

NextGen Pastor Overview

Why are we looking to hire a NextGen Pastor?

At WMBC we dream of a vibrant ministry to teens that will bring life to the whole church! A generation of young leaders being challenged and inspired to find their giftings and hear God speak. Stories of students taking the initiative to reach their friends for Christ and calling on the church to fight for justice and to lead with love. We dream that years from now students and volunteers will look back at their time spent in WMBC student ministries and be able to see the significant impact in made in their faith journey.

The combination of COVID, Pastor Dan's resignation and a role-based staffing structure spread out over kid's and teen ministry environments left our youth ministry somewhat destabilized. Over the past couple of years, we hired interim part-time directors to get us through a difficult season, in some sense waiting for "normal". We recognize that a half-time temporary term position is not enough of an investment to grow and rebuild our student ministries and effectively support families with teens. However, we greatly appreciate the leadership that Dana has brought over this past year!

Why the title of "NextGen Pastor"?

While the title of "youth pastor" would be most familiar to most of us, we wanted a title that went beyond audience or demographic but would communicate our vision and desire to have student ministries continue to collaborate with the greater church, support families, and not be a silo separated from the life of the church. You'll also notice a shift from "director" back to the title of "pastor". We think this is a healthy posture shift for WMBC and for staff, as we place a greater priority on people over programming.

What is the role?

The NextGen Pastor is a forward thinking, collaborative role, that will help WMBC reach and guide the next generation with a focus on teens and their families. The NextGen Pastor will play a pivotal role on our staff team in being their voice and advocate, supporting parents to be the primary spiritual leaders of their homes, discipling and developing leaders, and providing overall leadership and direction for our student ministries. The mission of the NextGen Pastor is ultimately to lead the next generation to passionately love and follow Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.