

Worship Hand- book



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WCC Worship

an introduction to the ministry

“Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given to man that he should proclaim the Word of God through music.”

– Martin Luther



Greetings



HELLO THERE!

Welcome to WCC Worship Ministries!

We are glad that you have decided to use the gifts God has given you to worship Him by serving in His church! In this handbook you will find our church mission, vision, and plan for worship in our church and community that is firmly rooted in scripture. You will find the details of the specific program you wish to intern with to have a better idea of what you should expect from us, and what we will expect from you, as we become and carry out the role of “worship leaders” or “response leaders” for Gods people, the church.

Identity



Who Is WCC?

Waushara Community Church exists to **give God creative and meaningful worship and to discover and develop disciples for the Lord Jesus Christ.** This means that we are primarily concerned with accomplishing two things first and foremost. One, we are creating an atmosphere that is largely focused on learning and actively worshipping God. Secondly, we make it a priority to discover and develop disciples so that all would come to live out the first directive, to create worshippers of the one true God.

The Worship Team

The Worship Team is an important part of the overall worship experience throughout church gatherings. The Worship Team specifically sets out to capture the hearts of people for Christ, teach biblical truth, and exalt God through music. We here at WCC believe that music is one of the most powerful ways that God uses to show His overwhelming love and grace in our lives. We also believe that God, through the bible, has shown us that worshipping Him in song is an incredibly important part of our worship to Him!

Goals



1. Lead as daily worshipers

The Bible describes worshipping as something that happens more than just once a week. It is something we live out in our daily lives. The responsibility of a worship leader goes beyond the regular Sunday duties. Our goal is to live above reproach in every aspect of our lives, in order to glorify and worship God in all that we do. We are called to lead others into this lifestyle as well through discipleship and love.

2. Exemplify a working Body of Christ

As leaders in the church, we should be modeling the Body of Christ. We strive to recognize one another's gifts, and use our own gifts to serve and uplift one another to God's glory (Colossians 3:14-16; Eph 4:11-16; Heb 1:24-25).

2

CORE VALUES

what are the things we care about

“Worship is the proper response of all moral, sentient beings to God, ascribing all honor and worth to their Creator-God precisely because he is worthy, delightfully so.”

– D.A. Carson



E.P.I.C



A Praise Team member can be summed up quite easily with our EPIC model. We expect all members to follow in the footsteps of Christ in going after these attributes

E. Ethical

(Worldly evaluation, i.e. Always do the right thing)

P. Principle

(You stand on biblical truth)

I. Integrity

(True to yourself; Who you are when no one's looking)

C. Character

(Confident In Christ, Humble Contrite Spirit)

The 3 C's



* See Appendix

C. Commitment To Christ*

Moral excellence is extremely important for the believer's testimony to unbelievers. If our lives are not changed and do not reflect the new life in Christ, we become less effective witnesses.

C. Commitment To Team*

Since our purpose is to work together as a ministry team, it is vital that we know each other and where we're going.

C. Commitment To Self*

Formerly known as, "Commitment to excellence," I believe that we should relabel this to Commitment To Self. Commitment To Self is: is an important commitment that you strive to do the best that you can in all areas. If you do not try to do best, then we cannot give it our all as a group. Excellence may be unachievable, but giving all you have is possible and right.

3

Operational Guidelines

How we do move together as a team

“Cause every task of your day to be a sacred ministry to the Lord. However mundane your duties, for you they are a sacrament.”

– Richard Foster



Membership



Basic Criteria

- A heart that seeks humility in order to worship and serve God and the Church fully
- An understanding of Biblical Worship, and acceptance of WCC Team Values.
- Membership in a WCC small group or bible study.
- Approval of a Praise Team Leader with final approval for the Director of Worship.

The Pathway



- **Submit application form**
- **In-person Interview & Audition**
- **Internship Program:**

- 1. Attend Small group or Bible Study**
- 2. Meet 2/3 times with mentor/trainer (one to one)**
- 3. Begin prayer for ministry**
- 4. Learn set-up and break-down for the Worship Center**
- 5. Learn ProPresenter/Soundboard**
- 6. Attend weekly Band Practice**

- **Final Evaluation:**

This is done by the Team Leaders in order to decide whether your desires and your talents are right for the Praise Team. Upon approval, you will be asked to sign a Commitment Form.

Upon signing you will officially be a member of the WCC Worship Team.

Expectations



1. A heart of humility. We believe that humility is the only way that someone can truly serve Christ and His Church. If one is not in the pursuit of humility, all actions will be taken for self-glorification, and not for the glory of God.

2. Prayer. Prayer is one of the most important things one could do. A healthy prayer life is a sign of humility. We must connect with God on a hourly/daily/weekly/monthly basis to seek out His will for our lives, our leaders, and our church. As a Christian, God calls us to pray continually.

