

## Family Minister at St. Richard's Episcopal Church, Round Rock, Texas

### **Why St. Richard's Exists**

We have been summoned by God the Holy Trinity to be St. Richard's Episcopal Church, Round Rock. That means we are part of a local gathering of Christians who have responded to the gospel and are formed in the Anglican Tradition for the good of the world.

As a parish church of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas, we have access to an incredible family heritage within the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion, from which we draw tremendous resources to support more than 350 people every week in fulfilling the promises made in baptism and confirmation.

St. Richard's is a really big, loving family that makes disciples by declaring and displaying the good news of God in Jesus Christ.

Sacramental worship and Bible study, as well as great times together, nurture lives defined by faithful stewardship and the adventure of being a witness to God's one-way love in Jesus Christ.

Our core values are characteristics of our life together. These values are deeply held by St. Richard's Episcopal Church. They shape us.

**Hospitality.** By invitation or a warm welcome on Sunday morning, people enter life-giving and gracious community at St. Richard's. Folks find a spiritual home and roots can start to run deep.

**Sacramental worship.** We gather weekly to worship and give thanks to God the Father for his lavish grace and mercy made available to us in his Son our Lord Jesus Christ, who defeated death when he died on the cross and opened up a new way of life when he rose from the dead. The Liturgy of the Word of God & Holy Communion bind us together in response to God's one-way love in Jesus Christ. Every time we meet this way, the Holy Spirit renews and empowers us, reconnecting us to each other and driving us into the world to proclaim the gospel.

**Spiritual Friendship.** Community at St. Richard's is real. It is genuine. Friendships made here prove God's presence in our various sufferings, as well as God's great joy in the world he has loved. Families of all shapes and sizes have put their roots down here and thriving in response to the gospel. In 1 Thessalonians 2.8 the Apostle Paul says, *So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.*

**Discipleship.** Being a follower of Jesus Christ is the most genuine way to be a human being. It's also a supernatural process, and sometimes it feels like our lives are turned upside down and inside out by the Holy Spirit. It can hurt. There's a real chance you may not become Miss America or really successful in your business. However, you will become a real live human being following Jesus with us.

Romans 12.1 says, *I appeal to you therefore brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable worship.*

C.S. Lewis described the transformation in this way, *God became man to turn creatures into sons: not simply to produce better men of the old kind but to produce a new kind of man. It is not like teaching a horse to jump better and better but like turning a horse into a winged creature.* (Mere Christianity, p. 184)

As first steps following Jesus are taken we realize that not much spiritual growth ever happens until we know that we are known and loved at the same time by God. Call it the fruit of guilt and grace.

Pathways for spiritual maturity include baptism, confirmation, and ongoing study and reflection, discovery, immersion, service and renewal.

**Generous Stewardship.** At St. Richard's, we believe that a large part of our worship includes the opportunity to give back out of what our heavenly Father has generously given to us. God's grace calls and moves us into nothing less than joyful lives of giving and sharing. One of the ways we do that is through our financial gifts, that is, by way of percentage giving every year.

We have received many other gifts including our various vocations, talents, skill-sets, and that inordinately special commodity called time. We are more than happy to invest in life-changing ministry. Our fiscal budget at St. Richard's captures the stories of transformation and expressions of God's kingdom.

**Caring & Justice Ministries.** We live when and where we live to receive and prove God's great affections for deeply hurting and very troubled people, just like us. Romans 5.5 says, God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. So, we put feet to our prayers and promises made in baptism and confirmation. We are relentless in mission discovery, mission funding, and deepening relationships with those we share life within and beyond our zip codes.

**Our Family Minister** She is a high energy, self-motivated, humble and steady lay minister. He is firmly grounded in our spiritual heritage as a confirmed Episcopalian and ridiculously obsessed about using every avenue, app and amount of time to connect and support ministry with next generations and their parents in Round Rock.

Provided the current salary, it is anticipated that this investment will result in 1) hundreds of children and students that are connected to God the Holy Trinity and one another, drawn by the gospel vibe at St. Richard's and 2) a faithful and life-giving network of leaders and parents at St. Richard's who seek to connect the Holy Mysteries with every day life.

### **Relationships**

The lion's share of her ministry oversight is focused on relationship development with children, youth, and their parents. For example, our Family Minister is expected to make weekly connections with five children and their parents and five youth and their parents. In the future Family Ministry small group leaders, interns and assistants will multiply that reach from our central team.

### **The Family Minister's responsibilities will also include:**

**1. Oversight of the Nursery Ministry Team and their Coordinator:** The Nursery Ministry Team coordinator is responsible for the Nursery Ministry Team's excellent ministry on Sunday mornings and evenings and throughout the week. The Family Minister equips the team coordinator for excellent childcare during our services, scheduled rehearsals and special events. A semiannual review of team members is expected by the Rector.

The Family Minister is responsible for developing a team of parents, not less than three which include one vestry member, that will take great care to update and refresh the cry room and nursery spaces throughout the year.

**2. Coordinate Children's and Youth Christian Education (Sundays at 9:15 a.m.):** Our Family Minister is responsible for on-going recruitment, equipping, quarterly training events and regular recognition of our leaders involved in our Sunday morning small group ministry for Children and Youth in which relationships are established for the sake of discipleship (teachers, snack, greeters, hall greeters, prayer ministry). During summer months and with input from the Rector and Family Ministry Team members, she shapes a life-giving schedule for our families as well as adapts curricula for each class. *Orange* as well as lectionary based models are often blended for effective connections with children. On Sundays, our Family Minister verifies leaders are

present and have supplies needed for their groups' experience and discovery. She is ready to substitute in a group on occasional Sundays when a leader needs to be away (planned or unplanned). Her support for parents and teachers throughout each month of the program year includes personal visits, handwritten notes delivered by the postal service as well as texts and phone calls.

**3. Lead Children's Chapel currently called Awesome Worship:** Our Family Minister oversees Children's Chapel which is currently called Awesome Worship. Following the Gospel lesson, she gathers the children and brings them to the room designated for Children's Chapel. She or her quite capable designate leads the children's liturgy and songs, including a short children's reflection/homily, and returns children to worship space at appropriate time. He recruits team members and assistants for Awesome Worship (Parents, students, and other adults effectively trained by). St. Richard's has developed a children's liturgy, but review and improvement of the liturgy is a part of this work. Starting Summer 2015 the children's worship experience is planned with the Rector to effectively run year round.

**4. Support life group network among middle school and high school students:** Our Family Minister works to recruit and train leaders to develop a network of small groups among middle school and high school students into which rising sixth graders are initiated the summer before they start middle school. This network is the basic ministry shape in which the Holy Mysteries are also experienced and unpacked. This network is one in which young disciples discover the power of road trips, hikes, swimming holes, shaving cream fights, worship, prayer, lectio divina, mission, service, pilgrimage, and other adventures, as well as jus' hanging out.

**5. Steward spaces for liturgy and formation:** In Summer 2015, our Family Minister will redesign and build the children's chapel experience; refresh and rename Kid's Club; refresh and clean up Youth Ministry Suite. She may develop a team of parents, not less than three which include one vestry member, that will take great care to maintain these spaces going forward. Developing or sharpening an ability to create environments which support liturgy and formation is a characteristic of our Family Minister or one of her team members.

**6. Coordinate Summer VBS and Summer Christian Ed Class:** Our Family Minister works with other lay leaders to develop and lead a Vacation Bible School/Parish Camp program for one workweek each summer. Starting in 2015 she will develop a winsome team to lead our combined Summer Christian Ed class between services (One summer class for all children with older children helping facilitate for younger children).

**7. Coordinate Safe-Guarding God's Children:** Our Family Minister manages our database that keeps up with those who are trained, in need of training, or in need of renewal, be our primary contact with the diocese on safe-guarding matters (including registering our trainings and those trained in the diocesan system), see to background checks and interviews required by the program, and offer one to two trainings a year. Our Family Minister is trained by the diocese as a Safeguarding God's Children trainer.

**8. Special Events:** Our Family Minister builds teams to assist special events for the parish, including The Great Pumpkin Festival, Mother's Day, Father's Day, and Pentecost. She is involved in recruiting leadership for these events; however, she is not the lead on these special events. The Easter Egg Hunt is directed by our Family Minister or her appointed leader.

Other duties that involve all of areas above include regular communication with parents about children and youth programs (e-newsletter, Facebook, twitter, website and other means of regular communication), regular staff meeting for support and planning, and participating in the development of the annual budget for ministries for which she is responsible. Comfort with electronic communications and social media is quite necessary.

The Family Minister will be professionally accountable to the Rector of Saint Richard's Episcopal Church. Compensation is competitive and includes an additional benefit. This includes eight hours present at Saint Richard's on Sundays (8:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.) and at least 12 hours during the week to connect with children, students, and their families; study and write; and to handle other duties. Mid-week work can be done from home or church as approved by the Rector.

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