Job Description: Student Ministry Associate—Jr. High (Grades 7-8)

Hours: Half-time (estimated at 25 hours/week).

Excelsior Covenant Church’s Mission

We covenant to cultivate a community of worship committed to prayer, preaching and study of the Word of God, the celebration of the sacraments, and fellowship across gender, race, age, culture, and class. In so doing, we covenant to equip loving, giving, growing Christians to reach out with the good news of Jesus Christ – evangelizing the lost, ministering to those in need, and seeking justice for the oppressed.

1. SUMMARY

This is a half-time ministry associate position for the coordination and leadership of Jr. High Student Ministry under the coaching, mentoring and supervision of the Family Ministry Pastor.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES

Witness: By life and service to give evidence of personal faith in Jesus Christ. And through a biblically grounded ministry, to encourage the congregation to repentance and faith, spiritual growth, service and witness.

Worship: Participate in the leadership of public worship as assigned.

Presence: In accord with giftedness and personality, to “work the crowd” at times of ECC public gatherings as an encourager of relational connections within the ECC family – “spreading the joy of our life in Christ!”

Staff: Participate in weekly General Staff meetings, Family Ministry Staff meetings, Mission/Vision gatherings, and other occasional meetings as mutually agreed upon with the Family Ministry Pastor and Senior Pastor.

Program Leadership: This Ministry Associate will be responsible for the overall program leadership, team recruitment and direction of Middle School Ministry at ECC, which may include Retreat/Camping ministry, outreach events, Bible studies, mission trips, etc. The overall purpose is to connect the unconnected to Christ and together grow in full devotion to him. Creating a safe environment where all are welcome for the discovery of life and salvation in Jesus Christ is a high priority.

The Jr. High Ministry Associate will seek to integrate ministries focused toward Jr. High students into the family ministry model led by the Family Ministry Pastor. ECC’s goal is to provide opportunities to nurture a young person’s faith that propels them into adulthood, continuing to follow Jesus.

19955 Excelsior Boulevard • Excelsior, Minnesota 55331 • 952.474.2537 • excelcov.org
**Teaching:** The Jr. High Associate will provide biblical teaching during weekly programs that addresses the Christian formation needs of Jr. High students. A core component of teaching and discipleship of students is the development of a volunteer team to assist with teaching, leading small groups, and offering training opportunities to encourage volunteers to grow in their spiritual gifts and ministry skills.

Under the coordination of the Family Ministry Pastor this Associate shall serve in co-leading, teaching and implementation of the Confirmation Ministry in order to compliment the ministries to middle school students and their families.

**Pastoral Care:** This Associate will seek to establish trusting relationships with students and encourage a healthy relational community with students and adult lay leaders – and shall be available to provide care for Middle School students and, as appropriate, for their families.

**Additional ECC Ministry:** This job description does not preclude other responsibilities that may be agreed upon in consultation with the Family Ministry Pastor and Senior Pastor.

**Kingdom Ministry:** As appropriate and in consultation with the Family Ministry Pastor, Senior Pastor and/or Mutual Ministry Committee, this Associate is encouraged to engage ministry that blesses the broader Church.

3. **QUALIFICATIONS**

- A person who is a committed disciple of Jesus Christ
- A person with a heart for and demonstrated natural gifts in ministering to young people
- A person who is teachable, humble and seeking to grow in ministry leadership
- The Ministry Associate shall become a member of ECC.

**Education/Experience:** A Bachelors degree and Student Ministry leadership experience are both desirable.

**Seeking Credentialing:** As a part of discernment and call to ministry, the ministry associate may be encouraged, as appropriate, to seek credentialing with the Board of the Ordered Ministry and Northwest Conference Ministerium of the Evangelical Covenant Church.