3. Small Groups. We believe that the success of church is built on the success of discipleship and community; usually lived out through small groups ministry. We expect that you will understand the importance of discipleship and small groups. Our hope is that you will grow up to be a leader in the church leading through discipleship and small groups, that we may raise up more to fulfill the Great Commission.

4. Commitment. Being a part of the Worship Team is often very different than other ministries because it calls for a greater commitment than most other ministries. You are asked to prepare in advance, show up on time, communicate often, and be respectful/helpful to the rest of your team. You should be known for your hard work, exhaustive grace, and your heart to put the team first before your preferences. Commitment is not just being a part of the team, but being one who embodies Christ in all ways

5. Team Work. Worship Team is just that, a TEAM activity. Although someone must always be at the head, making decisions, picking songs, training leaders, our desire is that we will have many leaders who can fulfill those duties as well as welcome the ideas and suggestions of the team for the betterment of leading our church in worship. Our goal is to come together and act as one body to lead the church to be one body for the sake of making the gospel known and lived out.

6. Submission. The true heart of someone looking to be on the Worship Team will be someone who is indeed committed to both fulfilling the requirements of the internship, and also someone who is interested in serving the over all needs of the church. Sometimes one's interest may be different from their gifting. If that is the case, you may be asked to pursue another avenue of service if your gifting and your desire do not match up.

4

Biblical References

scripture we look to

"I can safely say, on the authority of all that is revealed in the Word of God, that any man or woman on this earth who is bored and turned off by worship is not ready for heaven."

– A.W. Tozer



Membership



Basic Criteria

*not an exhaustive list

2 Samuel 24:24 “But the king replied to Araunah, “No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the LORD my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.”

Psalms 33:3 “Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy.”

Psalms 100:2 “Worship the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs”

Psalms 115:1 “Not to us, O LORD, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness.”

Psalms 150:1-6 “Praise the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens. Praise him for his acts of power: praise him for his surpassing greatness. Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre, praise him with timbrel and dancing, praise him with the strings and pipe, praise him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with resounding cymbals. Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD.”

John 4:23-24 “Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth.”

Psalms 40:3 “He gave me a new song to sing. It is a hymn of praise to our God. Many people will see what he has done and will worship him. They will put their trust in the Lord.”

Romans 12:1-2 “I urge you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God to present your bodies as a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.”

1 Peter 4:10 “Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.”

1 Chronicles 16:8-10 “Give thanks to the Lord, call on His name, make known among the nations what He has done. Sing to Him, sing praise to Him; tell of all His wonderful acts. Glory in His Holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.”

Hebrews 12:29 “Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.”

Psalms 149:1-5 “Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the godly! Let Israel be glad in his Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King! Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre! For the Lord takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with salvation. Let the godly exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their beds.”

Colossians 3:14-16 “Above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.”

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Appendices

Section 1-4

“You never go away from us, yet we have difficulty in returning to You. Come, Lord, stir us up and call us back. Kindle and seize us. Be our fire and our sweetness. Let us love. Let us run.”

– Augustine of Hippo



Appendix 1

The 3 Cs

Commitment to Christ

Moral excellence is an extremely important part of a believer's testimony to unbelievers. If our lives are not changed and do not reflect the new life in Christ, we become less effective witnesses.

With that said, God has given us much grace. We are always in need of God's grace and we need to be grace givers. We will always be growing in our holiness but nonetheless, "Because it is written, 'You shall be Holy, for I am Holy.'" (1 Peter 1:16). We will strive for Godly living as a service to those around us who don't know the love of Christ.

Commitment to the Team

Since our purpose is to work together as a ministry team, it is vital that we know each other and know where we're going. Your commitment to the team and your capacity to participate with the team will be expressed by a determination to be at all team gatherings.

Obviously there are exceptions to this expectation that will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. If you are not able to attend a team gathering, please give as much advance notice as possible. We all have seasons in our lives when it is difficult to be involved, and that's okay.

(APPENDIX 2, sec. 1)

Commitment to Excellence SELF

When you commit yourself to excellence, you are committing yourself to the utmost of high standards; usually impossible standards. But when you commit to self you are committing along with your commitment to Christ and Team that you will do the best you can within the abilities and the will that you have. It is a commitment to being the best member of the team that you can be.

(APPENDIX 2, sec. 2).

Appendix 2

Discipline

Within the confines of the church body we believe it is necessary to layout clear boundaries for service in order to protect the holiness of both the Worship Ministry, as well as the church as a whole. The hope is that discipline is not necessary, but we are all human and are prone to error. That being said, discipline will always be handled in a Biblical manner.

Things we may consider worthy of discipline:

1. Consistent Lateness/Tardiness.

We all understand that there are instances where life does not like to keep to the schedule we plan for, but one must attempt to account for those problems. Consistent lateness will be considered grounds for dismissal. If you are late three times within a two-month period you will receive a gentle warning. If there is another absence within a month following the warning, you will be asked to sit out for two or more weeks at the discretion of the leaders. If you are habitually late following sitting out, you will be evaluated again by the leaders and possibly be dismissed.

