

Summer Exploration 2026

Montebello Plymouth Congregational Church
144 South Greenwood Avenue, Montebello, CA 90640
Phone: (323) 721-5568 Email: summerex@montebelloucc.org

To all returning staff members:

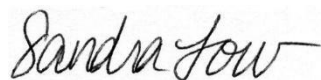
Summer Ex is just around the corner and we're again looking for staff members with a heart for serving God and the aptitude needed for working with kids. The dates for our program will be July 6th through July 19th with staff training sessions Monday, June 29th, through Thursday, July 2nd. Also, please plan to be at our staff dedication during our worship service on Sunday, June 28th, as it's quite discombobulating when there's only a bunch of old people like me up there and none of you young folks.

We strongly encourage you to turn in your application early *even if you are not entirely sure of your availability*. The deadline to submit all staff applications is Sunday, June 7th. Applications that are turned in late may affect the position and responsibilities to which you are appointed. Furthermore, please understand that completing the application does not automatically guarantee you a position on our staff.

Carefully read the attached job description and requirements as I will quiz you on it later. (I'm kidding.) You will be notified by mid-June if you will need to schedule an interview. If you know that you will be busy this summer and it may interfere with our staff training sessions and/or work days, let us know as soon as possible since good attendance is vital, essential, absolute, etc. for staff cohesiveness and teamwork.

Search your heart to determine if God is again calling you to join us in providing a caring, safe haven for the children in our care. If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at sandra.low.summerex@gmail.com or call my cell (323) 899-0138.

Looking forward to a summer filled with God's love and grace,



Sandra Low
Director

Summer Exploration 2026

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SUMMER EX 2026 NEEDS TEACHERS & AIDES!

Who and what we are: Summer Exploration 2026 is a two-week Vacation Bible School for children from preschool through 8th grade. We use the facilities and run under the auspices of Montebello Plymouth Congregational Church (MPCC). In addition to teaching a Bible-based curriculum, we also include other various activities such as arts and crafts, games, cooking, physical activity, performing arts, field trips, and multimedia.

When: Our program begins on Monday, July 6th and ends Sunday, July 19th. Program hours for kids are 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. weekdays; however, staff are expected to arrive by 8:00 a.m. and stay until 5:00 p.m. for cleanup, meetings, and preparation. If sleepovers and trips are scheduled, the staff is expected to be on duty during these times as well. All staff are required to attend our closing program at MPCC on Sunday, July 19th.

Training: Staff members are required to attend training sessions June 29th - July 2nd. These sessions are for learning and reviewing program procedures, going over curriculum, and meeting the other staff members. First aid training may be included or scheduled for a separate date.

Requirements: All staff members must be able to work in a team ministry environment. They must also show maturity in their Christian faith as well as a willingness to work and play with youth. All returning staff must be regularly attending MPCC, another church, Christian fellowship, or Bible Study. Teachers must be at least high school graduates; college or seminary student preferred. A teacher will work with the directors, other teachers, and our church pastor. Assistant teachers, aides and junior aides must be high school sophomores or above.

Compensation: Upon completion of the program, scholarships will be awarded to all staff *enrolled in a college, trade tech or junior college*. Other staff will receive an honorarium, taxable according to state and federal laws. While the specific amount for scholarships and honorariums is not publicized, we will share a chart with the staff explaining the different factors that determine the amount given. If there are further questions, please feel free to contact the director.

How to apply: Complete the application and emergency medical forms. These must be submitted no later than **Sunday, June 7th**. Applications will be accepted online, via mail, or via email. A reference letter from a pastor or youth pastor is required for all applicants who did not work in 2025. A formal interview will then be set up with the director. A background check will be completed on all applicants, returning or new. Again, submitting an application or completing an interview does not guarantee a position. The number of staffers that we hire is based on our total student enrollment.

Where: **Summer Exploration 2026**
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Phone: (323) 721-5568 Email: summerex@montebelloucc.org
Director: Sandra Low, sandralow.summerex@gmail.com

COMPLETION OF THIS APPLICATION IS NOT A GUARANTEE OF BEING HIRED.

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Summer Exploration Staff Application for Returning Staff

Name _____ Home Phone (_____) _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
Email Address _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____
Date of Birth _____
Emergency Contact Name: _____ Phone (_____) _____

How do you plan on getting to/from Summer Ex?

Do you have a first aid certificate? If so, date issued?

List any days/hours you are NOT available between July 6 – July 19.

EDUCATION

High School _____ Grade Completed _____

List school related extra-curricular activities.

College _____ Major _____ Degree _____

List any other languages you speak. _____ Fluency _____

WORK INFO

Employer _____

Dates Employed _____

Name of Supervisor/Manager _____ Bus.Phone(_____) _____

Responsibilities _____

Do you plan to keep working during Summer Ex? Yes No

If yes, what will your hours of availability be?

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PAST SUMMER EX OR WINTER EX EXPERIENCE

Did you attend Summer Ex as a camper? Yes No If so, what year(s)?

When did you work for Summer Ex or Winter Ex (e.g. Summer Ex 2024 or Winter Ex 2025)?

Last Summer/Winter Ex Staff Position _____ Year

Describe any difficulties or issues you experienced, including those with staff, directors, or with the program in general.

Were those issues resolved? Yes No

If no, please explain.

In the past, what was the most difficult aspect of serving as a staff member?

What do you feel you can do differently to make a positive change?

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CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE (Please feel free to use the back of this page)

How many times have you been attending church each month? _____

When was your last visit? _____

Name of church

Name of pastor or youth minister

(Please attach a letter of reference from the person listed above).

What do you hope to gain by working at Summer Ex?

