



An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

**Job Posting: Director of Children's Ministries
Saugatuck Congregational Church (SCC)**

Location: Westport, CT

- **Are you called to help children learn about and explore faith in an open and affirming Christian community?**
- **Are you energized by the challenge to find new ways to share God's love in a constantly changing world?**
- **Do you enjoy the company of children and bring a curious, playful, creative, and agile mindset to helping them find their voices?**

If so, we invite you to explore further.

Who we are:

Saugatuck Congregational Church is a vibrant, active community of people who gather to worship, learn, work, and play together. Our doors, congregation, and communion table are open to all. Our vision is to be a community of Christ, welcoming all people, learning to love and serve God and neighbor. We believe that God loves everyone unconditionally and is present with and through us. Saugatuck is an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ. We welcome anyone who seeks God into the fellowship, worship, and work of this church without regard to their race, ancestry, age, physical or mental ability, gender, sexual orientation, social and economic status, or religious background. We embrace religion and science, head and heart, as we seek and listen for God's presence in the world. To learn more, please visit us at <http://saugatuckchurch.org/>.

We are currently seeking a Director of Children's Ministries to contribute to our collective faith journey through the creative and administrative oversight of Christian Education programs from birth through 8th grade, guided by Saugatuck's vision and inspired to help bring it to life in the lives of our children. This is a part-time role, estimated at 20 hours/week, mid-August through June. The Director of Children's Ministries reports to the Pastor and works in conjunction with the CE Board.

Your mission:

Saugatuck Church aspires to cultivate a welcoming, fun, interactive space for young people to learn about and explore Christian faith, be themselves, serve others, honor differences and deepen connections with each other, our Saugatuck family, our broader community, and with God.

Specific responsibilities include:

- In collaboration with the Pastor and the Christian Education Board, select and/or develop implement, and evaluate curricula and related programming that immerse children in the stories and faith practices of our Christian tradition in keeping with the church mission and vision to spread God's love in word and action
- Work closely with the Pastor, Music Director, and lay leaders to foster youth engagement and involvement in worship, e.g.:
 - Participate in weekly worship planning, including designing relevant activities to engage families and youth in the service
 - Construct and deliver weekly Children's Time, an interactive moment in worship that engages young people and ties in with worship themes
 - Co-create periodic all-ages Sunday worship services that feature leadership by young people
- Lead multi-age Church School programming, both as a teacher and administrative coordinator:
 - Together with the CE Board, recruit volunteers for all classrooms, including the crib room; coordinate background checks, train and provide resources for teachers as needed
 - Register new students and maintain attendance
 - Manage a small CE budget to order supplies; maintain an inventory of resource materials
 - Identify creative ways to build engaging virtual programs as well as safe distant opportunities for fellowship
 - Lead Middle School Youth Group
- Proactively welcome Saugatuck Church families with school-aged children, serving as a liaison to support family engagement in the life of the church
- Organize special events throughout the year with the CE Board and other volunteers, e.g. Welcome Sunday/Blessing of the Backpacks, All Hallows' Eve, Christmas Pageant, etc.
- Collaborate with the Marketing/ Communications committee to ensure CE-related events and invitations are updated and visible on SCC social media
- Foster and help coordinate opportunities to work with larger Westport community (other faiths, youth groups, mission projects)

Your background & experiences:

- Strong commitment to Christian faith in a progressive and diverse mainline Protestant church that is open to all people
- Experience and passion for working with children and a commitment to their faith formation; formal teaching experience strongly preferred
- Investment in faith formation that strives to be anti-racist and embraces the LGBTQI+ community



Saugatuck

Congregational Church

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- Practice of theological reflection, including the ability to guide and invite children to push past stereotypes to explore fresh and relevant ways of framing faith
- Energetic, creative, playful spirit willing to experiment, comfortable being silly, and unwaveringly genuine
- Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively as part of a team to accomplish ministry goals
- Ability to facilitate hands-on, mission-based activities and age-appropriate discussion
- Strong interpersonal, communication, and organizational skills
- Agility; capacity to adapt to changing external events or constraints
- Familiarity with educational strategies that benefit special needs children helpful
- Bachelor's Degree and sufficient technological acumen to navigate virtually

To apply, please send your resume and cover letter to SCCHR@saugatuckchurch.org. Please include "Application for Children's Ministry Director" in the subject line.