

2026-2027 Internships with Northfield United Methodist Church, Northfield, MN

Northfield UMC Children & Youth Program Internships (Part-time)

- Recreation Intern – Children and Youth
- Children and Youth Program Intern

Internship Dates: Part-time/Seasonal: Late September 2026 to Mid-May 2027

Time Commitment: 7-8 hours per week, primarily on Wednesday afternoons and evenings (3:00-8:30pm), plus occasional Sunday mornings, evenings, and weekends for special events. Also includes 2 youth overnights/retreats (Fall and Spring).

Note: Depending on applicant qualifications and availability, the Internship may be split into two: Children (K– 5th grade) and Youth (6th-12th grade).

Stipend: \$400 - \$450 per month, depending on experience and qualifications

Location: Northfield United Methodist Church: 1401 Maple St, Northfield, MN (across from Spring Creek Elementary) and off-site/activity and retreat locations.

General Overview: Although these internships are with Northfield United Methodist Church, the interns support the general programs. They are not required to provide faith formation as a part of this role, but applicants must be comfortable with progressive Christian theology (see theological statement at the end of the job description), and align with Northfield's progressive, inclusive ministry approach

Reporting Relationship: Lead Pastor and Interim Youth Director

Children and Youth Program Internship Overview:

The Children and Youth Program Intern helps organize, plan, and run activities for children and youth, assisting with direct supervision, programs, and event logistics. Responsibilities include supervising participants, creating engaging content for social media and educational materials, and providing support for logistics and programs. This role provides real-world experience in youth development, leadership, and teamwork. This internship would be a great fit for someone pursuing a career in:

<i>Education</i>	<i>Religion/Theology</i>	<i>Community Engagement</i>	<i>Recreation</i>
<i>Nonprofit Leadership</i>	<i>Youth Development</i>	<i>Psychology/Sociology</i>	

Key Responsibilities

- **Direct Program Support:** Supervise children and youth during activities, guide games and play, and help monitor their safety and well-being.
- **Planning, Logistics & Operations:** Assist with planning and creating activities, maintain clean and organized program spaces, and handle logistical tasks for events.
- **Communications:** Create and post social media content, draft communications for parents and youth, and assist with creating printed materials.
- **Administrative Tasks:** Perform various clerical and administrative duties as needed such as data collection, and managing program records.

Typical Tasks

- Helping with crafts, games, programs, and recreational activities.
- Participating in community engagement activities and service-learning opportunities.
- Interacting with children, parents/caregivers, providing clear and appropriate communication.
- Supporting special programs, events, and chaperoning overnight retreats.

What You'll Gain

- **Practical Experience:** Gain hands-on experience in youth development, program coordination, and community engagement.
- **Skill Development:** Develop valuable skills in time management, teamwork, communication, leadership, and initiative.
- **Networking:** Build relationships with youth leaders, community professionals, and other interns.
- **Career Advancement:** Add a valuable line to your resume and gain exposure to potential career paths in youth services, education, and community leadership.

Position Requirements

- **Education:** At least 18 years of age. High School Diploma or General Education Degree (GED) required, plus at least one year of college. One year of relevant work experience can be substituted for college.
- **Work Experience:** Experience working with children and/or youth in a work or volunteer setting. One year of relevant coursework can substitute for one year/season of experience.
- **Physical Requirements:** Must be able to frequently lift/carry/pull up to 45 lbs
- **Technical Skills:** Proficiency in Google Suite required. Social Media savvy, plus some knowledge of Canva or similar design software preferred.

Children and Youth Recreation Internship Overview

Do you enjoy sports, games, art, and spending time with kids and teenagers? The Children & Youth Recreational Intern helps make Northfield UMC's programs active, creative, welcoming, and fun. A typical week might include leading gym games with elementary kids, playing football or floor hockey, joining 4-square with youth, helping with an art project, or preparing for Trunk or Treat or an Easter Egg Hunt.

The intern works alongside staff and volunteers to provide recreation and program support for elementary-age children and middle and high school youth.

This internship could be a great fit for someone interested in recreation/sports, education, youth development, art, community engagement, psychology, or sociology.

Key Responsibilities

- *Sports & Games:* Lead and participate in football, floor hockey, four square, kickball, basketball, outdoor activities, and creative games.
- *Creative Activities:* Help lead art projects, crafts, and other hands-on activities.

- *Program Support:* Assist with Wednesday programs, including preparing supplies, setup, and cleanup.
- *Participant Engagement:* Build positive relationships with children and youth and encourage participation.
- *Supervision & Safety:* Help maintain a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment.
- *Special Events:* Assist with Trunk or Treat, Easter Egg Hunts, seasonal parties, service projects, and outings.

What You'll Gain

- **Hands-On Experience:** Work directly with children and youth.
- **Leadership:** Gain experience leading games, activities, and groups.
- **Program Experience:** Help plan and implement recreational programs and special events.
- **Career Exploration:** Gain experience relevant to recreation, coaching, education, youth development, and community programming.

Recreation Intern Position Requirements

- **Education:** Must be at least 18 years old. High school diploma or GED required. College coursework preferred but not required.
- **Experience:** Some experience with children or youth through camps, schools, recreation, coaching, childcare, employment, or volunteering is preferred.
- **Personal Skills:** Dependable, responsible, energetic, creative, and comfortable with children and teenagers. A willingness to jump into a game and have fun is important. Physical Requirements: Must be able to participate actively in recreation and frequently lift or carry up to 45 pounds.

Faith & Inclusion

This is a recreational and program-support position, not a theological teaching position. Church staff and ministry leaders provide faith-formation content.

The intern should be comfortable working in a church setting and supporting Northfield UMC's progressive and inclusive approach. We welcome applicants from a variety of religious and nonreligious backgrounds.

How to Apply:

Submit your resume and a brief cover letter outlining your interest and relevant experience to youth@northfieldumc.org. Applications are accepted until the position(s) is filled. Please contact Kristen Twitchell, Interim Youth Director, for more information.

Northfield United Methodist Church Statement of Reconciliation

We affirm that all people are created in the image of God and, as beloved children of God, all are worthy of God's love and grace, regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, family status, race, ethnicity, physical or mental ability, socioeconomic status, or age. We unreservedly support and affirm the full inclusion of persons of all sexual orientations and gender identities in all facets of ministry at Northfield UMC, including ordination and marriage. Following Christ's example, we open our hearts, minds, and doors to welcome all who come to us in God's grace.