

Nursery Attendant at First Congregational Church of Stamford Job Description

Hours: Two hours per week on Sunday mornings (10 AM-12 PM), with occasional need for extra hours on Sundays. Occasionally, extra hours outside of Sunday will be available.

Pay: \$20/hour

Experience or coursework in childcare or education required.

First Congregational Church of Stamford (FCC) is a vibrant progressive Christian church in Stamford, CT that serves the community through worship, Faith Formation, community events, and social justice programs. We embrace all people regardless of race, gender identity, class, sexual orientation, and ability. FCC is currently undergoing a church restart process, meaning that we have sold and transitioned out of our former church building and are going through a period of intentional reflection to transform into a vibrant and relevant faith community. FCC does not meet in a church building and does not own any property. We instead rely on a rental location for Sunday worship. During the COVID-19 Pandemic, we met almost exclusively on ZOOM for worship. However, we will soon resume regular in-person worship at Temple Sinai, a synagogue located at 458 Lakeside Drive, Stamford. The date for our re-opening is still to be determined but will most likely be in early August.

The nursery attendants will be responsible for childcare during Sunday worship. They will plan and lead a lesson for children ages 1-5. Lessons can consist of games, crafts, stories, music, and other activities. The two nursery attendants will decide which of them will be responsible for planning and teaching that Sunday's lesson. During free play, nursery attendants will also ensure that the children are engaged in intentional play. Additionally, nursery attendants will be responsible for caring for infants in the nursery.

The ideal candidate will identify with the Christian faith and be able to model and teach faith through their lessons and play in the nursery. The ideal candidate will have experience with childcare and/or have completed related coursework. The nursery attendant should demonstrate creativity, adaptability, and have excellent communication skills.

Job Responsibilities

All nursery attendants will be:

1. Recommended by the Minister of Faith Formation, after a reasonable interview process which will include reference and background checks.
2. 18 years of age or older.
3. Appropriately experienced in the care of young children.
4. Expected to have reliable transportation to and from work.
5. Expected to arrive on time (10 AM on Sunday mornings) and stay until children are picked up and room is cleaned. You will be compensated for any extra time worked.
6. Assist in setting up the nursery room and putting supplies away as needed. We are not able to keep everything out as this room a shared space, so some items will need to be placed in a storage closet across the hall.
7. Able to lift up to 40 pounds.
8. Follow proper check-in and check-out procedures with parents. Inform parents at check-out how their child was during the nursery.
9. Required to abide by and advocate for our Safe Church Policy, including ensuring that there is a minimum of two adults in the nursery with the children at all times. Nursery attendants are required to notify the Minister of Faith Formation *immediately* if the Safe Church policy is in violation.
10. Plan and teach a simple lesson for children ages 1-5. This can consist of games, crafts, stories, music, and other activities as seen fit. Have a brief lesson plan submitted to Minister of Faith Formation for approval by Wednesday the week prior.
11. Expected to provide care which includes: feeding, changing diapers, maintaining a safe environment, putting children down for a nap, holding, sitting with, and cheerfully interacting hands on with the children.
12. Expected to provide hands-on, intentional interaction during lesson and during free play.
13. Demonstrate friendliness, patience, empathy, flexibility, and compassion. Our nursery attendants must have the ability to adapt to each child and make them feel loved and respected, and should be able to develop good rapport with the children and their families.
14. Provide childcare for children up to age 5. Childcare for church meetings and other events may include children up to age 12.
15. Accountable to notify the Minister of Faith Formation of all time-off requests a minimum of two weeks ahead of time and of last-minute illness no later than three hours before the beginning of your shift. If calling in sick the day of, please also email the nursery volunteers group to attempt to find coverage.
16. Responsible to communicate with the Minister of Faith Formation as needed, primarily through email.

COVID-19 Considerations

For the time being, nursery attendants must also:

1. Wear a mask while inside at all times (regardless of vaccination status).
2. Encourage nursery children to wear a mask as you are able.
3. Maintain a social distance from other congregation members.
4. Maintain a social distance in the nursery as often as possible, understanding that this can be difficult for younger children.
5. Sanitize toys and other equipment after use.
6. Report to the Minister of Faith Formation immediately if you have tested positive for COVID-19, are experiencing any related symptoms (coughing, fever, difficulty breathing, fatigue, etc.), or have been in close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19. Do not come in for work if you are experiencing any symptoms or have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last two weeks.

If you are interested in applying, please email a resume and two references to Andrew Laro (he/his), the Minister of Faith Formation & Administration, at: alaro@fccstamford.org. We look forward to hearing from you!