**Worship Team Guidelines**

Mission

The Worship Team plays a vital role in the overall ministry of First Assembly of God. Its primary mission is to ascribe worth to the Lord Jesus Christ through music and song and lead the congregation into the presence of God under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

“God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.” (John 4:24)

Objectives

1. To create an atmosphere where all feel welcomed into an expression of corporate worship.

2. To introduce meaningful worship songs and unique worship music, maintaining a contemporary approach, while paying the proper respects to the traditional music of the church.

3. To encourage the use of spiritual gifts in worship by showing sensitivity to the working of God’s Spirit as He seeks to bring honor to the Name of Jesus.

4. To maintain a biblical approach to worship that honors the Lord and relies on the Scriptures as the standard of truth and conduct for the Christian faith.

5. To encourage an attitude of expectation, where the realization of God’s presence through worship creates excitement and opens hearts to receive the message from the Word of God.

Description

Musicians, vocalists and sound engineers are considered members of the Worship Team.

Every team member should view their part in the ministry as a divine calling. Ministering on the platform makes each one a role model and a Christian example to others. They must strive continually to minister with a pure heart. There is no place for “performances” or “showmanship.” It is important to remember that worship team members will be held to a higher standard of accountability as leaders.

One important key to team harmony and success is open communication. Transparency promotes clarity and unity. It reduces hurt feelings, resentment and confusion. Church and Worship Team leadership will strive to make sure all decisions are clearly and concisely shared with each member of the team. Team members are encouraged to give feedback to leadership.

The Worship Team’s primary time of ministry is the Sunday morning service. However, the team will be expected to lead worship for other services and special events. Members will receive advance notice of these extra opportunities for ministry.

Spiritual Requirements

1. Team members are born-again believers in Jesus Christ.

2. Team members are baptized in the Holy Spirit or actively seeking to receive Holy Spirit baptism.

3. Team members live lives that honor the Lord. They are committed to growing spiritually.

4. Team members, 18 years or older, are active members of First Assembly of God, supporting the church with regular attendance and tithes. Non-members can be allowed to minister with the team, but only after agreeing to seek membership at the next available opportunity.

5. Team members are worshippers on and off the platform.

6. Team members attend Sunday School or the Sunday morning practice.

7. Team members’ participation on the Worship Team is fully supported by their families.

8. Team members have teachable hearts and submit themselves to team and church leadership.

\*The Worship Team leader, in consultation with the Pastor and/or the Official Board, has the authority to dismiss team members that violate the Worship Team guidelines. Dismissed team members can only be restored to the team with Pastoral and/or Official Board approval.

Skill and Practice Requirements

1. Team members do not need to be professional musicians or singers. However, a certain level of expertise is still required to play and sing in front of the congregation as well as blend with the other members of the Worship Team. Those desiring to join the Worship Team will be asked to fill out a Worship Team application and give a brief, informal audition if needed.

2. The members of the Worship Team have a commitment to strive for excellence in their ministry before the Lord and in leading the congregation. Team members must attend the Sunday morning (9:20AM) practices to be eligible for Sunday morning ministry.

3. **The Worship Team members are encouraged to honor their God-given talent by continuing to grow through dedicated practice times with the ultimate goal of improving and refining their technical skills.**

4. Typically team members will receive the selected song list by Thursday afternoon. This is to help each member be better prepared for the practice on Sunday morning.

5. Team members are responsible for calling, texting or emailing the Worship Team leader when they are unable to complete their scheduled ministry time. The team leader will find their replacement.

6. All team members on the platform are responsible to dress in a modest and respectful fashion. While God looks on the heart, mankind still looks on the outward appearance. Clothing should never be a distraction as the worship team strives to lead others in the presence of the Lord.