

Heartland

Worship Team Welcome

Dear prospective Worship team member,

We are so glad you have expressed an interest in The Heartland Worship Team. We consider our ministry a calling from the Lord. He is our Worship Director and we seek His leading in all we do. He is also the Audience of One that we adore in our praise and worship. If you believe that God is calling you to join us in this ministry, we are excited to welcome you to our team.

Please read through the Worship Team Guidelines and fill out the Registration Form. I will meet with you to answer any questions you may have and to pray with you. If you are a regular attendee, we ask that you practice with us for a few months before you join the team for Sunday morning services. If you are very new to the church, we would like to see you plug into the rest of the body for at least six months before joining the team on Sunday mornings. However, you are more than welcome to join us for worship practice on Thursday evenings during this six-month period.

Thursday practice starts at 6:30pm for vocalist and 7:15pm for the band. We encourage families to join together as a team if possible. Even if only for Thursday practice, the family would still be together for worship. For those who will be joining us for Sunday services, we ask that you come and practice on Sunday morning at 8am until first service begins. We also ask that each member practice with the team the week prior to singing during the Sunday services.

Please feel free to contact me anytime!
Sincerely,

Travis Purkerson
Worship Pastor
402-910-6767
travis@heartlandefc.org

Worship Team Ministry Guidelines

Purpose of the Worship Team ministry: (1) To demonstrate a passion for God's glory in our daily lives; (2) to joyfully and effectively serve as worship leaders; (3) to lead worship with musical and theological skill; (4) to maximize the contribution of each individual and their family members on the team; and (5) to provide opportunities for incorporating and training others.

Tasks toward achieving the purpose:

1. Model worship visually for the congregation. They should see energy, passion, and joy coming from us, as the result of our relationship with the Lord. Using your face and your hands, to give the congregation the encouragement to adore the Lord is good modeling. For this reason, a poor singer or player may be the most important member of the team. Small Talent with a heart for God provides a better model than a smooth, polished, heartless musician. Ideally, we'll learn to be polished AND emanate glory!
2. The players must try to learn their music by heart so their faces can be out of the music stand and can be modeling as well. Just because you play an instrument doesn't mean you never bow, lift your hands, or smile to show your adoration of the Lord.
3. The vocal team models the songs for the congregation. The flock needs to learn these songs by following you as you sing the melody and lyric. You are their prototype, and you'll carry them while they learn the song or stop to stand in the presence of our Lord and listen.
4. Players need to keep their instruments tuned. Trying to follow musicians with a quarter step off between the different instruments can be very damaging for the effectiveness of the team.
5. Vocal team will provide a full sound. You'll provide continuity and support throughout the praise event for the person singing lead vocals, allowing him/her the freedom to prompt, echo, dropout, pray, etc., without the song losing its dynamic.
6. Each of us needs to understand the need for theological correctness in every thing we sing. We are, "singing the TRUTH in love". You have the full right to question anything that is sung on this team and test it by scripture.
7. Provide artistic and technical excellence. Notice this is at the end of the list. It is wonderful to enhance the listening enjoyment of the congregation, but this is not the top priority. Worship is a performance for God, not man. Instrumental and choral excellence, put plainly, is a bonus.
8. Some players and singers may be asked to take lessons to improve their abilities.

Preparation for Worship Team members:

1. If you are involved in this part of the ministry, you ARE a worship leader, and therefore a leader. You must be a born-again Christian, and be living a life in Christ that's a good example to others, as outlined in the Epistles. This doesn't mean you

- are perfect. It means you are HONEST about your growth in the Lord Jesus. If you are not growing as a Christian you are not a leader. If you are struggling to understand what is expected in this area please feel free to talk to Travis or others on the team for a better explanation.
2. Effectiveness in encouraging others to join in worship on Sunday morning flows from healthy relationships within our church family. Conflict exists occasionally in families, and healthy conflict resolution is essential.
 3. You must be more concerned about worship than music, more concerned about serving than performing.
 4. You must seek to blend well with the team in music, dress and conduct. The attention needs to be focused on Jesus not any one individual.
 5. Those of you who are teenagers need to refrain from “dating” while serving on the worship team. This is a guideline and not a law. If this is an issue please talk with Travis and we will work things out.
 6. You should be a regular attendee and a vocal supporter of the leadership of this church. We are leaders and we will not stand idly by in the face of grumbling or slanderous talk toward our leadership. Doctrinally, you should be in line with this ministry or keep a “low profile” on minor differences. “NO SOAP BOXING”!
 7. You should be tithing. This is part of our worship leading!
 8. Be at practice on time, learn your parts, and be positive, remembering that our God is a God of grace and His people should be full of grace. Growth will always be met with grace. Rebellion will always be met with discipline from the Lord. We are a small version of the larger church family. We must function as a healthy family. Let’s seek growth together as a family and a team.

Process for involvement in the Worship Team ministry:

1. Let Travis or any of the team members know you are interested in participating. You will be asked about your decision to follow Christ and your insights into your walk with Him. We will be interested in why you feel the Lord is leading you in the direction of the music ministry with the Praise team. We would love to pray with you and answer any questions you might have. You will be asked to fill out a registration form and turn it in to Travis.
2. Be attending regularly for at least six months and be taking part in one of the church Bible studies or Shelter Belts during the week for spiritual growth.
3. Attend practices for two month if you are a regular attender. This will give you a chance to be sure that you are able to meet the level of commitment needed for participation in the Worship Team. If you are newer to the ministry you may be asked to practice with us longer before coming into the weekend service.
4. Please be willing to use Facebook as a medium for communication as we will share new songs and weekend information on the Heartland Group Page. It is a private page that no one but us can look at. For those that can’t do Facebook please talk to Travis so we can work out communication with you.
5. All Worship Team members must be in a mentoring relationship to share personal joys and struggles. The more mature members may also wish to provide mentoring for some of the other members.
6. All family members must be in full support of you being part of the team.

7. Be prepared to share your personal testimony with the team and willing to share a devotional from time to time as the Lord lays a special message on your heart.
8. Keep a short personal account with the Lord to be a vessel He can use.
9. As the Lord leads new people to the team, some of you will be asked to mentor others on their instruments or vocally. This will provide training for new people and build strong relationships with those that are new to the group.

Heartland EFC

Worship Team
REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____ (C) _____

E-mail _____ Birth/month & day _____

I sing: _____ Soprano _____ 2nd Soprano _____ Alto _____ Tenor _____ Bass

I play (please name the instruments): _____

Skills – My strengths include (please check any that apply):

Singing Reading music Blending my voice Singing Solo

Tonal Accuracy Breath Control Choral Dynamics Playing by ear

Playing from a chord sheet Sound System Operation

I could use some help with (please list any above that apply)

Service – As a Worship Team, we are a small family within the larger church family. Each of us serves and needs the others. As you become part of the team, your gifts and experience will be needed for us to function as God wants us to. Are you willing to be a dreamer, a doer, a lover of broken people, a servant to your team family according to the gifts and calling God has given you as part of this team? This is important to think about as you're not just joining a music group, but a family. Please check yes or no with a short reason why. If this is confusing please talk to Travis or another team member for further explanation.

Yes, I will commit to this. _____

No, I cannot commit to this. _____ Please give a short reason as to why this is not possible.

Please share how you are actively seeking to develop a closer relationship with Jesus Christ _____

I understand my involvement in the Worship Ministry includes my commitment to regularly attend practices and services

Signature

Date

PLEASE SHARE YOUR SALVATION TESTIMONY AND YOUR CALL TO THE WORSHIP MINISTRY ON THE BACK!