



## **THANKSGIVING CHURCH – BELLEVUE, NE**

Children's Ministry Director

[www.thanksgiving.church](http://www.thanksgiving.church)

January 2018

Submitted By: Pastor David Witkop

### **About**

Thanksgiving is a thriving congregation of approximately 1500 members, worshipping 850 on an average weekend. Although Lutheran in its tradition and history, Thanksgiving has an evangelical feel. We are committed to reaching outside the walls of the church with the Gospel. The heart and soul of Thanksgiving is being a discipleship movement focused on authentic community and making disciples who make disciples. In fact, our mission at every level is to prepare and equip disciples to go out and make more disciples. We love seeing lives transformed. Therefore, as pastors and staff, we are committed to the transformation process ourselves. We are committed to the inspired Word of God, the historical creeds of the church, and the doctrine that we are saved by grace, through faith, for a life of good works.



At Thanksgiving we believe that Christ has given us a strong vision to live three-dimensional lives, connecting with God, with one another, and with the world.

### **Context**

Thanksgiving is located in suburban Omaha in the city of Bellevue (approx. population 60,000) overlooking the Missouri River. Bellevue has a large active duty and retired military population due to the presence of Offutt Air Force Base. Bellevue is known for strong schools, community and an amazing amount of diversity. It is located eight miles south of Omaha; a dynamic and energetic city that is continually transforming itself. Omaha is home to a number of Fortune

500 companies including: Berkshire Hathaway, Union Pacific Railroad, Peter Kiewit Sons' Inc. and Mutual of Omaha Companies. Omaha has also had the privilege of hosting the NCAA College World Series for more than 60 years. This ten-day event is a giant fan fest that fills the entire city and is one of many annual events in Omaha.



### **A Great Candidate Will:**

- † Be a self-starter with drive
- † Fit into a fast-moving, thick-skinned staff culture
- † Have some Bible-training
- † Have experience in Children's Ministry on a church staff role or in high-level residency or volunteer role
- † Be a nurturer of volunteers
- † Be a developer of structure and people

## **Position Description**

<b>Job Title:</b>	<b>Children's Ministry Director</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Full Time</b>
<b>Salary:</b>	<b>Full Time Salary w/ Benefits</b>
<b>Supervisor Title:</b>	<b>Executive Pastor</b>
<b>Date Prepared/Revised:</b>	<b>January 2018</b>

### **Staff Expectations**

As a staff, these are expectations we hold for ourselves and one another.

### **Alignment to our Vision/Mission Statement**

- We will strive to align all ministries to our strategy of discipleship and our vision statement.
- We will strive to discern through prayer, how to best use our time and resources.
- We will invite feedback from our supervisor in discerning our priorities of time and resources.
- We will strive to make our primary role that of a disciple who makes disciples and become more like Jesus ourselves.

- We will strive to be mindful of taking the next step in helping others become like Jesus, as we ourselves are intentionally pursuing that in our own lives. Our budget, time, attitude, and support of anything at Thanksgiving will be relentlessly aligned with becoming like Jesus and helping others become like Jesus.

### **Servant Hearts/Teachable Spirit**

- We will strive to be leaders who have a servant heart and a teachable spirit.
- We will strive to accept feedback from one another. In addition, we will invite feedback, teaching and help from one another.
- We will strive to work as a team. We will proactively work to support one another.
- We will strive to be a staff that is characterized by asking questions of one another and making statements like the following: “How could this be better? What have I missed? Your idea was much better than mine. I need help. I wish I could learn to do that as well as you do. I am sorry.”
- We will strive to be generous with our praise for those who have worked behind the scenes.

### **Commitment to Excellence and Accountability**

- It will be an expectation that we will respond to one another in a timely manner.
- We will strive to respond to phone calls, e-mails, texts, and written communication on the same day if we are in the office.
- We will strive to be on time to all events, with preparations completed.
- We will strive to follow through on the things we have said we would do.
- We will strive to be known as the staff that communicates in person or verbally by phone.
- We will strive to be open and transparent about finances. Spending and budgets will be submitted to the highest scrutiny. We will ask the question with regards to our spending and finances, “How will I explain my spending and finances to the entire congregation?”

