

## ***Madison Christian Community***

### **Advent Lutheran Church**

Nick Utphall, Pastor  
608-836-1455, ext. 4  
nick@theMCC.net



## ***An Ecumenical Partnership***

### **Community of Hope, UCC**

Jen Bloesch, Pastor  
608-836-1455, ext. 3  
pastorjen@themcc.net

October, 2023

### **Director of Children and Family Ministries Position Opening**

The Madison Christian Community (the MCC) is seeking a part-time Director of Children and Family Ministries. The MCC is an energetic, progressive faith community with a commitment to live faithfully and lovingly with God, neighbors, and creation. The person in this staff position will have a primary role in facilitating a culture of nurturing relationships and spiritual growth for a small number of children and their families, including by developing and structuring associated programming. The position is 10-20 hours per week. The pay range is \$18-\$24/hour. Please see the Position Description at [www.themcc.net/cfm-2023](http://www.themcc.net/cfm-2023) for additional details. Applicants should send a resume and cover letter to [info@theMCC.net](mailto:info@theMCC.net) or Attn: CFM Director, Madison Christian Community, 7118 Old Sauk Rd, Madison, WI 53717. The posting will remain open until the position is filled.

For over 50 years, the MCC has been a unique ecumenical partnership of Advent Lutheran, ELCA, and Community of Hope UCC, balancing separate congregational life and shared ministry and programming. In the Spirit of Jesus, we affirm diversity as gift from God, including all ages, races, abilities, religious and denominational backgrounds, gender identities and expressions, and sexual orientations, and we are especially dedicated to offering a welcoming setting for young people. Our spirituality reflects a deep commitment to social justice and environmental care.

Within our progressive identity has also been a history of a vibrant programming for children and their families, marked especially by eager volunteers who offer deep cross-generational involvement and caring relationships. We see the congregation as a partner in nurturing the learning that takes place in the relationships between children and their families. With a foundation of faith that explores and questions, families of the MCC have been adaptive and interested in creative curricular approaches. We maintain a strong integration between children's ministry and worship.

To learn more about the MCC, see our website ([theMCC.net](http://theMCC.net)) or our [Facebook page](#). Contact either of the pastors with questions. To get a flavor of our two denominations, please check out the websites for the [Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#) and the [United Church of Christ](#).

Blessings,

the Rev. Jen Petricca Bloesch

the Rev. Nick Utphall

**7118 Old Sauk Road, Madison, WI 53717**

# **MCC Director of Children and Family Ministries**

## **Position Description – October 2023**

The Madison Christian Community (MCC), a partnership of Advent Lutheran (ELCA) and Community of Hope (UCC), seeks to hire a director of children and family ministries (Director) to lead integrated programming for children and their families. The MCC is an energetic, progressive church community with a commitment to live faithfully and lovingly with God, neighbor, and creation.

### **Overall Vision**

The MCC believes children and their families learn together, growing in relationships. We see the congregation as a partner in nurturing these relationships. We believe that the MCC realizes its best self when children and their families are valued, their spiritual perspectives are heard, and they are able to contribute to the full life of the congregation. Led by the Director, we envision achieving this “best self” through a combination of supports: maintaining strong volunteer assistance for children’s spiritual learning and growth; encouraging intergenerational experiences; fostering families learning together with resources connecting faith to busy lives; and creating a welcoming environment for families in worship and other congregational settings.

### **Responsibilities**

The Director has a primary role within a culture of nurturing relationships and spiritual growth for children and their families. The Director’s typical tasks and responsibilities include:

- Build relationships with elementary-age children and their families
- Be responsive to spiritual needs of children and families in a variety of settings and circumstances, including connecting with families who have not been active in programming
- Help engage children and their families in worship in both congregations
- Oversee selection of curriculum and facilitate age-appropriate lessons to be offered most Sundays of the school year from 9:00-10:00am, incorporating volunteers from the congregation
- Offer diverse (and fun!) forms of engagement, including music as well as nature, art, movement, etc.
- Arrange occasional programming opportunities outside Sunday morning, at times with an intergenerational component (e.g. Trunk-or-Treat)
- Lead the Parish Protection Committee, which oversees the MCC’s program for ensuring the safety and well-being of children and vulnerable adults in church spaces and activities
- Attend weekly staff meetings

This position and our ministry offerings are open to be developed and refined by the Director through consultation with the pastors and congregation. This position is not intended to be solely a Sunday School director/teacher. Neither is this position responsible for all the congregation’s connections to children and families. We hope the Director will work with the rich human resources of our congregation to facilitate vibrant and diverse experiences of faith.

## **Desired Qualifications**

A candidate should have experience in children and family ministry or related experience.

Desired qualities include:

- Grounded in and inspired by faith
- Pleased to share the gospel with children, consistent with ELCA and UCC theologies
- Shares in the MCC's love for all creation and progressive Christian values
- Demonstrates understanding of child development and education
- Adept at spearheading creative, volunteer-driven programming
- Compassionate toward the high demands on modern families
- Offering a consistent presence to connect with families most Sundays
- Organized, with good time management
- Effective communicator with staff, families, children, volunteers, and the broader community
- Able to work on a team in an ecumenical congregation

## **Hours, Supervision, Compensation, and Support**

This position is being offered at 10-20 hours per week, to be determined in conversation with the candidate. Aside from staff meetings and Sunday morning, the remaining work-week schedule can be determined with the pastors. Salary will be commensurate with experience.

One of the two MCC pastors will serve as the Director's primary supervisor, though both pastors are available for supervisory support. The Director can also expect congregational support in their role. Upon starting this position, the MCC will offer the new Director an onboarding team to introduce the Director to the MCC and ascertain the Director's preferences for the form of ongoing support that will be most helpful.