



Youth Leader

Holy Cross Episcopal Church, Sugar Land, TX seeks part-time (15-20 hours per week) Youth Leader. Reporting to the Rector, the Youth Leader is an enthusiastic disciple of Jesus Christ with a heart for leading middle and high school students into the same life-changing commitment. He/she is a self-directed team player, who works well with others and sees youth ministry as part of the overall mission of the Church. The youth leader will lead a dedicated team of adult volunteers to assist him/her toward the successful execution of his/her ministry, with specific roles and responsibilities which include the following:

Roles and Responsibilities

- To be present and available to teen youth during their regularly scheduled gatherings on Sundays and to work with families to expand teen ministry to include mid-week programming.
- To organize and lead, on a quarterly basis, a team of volunteers for special youth events (e.g. lock-ins, concerts, field trips, mission projects, etc.).
- To model a faithful Christian witness at church and away from church.
- To present Christ-centered, Bible based lessons that are relevant to youth, and to facilitate face to face small group learning and fellowship.
- To lead youth in mission within the community to serve both the physical and spiritual needs of others.
- To strengthen relationships with parents (and other family members) to build trust and gain their support for youth ministry.
- To promote a vibrant youth presence to the broader life of the church.
- To co-ordinate with the communications manager to ensure that teaching series and special events are effectively marketed to inform the whole church (and beyond) and encourage maximum participation.

Personal Qualifications:

- A youthful person with a strong personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- A person who relates well to youth (middle school/high school) and is enthusiastic about making disciples within this age group.
- A person who is effective in communicating biblical truth to teens and who can effectively relate the Gospel to the issues that teens face on a day to day basis.

- A spiritually dedicated person whose personal lifestyle can be offered as a model for young people to follow.
- A person committed to the whole Church, who sees the youth group as part of the broader, overall community of faith.
- A person who understands that in order to minister effectively to other people's children one must foster a healthy relationship with the parents of those children.
- A person willing and able to work well with others.
- A person willing and able to take direction from the Rector.
- A person who is prompt, thorough, conscientious, self-motivated, and able to lead.
- A person who earns the respect of others.
- A person committed to the pursuit of excellence.
- A person able to teach the truth of God in creative and interesting ways.
- A person willing to work and worship within an Evangelical/Episcopal parish context.
- A person committed to Holy Cross's purpose and process for being and making disciples.
See below
- A person who is trained for youth ministry or who is being trained and has experience ministering to young people.

Staff Membership

The part-time youth leader will be a member of the ministry staff at Holy Cross, participating in weekly staff meetings (which include spiritual formation and team building) and in periodic meetings with the Rector to engage in goal setting, evaluation, and pastoral support.

Contact

- Interested persons should contact the Rev'd Scott Thompson, Rector, at sathompson@holycrosschurch.com (281) 633-2000, Ext 103



Our Purpose

Our purpose is simple: To *be* disciples of Jesus Christ and to *make* disciples of Jesus Christ (Matt 28:19-20).

Our Process

Our process is as simple as our purpose: In order to *be* disciples of Jesus Christ and *make* disciples of Jesus Christ we commit ourselves and invite others to join us in a simple, 4 step process:

1—WORSHIP God Regularly

2—GROW Together Faithfully

3—SERVE Others Lovingly

4—MATURE in Christ Continuously

Step 1: WORSHIP God Regularly

- ***Jesus Did.*** To be a disciple of Jesus Christ is to do what Jesus did. Jesus worshipped God regularly, every week (Lk 4:16). He didn't do just nine commandments. He kept all ten, including the fourth, which is "Keep the Sabbath Day holy" (cf. Ex 20:1-17). As disciples of Jesus, we do the same.
- ***God's Promise.*** As disciples, we gather together each Lord's Day to worship, pray, hear God's Word, and receive grace in the sacraments. And God's promise is that when we do, he will make his special presences known to us (cf. Matt 18:20; Ps 22:3; Jn 4:23).

- ***Learning to Commit.*** Regularity in worship isn't easy. There are plenty of other things to do. Treating worship as an option rather than a priority is common. But discipleship calls us to something more. So, as a first level commitment, we commit to gathering each Lord's Day to worship him who honors those who honor him (cf. Heb 11:6; 1 Sam 2:30b)

Step 2: GROW Together Faithfully

- ***Big things happen in small settings.*** As disciples of Jesus Christ, we not only worship regularly; we also faithfully commit to growing together with other believers in small groups. Jesus, his apostles, and members of the earliest Church also gathered together in small groups (cf. Acts 2:41-47; Heb 10:23-25). It is often in small groups that believers grow together in big ways.
- ***Now I See You!*** Small-group fellowship allows us the opportunity to shift from *facing forward*, to *facing each other*. This is where significant relationships take shape, and growing together in faith, knowledge, and love really starts to happen (cf. Eph 4:1-7, 11-16).
- ***Doing the "One Anothers."*** As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are directed in the scriptures to "love *one another*" (Jn 13:34), "encourage *one another*" (Heb 3:13), "serve *one another*" (Gal 5:13), "be patient with *one another*" (Eph 4:2), "honor *one another*" (Phil 2:3), "build up *one another*" (1 Thess 5:11), etc. The key idea in each of these directives is reciprocation: I love you; you love me. I encourage you; you encourage me. Because the small group is a "face to face" kind of experience, it is the perfect setting in which to do the "*One Anothers.*"

Step 3: SERVE Others Lovingly

- ***The Genuine Article.*** As disciples of Jesus Christ, we not only commit to worship regularly, and faithfully grow together with other believers in a small group setting. We also commit to serving others as part of a ministry team. We make this commitment because Jesus said that loving service is the *authenticating mark* of a true disciple (cf. John 13:12-17, 34-35).
- ***Beyond Consumerism.*** Most things within our culture are consumer oriented. It's easy then to think of the church as merely a dispenser of religious goods and services. Committing to serving others allows us to go beyond being just another "spiritual consumer" to becoming a true "spiritual contributor." Pursuing this third level commitment allows us to shift from merely *going* to church to actually *being* the church.
- ***Being the Message.*** Jesus said that he came not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many (cf. Mark 10:45). To be a true disciple of Jesus Christ is not just to be a recipient of his gifts, but an imitator of his life. To be a true disciple of Jesus Christ is not just to tell the message, but to *be* the message. And being the message begins with service to others.

Step 4: MATURE in Christ Continuously

- ***Keep Working the Plan.*** To mature in Christ continuously is to continue engaging steps 1, 2, and 3, and that "more and more" (cf. 1 Thess 4:1-12).
- ***The Sky's the Limit!*** Maturing in Christ is not a thing that is ever accomplished but is a process of spiritual transformation that is ever ongoing (Eph 4:13-15). The more we put into it, the more we get out of it.
- ***Isolation: Not an Option.*** The maturing process is not something we can do alone, on our own. God, who is himself a community of persons (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) has designed the maturing process to take place within the context of the Faith Community. At Holy Cross, we are committed to seeing that every believer is growing and maturing in Jesus Christ (Col 1:28).

WHY?

- Why do ministry this way?
- In addition to the fact that being and making disciples is exactly what Christ calls us to do (Matthew 28:19-20)...
- We are doing ministry this way *because*:
 1. Spiritual maturity is an awesome experience and a worthy goal and continuing in spiritual immaturity is not.
 2. We were created to live close to God not far away; not with God at our periphery but with God at our center.
 3. That mentioned above is what God wants most for us.
 4. That mentioned above is what will lead to true transformation of the world around us. Transformation gives rise to transformation. Starting with us.