**Committed** to the Affirmations of the Evangelical Covenant Church; the professions of the Apostles Creed; the Mission Statement of Excelsior Covenant Church; and supportive of the Covenant Resolutions on Women in Ministry and Human Sexuality. Document available at [www.excelcov.org](http://www.excelcov.org)

Resumes and Inquiries Submitted Electronically to Search Team Chair

Steve Anderson
Family Ministry Pastor
stevea@excelcov.org
Introduction to Excelsior COVENANT Church

**Job Opening:** Jr. High Ministry Associate  
**Posting:** April 1, 2015  
**Application Deadline:** June 30, 2015

Excelsior Covenant Church is seeking candidates for the position of Jr. High Ministry Associate. This half-time position serves under the supervision of the Family Ministry Pastor. This person will be responsible for the overall program leadership, team recruitment and direction of Jr. High School Ministry at ECC, which may include Retreat/Camping ministry, outreach events, Bible studies, mission trips, etc. The overall purpose is to *connect the unconnected to Christ and together grow in full devotion to him.* Creating a safe environment where all are welcome for the discovery of life and salvation in Jesus Christ is a high priority.

A complete job description is available through our website at [www.excelcov.org](http://www.excelcov.org) or upon request. Submissions are requested by June 30, 2015.

Excelsior Covenant Church is part of the **Evangelical Covenant Church** [www.covchurch.org](http://www.covchurch.org), a denomination that values the Bible as the Word of God, the gift of God’s grace and ever-deepening spiritual life that comes through a faith with Jesus Christ, and the importance of extending God’s love and compassion to a hurting world.

Excelsior Covenant is an **Evangelical church.** We have a passion for missions and many of our young people have gone on to serve in full-time ministry as pastors and missionaries. We look to the Bible as our authority, and profess the necessity of a new birth. We proclaim Christ's mandate to evangelize the world, and we emphasize the continuing need for education and formation in a Christian community. ECC also shares in the church’s responsibility for benevolence and the advancement of justice in our community and around the world.

Excelsior Covenant is a **multi-generational church,** and values worshiping and learning, growing and serving together. Parents and children worship together on Sundays, serve together on mission trips, play and reflect together at our Winter Retreat, and minister together at Feed My Starving Children, Loaves & Fishes, and VBS. With a strong children and youth ministry, ECC attracts families where they can connect with peers and with all generations in meaningful ways.

**MISSION STATEMENT OF EXCELSIOR COVENANT CHURCH**

*We covenant to cultivate a community of worship committed to prayer, preaching and study of the Word of God, the celebration of the sacraments, and fellowship across gender, race, age,*
culture, and class. In so doing, we covenant to equip loving, giving, growing Christians to reach out with the good news of Jesus Christ – evangelizing the lost, ministering to those in need, and seeking justice for the oppressed.

ECC AT A GLANCE, FACTS AND FIGURES
• Current Church membership is 441 with about 850 people in regular connection with our community.
• Typical Sunday Worship Attendance is 425 between two services, with an average Sunday attendance of 230 at the 9:00 Contemporary Worship and 195 at the 11:15 Traditional Worship service.
• The addition in 1989 added an education wing and preschool facilities.
• Our 2008 addition increased our building size by 60%, adding the Activity Center (full size gym), expanding youth space with facilities to host overnight events.

SOUTHWEST MINNEAPOLIS METRO DEMOGRAPHICS
Approximately 81% of the congregation resides in one of five communities (based on data taken from the church directory): Excelsior (24%), Chanhassen (21%), Minnetonka (19%), Eden Prairie (9%), Shorewood (8%). The ethnic composition of those communities, based on U.S. Census data is: White (94-98%), African American (0.4-2.3%), Native American (0.0-0.3%), Asian (0.9-4.8%), Hispanic (0.8-3.1%)
Total population: 135,316: (49% Male, 51% Female)

CHURCH STAFF
Eric Sparrman, Senior Pastor
Kristine Causton, Creative Resource Pastor
Stephen Anderson, Family Ministries Pastor
Judy Peterson, Community Life and Care Pastor
Amy Timm, ECC Preschool Director
Kia Hofer, High School Ministry Associate
Susan Young, Early Childhood Ministry Associate
Paul Anleitner, Contemporary Worship Leader
Jacki Mrosko, Traditional Worship Coordinator & Organist
Lynette Johnson, Choral Music Director (Interim)
Janet Ulvin, Organist
Connie Volling, Parish Nurse
Katie Mahannah, Church Administrator
Liza Jacobson, Administrative Assistant
Terry Meland, Church Custodian