rooted community without walls: always learning, always growing. In the power of God’s Spirit, we will be a place where youth from the east and west sides of 16th Street experience community. We seek to create and nurture a variety of communities in our church home and, with God’s help, be a sacred place for the neighborhood where love and purpose are shared through important relationships and actions.

We will engage young people throughout various developmental stages, providing opportunities and relationships for growing a faith that is relevant, active, and a source of support even in times of change. Cross-generational relationships and relationships among kids of various ages will continue to be a strength of our community.

The Youth Minister will be expected to develop and lead a team of volunteers to meet the needs of the youth at CLC and those who are in the neighborhood. We have identified some of the needs of the children and youth of the congregation. We still need to identify the needs of children and youth in our neighborhood and the special role we could play as a church. We may do that by identifying our congregation’s strengths and passions and canvass the neighborhood to identify opportunities to serve based on those. Or we may start by identifying the needs of the community and building programs to address them. Whatever we do will be something that offers a sacred space and the gift of a community.

Our aim is to make our faith-rooted community relevant and meaningful to the children and youth of our congregation and neighborhood. We will share a lens of faith to help make sense of a world that, at times, seems senseless; provide a paradigm of service emanating from the heart of Jesus’ teachings; and shine a light of love into the dark spaces of the world.