2. Unrepentant Sinful Behavior.

You're a role model. As members of the Worship Ministry in the church-- whether you are ushering people to their seats, leading the team for Sunday service, or designing the website--you are being watched and evaluated by the members of the church. It is important that you are a living example of a cross-centered life. If there is point that your "EPIC" is called into question an immediate evaluation will be made by the Director of Worship as well as other staff. This may require you having an accountability partner, a weekly evaluation by the leaders for a specific amount of time, or suspension and pastoral counseling.

✪ **All decisions about discipline will be decided and administered with careful thought and great grace. Each person and situation will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.**

✪ **Everyone is different, and all interns will be evaluated based on the agreement of the leadership team.**

Appendix 3

***Uncovered Items/Gray Areas

In keeping with 1 Corinthians 10:23;

“Everything is permissible - but not everything is beneficial.”

We must at times evaluate certain aspects of our team and make decisions. The team leaders will ultimately take these things under consideration as a group. These things are will not be considered resolved issues at any time, and may change under specific circumstances. This is done as a way to bless and serve the congregation in all circumstances.

Evaluations

It is important as a ministry to constantly evaluate both the leadership and the progress of the team both as a whole and individually. We may do this in our monthly meetings, or you may be asked to make evaluations individually. Below you will find an example/copy of what you may be asked to fill out as an evaluation form.

Name (optional): _____

Do you believe that your leader/s are doing an adequate job of leading? ☐ Yes ☐ No

What are some ways you would like to see them improve?

What are the weaknesses of the worship team?

What are some of the strengths of the worship team?

What are your recommendations to make the praise team better?

Appendix 4

Rehearsal Expectations

Talking

The rehearsal is generally not the time to commit to an ongoing discussion with the person standing next to you (or worse yet, across the stage from you). If you have questions or need to work out a part, please address those questions to the leader. Individual conversations are very distracting when the leader is trying to give direction to the whole team. Work out the parts as a team.

Overplaying

Don't continue playing while the worship leader is giving directions. If you need to work out a part, please ask so that we can work it out together as a team.

Practice Makes Perfect

The old saying 'practice makes perfect' is not accurate. While practice does not make perfect, it does make permanent. If something is practiced incorrectly, it will be performed incorrectly. Again, this is an issue of focus. Make plenty of legible notes on the provided charts, use those notes as you rehearse and watch your perfect practice make permanent.

Monitors/Eye Contact

Listening to each other is crucial. Hearing everyone, not just your instrument or vocal is very important. The goal is to play together as a team, not to play at the same time as individuals. This makes a big difference! Make sure you can hear what everyone is doing. Make sure you get what you need in the monitor mix. Good communication is imperative. Eye contact, body language and movement, hand signals, etc. are the best ways to communicate during a song. Please watch and listen to the leader to make sure the entire band stays together on transitions particularly.

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Application



Worship Team Application

Name:	D.O.B:
Cell Phone:	Email:
Spouse: YES NO	Children: YES NO
Work Hours:	

What position are you interested in?

- ☐ Singer ☐ Piano/Keyboard. ☐ Strings (Violin, Viola, Cello)
☐ Guitar ☐ Bass ☐ Drums ☐ OTHER _____
☐ Sound Operator ☐ Live Stream/Slides ☐ Video/Audio ☐ Lighting ☐ Stage Design

How much experience do you have?

- ☐ None ☐ Just learning ☐ Medium ☐ Professional
Have you played or lead worship before? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, where did you serve previously?

May we contact an old pastor or worship leader? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Leaders name: _____ Phone number: _____

How long have you been attending WCC?

- ☐ A month or less ☐ About 6 month's ☐ Over a Year

How long have you been a Christian/How did you come to know Christ?

Describe your current relationship with Christ.

Why do you feel you are called to serve on the Praise Team?

Why are prayer and music such an important part of our Worship?

This image shows a full page of blank, lined paper. It features approximately 20 evenly spaced horizontal grey lines across its entire width, providing a guide for handwriting or typing. The background is a clean, solid white color.

This commitment form says that you have read, understood, and accepted the following terms:

- 1. You are interested in SERVING the church body in order to glorify God.
- 2. You will do your best to follow all practice rules stated by the handbook and leader.
- 3. You are agreeing to WCC’s Worship Ministry period of internship.

I, the Worship Team candidate, hereby commit myself to be faithful to all of the goals and commitments set forth here by the Director of Worship as well as the Worship Team Leaders. I have carefully read the requirements above and wholeheartedly submit myself to the objectives and activities of the Worship Team Program. I will also submit and yield to my Worship Team leaders and members with the wholehearted love of Christ.

Name (print):	Leader (print):
Name (sign):	Leader (sign):
Parent Signature (If student):	Leader Approval:
Date:	Date:

