



SANTA YNEZ VALLEY
PRESBYTERIAN
Church

ASSISTANT PASTOR

FOR YOUTH & FAMILIES

J O B D E S C R I P T I O N

REPORTS TO

Senior Pastor

FLSA STATUS

Full-Time, Exempt

START DATE

Spring/Summer 2027;
timeline flexible for the
right candidate

DIRECT REPORTS

Children's Ministry Director;
family ministry volunteers and
interns

POSITION SUMMARY

The Assistant Pastor for Youth & Families will serve as a key member of the SYVPC leadership team, share in pastoral duties and spiritual care, lead new and existing student ministries, oversee family ministry, and support the Senior Pastor as a trusted partner in ministry. The Assistant Pastor is a leader of leaders who multiplies ministry by raising up and equipping teams that invest in students, children, and families.

This role is central to SYVPC's vision to be a thriving, multigenerational church that reaches our whole Valley and beyond with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to our mission to *glorify God by helping people find and follow Jesus*.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

01 Student Ministries

- Develops and grows the middle school ministry and launches a new high school ministry.
- Recruits, trains, and leads a team of volunteer leaders who invest in students and share in carrying the ministry.
- Leads Thursday night student ministry and oversees middle school Sunday school, knowing and shepherding students personally alongside the volunteer team.
- Plans retreats, camps, and other ministry events, empowering volunteers and student leaders to help lead them.

- Supports the Executive Pastoral Assistant & Discipleship Lead in overseeing the Young Adults ministry.

02 **Family Ministries**

- Evangelizes and disciples families, helping them find and follow Jesus together, and creates classes, groups, and other tools that strengthen marriage, parenting, and spiritual practices.
- Coaches the Children's Ministry Director and partners with staff to shape a unified family ministry from early childhood through young adulthood.
- Builds a strong bridge between the preschool and the church by attending preschool board meetings and building relationships with preschool families, staff, and teachers.
- Ensures child safety training and policies are upheld, so that children and volunteers are protected.

03 **Outreach & Partnerships**

- Establishes the church campus as a trusted hub for youth and family ministry — a landing place for kids, students, and families throughout the Santa Ynez Valley.
- Builds outreach relationships with local schools, especially area public middle schools and the high school, and partners with other evangelical churches and Christian schools in the Valley.
- Develops outreach events and programming that mobilize volunteers and empower students to invite their friends to find and follow Jesus.
- Supports the Children's Ministry Director with outreach events such as VBS, movie nights, and the live Nativity.

04 **Pastoral Duties & Spiritual Leadership**

- Preaches as assigned by the Senior Pastor, and provides liturgical leadership in worship in partnership with the Worship Director.
- Provides pastoral care to the congregation, its families, and the wider community, including hospital and home visits, pastoral counseling, and referral as needed.
- Officiates memorial services and weddings as assigned, and assists with baptisms, new member classes, and other pastoral functions.
- Participates in the life of ECO alongside the Senior Pastor, including the Presbytery and National Gatherings as invited.

05 **Staff Leadership & Partnership**

- Serves as a core member of the pastoral staff and a trusted confidant and advisor to the Senior Pastor, partnering closely with the Senior Pastor and the Executive Pastoral Assistant & Discipleship Lead.
- Contributes to annual ministry planning and budgeting, and attends Session (elder board) meetings by invitation of the Senior Pastor, reporting on strategic goals and offering pastoral perspective.
- Represents the Senior Pastor with the church's boards and committees as requested.
- Mentors ministry interns when present, and keeps a "head on a swivel" for raising up new leaders in the ministry and the church.

QUALIFICATIONS

Education & Ordination

- Master of Arts or equivalent from an accredited, evangelical seminary, or nearing completion of such a degree.
- Ordained, ordainable, or eligible for ordination in ECO.
- Candidates from other Reformed or evangelical traditions are welcome, provided they are fully aligned with ECO's doctrine, leadership structure, and ordination process.

Experience

- 3–5 years of church staff experience in youth, family, or pastoral ministry.
- A track record of drawing students and families in and building sustainable, growing ministry with a lasting impact on spiritual formation.
- A demonstrated ability to multiply ministry by recruiting, equipping, and releasing volunteers and emerging leaders.
- Supervisory or team-leadership experience is strongly preferred.
- Experience with worship or music is a plus, for supporting youth worship and other opportunities.

Personal Qualifications

- A mature, growing relationship with Christ, evident through engagement in spiritual practices and a nearness to Jesus.
- A life that reflects the fruit of the Spirit and meets the biblical qualifications for leaders in the church.
- Full alignment with SYVPC's identity (Reformed, Evangelical, Egalitarian, Word-centered, and Spirit-filled) and with the [ECO Essential Tenets](#).
- Strong preaching and teaching gifts joined with a teachable spirit; at home with biblical, expositional, Spirit-dependent preaching.
- An engaging, relational presence with emotional maturity, strong communication and organizational skills, and a heart for all generations.
- A collaborative servant-leader who builds shared ownership, finds joy in developing others, and thrives in supporting and advancing the Senior Pastor's vision.
- A clear sense of call to pastoral ministry, confirmed by others in the church.

HOW TO APPLY

Interested candidates should submit a résumé, cover letter, a written statement of faith, and a link to a recent sermon or teaching sample to **Dennis Hartman, Business Administrator**, at **Dennis@SYVPC.org**. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, and the position will remain open until filled.