

**First Church, Simsbury
Young Adult Service Community Interns
Roles for Congregational Hours**

Every intern will attend and/or participate in...

- **Sunday morning worship and/or church school and fellowship hour.**
 - Simply being present on Sunday mornings is the best way for young adult interns to build relationships and rapport within the church community. Therefore, we are asking young adults to attend worship and/or teach church school and attend coffee hour three out of four Sunday's per month.
 - Young adults will have plenty of opportunities to lead worship or participate in church school on Sunday mornings according to their gifts and if they desire to do so. Young adults are welcome to read scripture, lead children's sermons, teach church school, sing in a choir, serve Communion, preach occasional sermons, and more.
- **Weekly Supervisory Meetings**
 - Young adults will meet at first weekly with the Congregational Coordinator and Ministerial Supervisor, and then less frequently as the program moves along.
- **Provide written updates to the congregation**
 - Young Adults will keep the congregation informed through written articles in our church newsletter, weekly email, and through social media.

Interns will choose from the following tasks...

- **Environmental Justice:** Work with the Board of Mission and the Just Faith Ministry (Justice Ministry Team) to further develop the church's environmental ministry, possibly forming a "green team," with guidance from CT UCC's Green Church Congregation Program.
- **Faith-Based Community Organizing:** Work with the Board of Mission and the Just Faith Ministry (Justice Ministry Team) to develop the church's participation in the Greater Hartford Faith-Based Community Organizing Initiative. For six months, Rev. Harris has been attending monthly meetings of Greater Hartford clergy interested in sponsoring a faith-based organizing initiative. Led by the Christian Activities Council, this inter-faith group (including Christians, Jews, Muslims, and Unitarians) is being prepared to bring this initiative to their congregations. An intern placed at the Christian Activities Council could help interpret and organize this initiative at First Church.
- **Music Ministry:** Mr. Mark Mercier is our Minister of Music. Mark oversees the Chancel Choir, Women's Praise Choir, Men's Choir, Bell Choir and more. Interns are welcome to sing in one of our choirs. In addition, we would welcome an intern with the necessary gifts and skills to take on a project such as the production of a musical, faith-based concert, battle of the bands event, etc.

- **Racial and Economic Justice:** Simsbury is 95% white and has a median income of \$110,000 yet is less than 10 miles from Hartford which has a 14.7% jobless rate and 35.2% of its highly diverse population living below the poverty level. Interns can help us consider the ways in which we can address racial and economic justice in a mostly white affluent suburban town. These interns would work in collaboration with our Board of Mission and Just Faith Ministry (Justice Ministry Team).
- **Social Media Presence and Outreach:** Our website is relatively current, our pastors have blogs, and we have a church Facebook page (our high school youth group also has a closed Facebook page and Instagram account). At the same time, we would be glad for an intern to help us fine-tune our social media strategy, especially manners of communication or both current and potential members and visitors.
- **Welcome and Hospitality:** In collaboration with the Board of Worship, Welcome Church Team, and Open and Affirming Implementation Team, strengthen our welcome and hospitality on Sunday mornings. One practical step we can envision is to expand and work with our usher team to include greeters at each entrance and lead training sessions on greeting and ushering. Additional ideas welcome.
- **Young Adult Leadership:** Engage young adults living in Simsbury and Greater Hartford, through small gatherings (theology on tap?), Bible or topic studies, or ways we have yet to imagine. Help young adults in their 20's or 30's looking for community to find grounding and hope for their lives.
- **Youth Ministry:** Rev. Weikel leads the youth ministry program at First Church, which encompasses junior high youth group, senior high youth group (PF), and Confirmation. One or more interested interns can join a youth advisor team. YASC interns would make terrific role models for our youth simply by being present and building relationships, but also through providing input and leadership. Many of our youth advisors are young adults, which would make for a comfortable fit for a YASC intern interested in youth work.