tips for Finding a Part-time Youth Minister

1. Begin by engaging in ongoing prayer…asking our Lord to help you be open to the person God has for you.
2. Read the book *Before You Hire a Youth Pastor*. This is the best resource possible to help make your search and your youth ministry a success.
3. Have your youth ministry lay leadership (Search Team) read *Sustainable Youth Ministry: Why Most Youth Ministry Doesn't Last and What Your Church Can Do About It,*by Mark DeVries (available on Amazon at <https://amzn.to/2VmR4ds>, both in print and e-book format). This book is the best as far as helping churches establish the proper environment for successful youth ministry.
4. Develop a simple but thorough job description including responsibilities as well as the qualities desired in the person for whom you are searching.
5. Consider a post on the local denominational website; also look at Ministry Architects’ free job post website (<https://hireayouthpastor.com/>) and other fee-based sites.
6. Part-time searches require a local focus. Contact seminaries close to your area as well as other churches with similar theology and successful youth ministries.
7. Networking, essential in a search process, is especially so with a part-time position. Call other churches of the same denomination as well as any clergy or youth staff that you know locally. If you are open to someone from a different denomination, then reach out to churches of that denomination.
8. Utilize social media as much as possible. Share the job description with the congregation, and ask your members to post it via their own social media profiles to spread the word.
9. Continue in regular prayer and weekly meetings of the Search Team.
10. If you would like formal help from Ministry Architects, please call 877-462-5718 for more information. There are fees involved and their search work is better situated for larger congregations with full-time positions. What would probably be even better is for you to follow the process outlined in the book *Before You Hire a Youth Pastor*, and then engage Ministry Architects to mentor that new staff person for the first year or so. This is a very good investment that can pay great dividends for the church as well as the youth minister.