

How important is this ministry?

Worship of God is the most important action within the life of a believer and, collectively, the church. As an individual, worship is a way of life that should occur throughout the week giving glory to God through all that we do and say. Corporate worship occurs when believers gather together to focus their praise, prayers and hearts upon God. This often times happens through the singing of hymns, Psalms and spiritual songs, as well as the reading of God's word, prayer and times of teaching. As part of the worship team you help people refocus their hearts from the cares and busyness of the world back to the proper focus in life, which is God. Through music, you help them connect emotionally to words that seek out God's heart when they are burdened, or lift up praise to God when they are full of joy. Through prayers, you help people connect to our loving God who wants to hear our prayers, move on our behalf and bless us. Through scripture readings, you root people in the word of God which speaks of His love revealing His heart and desire for relationship with us. God's Word is how we learn about who He is. This ministry is very important to the corporate life of our church and also to the lives of individual Christ-followers.

A New Philosophy of Ministry

There was a time when a worship leader was simply a "song leader" directing people when to begin singing and when to end the stanza, when to stand up and when to sit down. Singing can be part of corporate worship but worship is not just singing. The worship team is responsible to model corporate worship for the congregation through being connected to the Holy Spirit. We are facilitators who spiritually guide and assist people through prayer and song. The congregation is not the audience — God is which is why we invite them to join us in drawing near to God, exalting Him, resting in His love and celebrating His forgiveness and salvation.

Personal questions that can help guide the worship team in their ministry focus: "What do I believe biblical worship is? What moves me to feel connected with God? What moves the congregation to feel connected with God? How can we shape the music to blend with scriptures and prayers so that there is a spiritual flow to the Sunday morning worship time? How can we assist people in experiencing our living, loving God this morning?"

Ministry Requirements

- Review ministry description then fill out a ministry application form that can be found online at: www.bachurch.com/ministries/worship/
- You need to have musical ability. As a leader we need for you to be able to confidently sing by yourself in tune, be able to learn songs either by listening to them online, working on them at home if you read music, and be able to sing in rhythm.
- As worship leader you will be responsible for touching base with the pastor to find out what the scripture and theme is for the week you are leading. This can help you plan accordingly.
- As you plan the service you will be responsible for knowing where the song will be going and mapping that out on Planning Center Online (PCO) for our ProPresenter people to prepare the slides for the worship time.
- You may ask others on the team to be involved through prayers, testimonies or the reading of scripture or poems etc.

- As leader, it is important to keep prayer in your preparations and team practices.
- At practices it would be nice (but not required) for you to share what God has been teaching you the past week or share a devotional or scripture that is meaningful for you. In doing this you show that your relationship with God has life.
- You, along with your Music Director lead the Thursday night mid-week practice (6:45PM) as well as the Sunday morning practice (7:30AM if there are two services and 8AM if there is one).
- Read Where Is This Service Going? (available from pastor Joe or Michelle). This can help you in your planning of the service for flow and focus.
- You need to have served on the worship team before.
- You are responsible to provide your own In Ear Monitors and tablet for the music/lyrics. We will provide the tablet holder for you.
- A meeting with the Worship & Creative Arts pastor may be scheduled to discuss your form and see how you may fit into the worship ministry at BAC or how we can help you develop further before you join this particular ministry.

What do I do?

- From time to time you will be responsible to listen to and learn the worship music that we sing ahead of practice (and anything new we will be doing in the future). These will be available via Spotify or Apple Music playlists.
- It is your responsibility to make sure you are able to connect to Planning Center Online (PCO) and respond to communications sent out.
- You will need to learn how to use PCO effectively to help you plan services, make sure songs are not repeated too often, if new songs need to be sung in a learning rotation, and choose appropriate keys.
- Coordinate with the Music Director and make notes in PCO on each song for mapping, style and individual roles of musicians (what licks and lead lines you would like them to prepare etc.)
- Help with setup and tear down of the microphones, cables, and instruments as needed.

Time Requirements

- Currently, we are scheduling teams month by month. It is our full intention to get back to a rotational planning system so everyone knows ahead of time when they need to book their times to serve.
- We recognize many people serve in different areas and ask that in order to maintain your joy in service and not burn out, you allow yourselves one week a month to be without any ministry commitments.
- Attend a Thursday night mid-week practice and Sunday practice before the service. Please arrive early to setup and set required music etc.
- Throughout the year we will have special services that we ask the worship team to lead us in. Some of these include Good Friday and Christmas Eve. For extra times we will be asking people to let us know if they are available.

Prayerfully consider whether or not God is calling you to this ministry and talk to those who currently participate in it to see what their experience has been like. We are constantly trying to improve our group dynamics. If you have any questions regarding this ministry please feel free to contact Michelle Jones-Sood or Pastor Joseph Fenton.