How would you describe your spiritual journey and relationship with God right now?

What are your struggles (we all have them), and what's going well?

What is your personal vision for ministry here at Summer Ex? Do you have any ideas of how God might accomplish that through you? If so, please explain

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY

Would you feel comfortable if a student were able to see all of your social media content (Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, etc.)? Why or why not?

Is there any circumstance or pattern in your life which would make it inappropriate for you to serve with minors or would compromise the integrity of Summer Ex and/or MPCC? Please circle your answer. Yes No

If yes, please explain.

If you could choose any age/grade level to work with, what would it be and why?

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HOBBIES AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES

List any of your hobbies or leisure activities that you feel would be helpful to our program.

In choosing to serve God with your gifts and talents, please answer the following questions.

Are you...

willing to mentor and assist in the training of new staff? Yes No

If yes, how?

If no, why not?

willing to lead in planning theme days? Yes No

If yes, how?

willing to lead with music and/or arts? Yes No

If yes, how?

willing to lead devotionals and prayers? Yes No

If yes, how?

If no, why not?

Comments and/or Suggestions.

By signing below, I give to Summer Exploration, Montebello Plymouth Congregational Church, and their agents authorization to contact references for the purpose of evaluating my character and reputation as well as permission to check criminal history records, motor vehicle records, and education and employment verification. I further understand that any information will be used strictly for evaluating my qualification (or disqualification) as a staff member.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Print clearly. _____

Parent/Guardian's Name (if applicant is under 18)

Parent/Guardian's Signature (if applicant is under 18)

Date

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APPLICANT'S STATEMENT

I authorize any references or organizations listed in this application to give you any information they may have regarding my character and fitness for children and youth work. I release all such references from liability for any damage that may result from furnishing such evaluations to you, and I waive any right to inspect references provided on my behalf.

Should my application be accepted, I agree to be bound by the rules, regulations, and policies of both Summer Exploration and Montebello Plymouth Congregational Church, and to act in accordance with those, in the performance of my service on behalf of both organizations.

I hereby attest and certify that I have never been arrested for, charged with, convicted of, nor pled guilty to child abuse, child endangerment, any form of sexual imposition, voyeurism, public indecency, any offense of violence, or any other existing or former offense substantially equivalent to any of the above offenses in violation of any municipal, corporation, state, the United States, or any other nation. (If you have been convicted of or pled guilty to any of the previous offenses and wish to explain the circumstances thereof, please do so on a separate sheet.) I further certify that I have never been discharged from employment or a volunteer position because of any activity listed above.

I hereby authorize any present or former employer, person, firm, corporation, physician, or government agency to answer any and all questions and to release or provide any information within their knowledge or records, and I agree to hold any and all of them harmless and free of any liability for releasing any truthful information that is within their knowledge and records. I further authorize the Community of Christ to conduct a check of my police criminal records and agree that I will fully cooperate in providing all information and signing all documents necessary to conduct such a check.

I hereby attest and certify that the above information provided by me is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that misrepresentations or omissions may disqualify my application or result in my immediate dismissal if I am already serving on staff.

Applicant's Signature

Date _____

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MEDICAL PERMISSION & STATUS FORM FOR STAFF

Name of Staff Member(last/first) _____
Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____
Father/Guardian Name _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____
Mother/Guardian Name _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
Date of Birth _____
Driver's License# _____ Auto Ins. Policy _____

Completing the following information will not have any bearing on your hiring or position.

Are you insured to transport other than family members? Yes No

Have you ever been found at fault in an auto accident? Yes No

If yes, please explain.

Alternate Emergency Contact _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

Doctor's Name _____ Phone(_____) _____

Medical Plan & Number _____

Allergies/Health Problems (please list food allergies) _____

I/We, the undersigned parent(s) of the minor named above, do hereby authorize the staff of Summer Exploration and Montebello Plymouth Congregational Church as agents for said minor to consent to any x-ray examination, anesthetic, medical/ surgical diagnosis or treatment, and hospital care deemed advisable by a physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of the Medical Practice Act on the medical staff at any hospital, whether such diagnosis or treatment is rendered at the office of said physician or at said hospital.

It is understood that this authorization is given in advance of a specific diagnosis, treatment, or hospital care being required but is given to provide authority and power on the part of aforesaid agents to give specific consent to any and all such diagnosis, treatment, or hospital care that in their best judgment may deem advisable.

This authorization is given pursuant to the provisions of Section 25.8 of the Civil Code of California.

I/We hereby authorize any hospital which has provided treatment to the above named minor pursuant to the provisions of Section 25.8 of the Civil Code of California to surrender physical custody of such minor to the agent(s) identified above upon the completion of treatment. This authorization is given pursuant to Section 1283 Health and Safety Code of California. These authorizations shall remain effective until December 31, 2026 unless revoked sooner in writing delivered to said agents.

A photocopy of this authorization shall have the same force and effect as the original.

Signature of Parent/Guardian (if staff member is under 18)

Date

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JULY 2026



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28 Meet The Staff 	29	30	1	2	3	4
Staff Training June 29-July 2						
5	6 <i>Lesson 1</i> First Day Stuff!	7 <i>Lesson 2</i> Swim Day 	8 <i>Lesson 3</i> Interactive Magic Show 	9 <i>Lesson 4</i> Return at 5 for Dinner & Sleepover	10 <i>Lesson 5</i>	11
12	13 <i>Lesson 6</i>	14 <i>Lesson 7</i> Swim Day 	15 Field trip to  AMERICA'S 1 ST THEME PARK	16 <i>Lesson 8</i>	17 Rehearsal Prepping for Super Sunday 	18
19 Super Sunday Church Service & Lunch 	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1