### **What We Believe**

We believe the Bible to be the divinely inspired Word of God, and is useful for teaching the truth, rebuking error, correcting faults, and giving instruction for right living, so that the person who serves God may be fully qualified and equipped to do every kind of good deed. (2 Timothy 3:16-17). In matters of life and faith, the Bible is our highest authority.

We believe in the triune God, one divine being, eternally existing in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Psalm 51:5, Romans 5:12, John 8:34, Ephesians 2:1-2).

We believe that we are saved by Grace alone. God’s Grace is God’s undeserved love poured out for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This Grace, which is an undeserved

gift that can be neither earned, purchased, or merited in any way, bestows forgiveness of sins and new life on the believer. (John 3:16, Ephesians 4:4-5, Colossians 13-14).

We believe God's Grace is received only through faith (trust, hope) in the atoning work and person of Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 4:8-9, John 3:16-18, John 14:6).

We believe that the Holy Spirit working in the life of the believer, empowers good works which bring glory to God. Although good works "reflect" God's presence in our lives, they cannot "affect" God's presence in our lives. (John 15:5, Ephesians 2:10).

We believe that all baptized believers are called to be priests or ministers in our daily lives. No matter what our occupation, our Christian vocation is to serve God and others in the name of Christ. (1 Peter 2:9-10, Mark 9:33-35).

We believe God also gives His grace to us through the sacraments. We understand a sacrament to be something that Christ Himself commanded us to do, that involves an earthly element (water, bread and wine), and which bestows God's forgiveness and new life to the believer. The Lutheran church celebrates two sacraments, Baptism and The Lord's Supper. (Matthew 28:19-20, Romans 6:1-11, Matthew 26:26-29).

## **Position Description**

The WINS in this area look like this (included but not limited to)

### **1. Volunteer Team Leadership**

- Primary leader, champion, and orchestrator of our Sunday morning children's ministry experience.
- Volunteer recruiting, training, development, and scheduling.
- Communicating with a large volunteer team using a number of different platforms including e-mail, phone, social media outlets, and Seraphim.
- Equip the volunteer team with the tools necessary to accomplish ministry goals.
- Continually train volunteer leaders on effectively reaching and ministering to children.
- Continually evaluate leaders to determine their effectiveness and course of action.
- Recruit new members to the leadership team to grow the ministry.
- Screen and place new leaders into their most effective positions.
- Identify areas of the ministry that can be run and developed by volunteer leaders.
- Equip and release leaders to do those ministry functions.

### **2. Children's Ministry Programming**

- Organize and prepare teaching materials to be used for Sunday services.

- Set goals, keep records and operate within a budget for the Children and Family Ministry department.
- Plan curriculum throughout the calendar year for all teaching classrooms.
- Purchase and inventory supplies, equipment, and other materials/resources.
- Lead Children's and Family Ministry meetings and effectively lead that team to equip others to do the work of the ministry.

### 3. Community and Discipleship

- Create and sustain a community mentality among your volunteer teams and leaders.,
- Encourage appropriate relationships between your leaders and the volunteers they serve.
- Work diligently to follow the Thanksgiving Church vision within the Children's and Family Ministry
- Find creative ways to disciple children through small groups and volunteer relationships.

### **Education and Experience Requirements**

- Bachelor's Degree in Christian Education preferred; previous work experience or volunteer role may be substituted in lieu of a degree.
- Experience leading a volunteer team and team building.
- Experience being on a children's ministry leadership team.
- Some musical ability is an added benefit.

### **Resume**

Resume's can be sent to:

Thanksgiving Church  
3702 S 370 Plaza  
Bellevue, NE 68123

Attn: Pastor David Witkop