

# Bethel Worship Team Application

## I. Introduction:

Thank you for your interest in joining the BFM Worship Team. There are many different ways to participate and we hope that you find the team where God is leading you to join. Before we dive into what there is to be a part of, there is one thing that we must agree on: we love worship. Our church has a unique musical identity stemming from our Lead Pastor and influencing its way down to our Children's Ministry. Each ministry is unique in its sound and direction, however all worship ministries fall under the same banner and vision that Ben has given us. Being on the worship team, either band or vocals, means that you have desire to minister in music, engage in worship, and follow the vision given to us by our Pastoral Staff. We will outline the vision and requirements in the following paragraphs.

Being a part of the Worship Team, whether you are a rotation background singer, weekly musician, or part of our Christmas Program, is a leadership position. You are leading our church in worship, people will look up to you and pay close attention to what you do. Leadership is both amazing and also a responsibility; you must be ready to bear the responsibility and willing to become a servant. If you feel that you have a basic understanding that this is a leadership, spiritual, and musical role, then please feel free to continue to the rest of the application.

If you feel that this may not be exactly what you were wanting, please don't be discouraged. Turn to page 4 and find the different ways you can still be a part of worship here at Bethel, without taking a leadership role.

## II. Different Roles in BFM worship team:

1. **Instrumentally:** This section would include all the instruments. We know that is an obvious statement, but if you play guitar, bass, piano, drums, violin, or auxiliary instrument then this is the section for you. Our instrumentalists need to be able to be proficient and excellent in their individual instruments. This means you must be able to play your instrument efficiently and according to the genre/musical direction of our church (i.e. if your musical style is geared towards metal music, you must be willing to learn the style of music that we play). Our musicians use a system called the "Nashville Number System (NNS)". It would be extremely beneficial if you have some knowledge of this system. The system is very easy to learn and incredibly beneficial for a worship setting. Being able to read music is a huge benefit, but not a necessity (due to the nature of how our music is written). However, from time-to-time you will receive a piece of sheet music. For information about the NNS, please feel free to see Justin Cardenas or Oscar Aguilar.

*If you are a learning musician, please feel free to join us for our monthly musical workshops; they take place the last Saturday of each month. We would love to begin incorporating you once your confidence has increased. If you wish to start taking lessons or want to join us for our workshops please talk to Justin Cardenas or Oscar Aguilar.*

2. **Vocally:** This includes the singing aspect of the worship team. If you want to participate vocally, this is where you want to read. Being able to read music in this area is a must. Vocalists cannot find the correct harmonies/melodies using a general chord sheet. They must learn or have the ability to read sheet music, because the harmonies and melodies will be written out in that manner. Piano playing experience is always helpful in situations where our pianist cannot be at rehearsal.

### III. Just What Am I Signing Up For

Worship is a leadership position. As a member of the worship team, we are in the “public eye” for lack of a better phrase. Just as our Lead Pastor leads our congregation in the preaching of the Word, Communion, and fellowship of believers, the Worship Leaders lead the congregation in both the physical and spiritual manifestations of worship. As Christians we worship because we understand that God is deserving of all praise. It is the worship leader’s job to lead by example what Godly worship looks like. So that being said, there are a few things that you might want to know about being a member of the team.

1. **Rehearsals:** There are rehearsals throughout the month. Depending on the group you decide to be a part of, rehearsals will be scheduled by the leader in charge of that group. For example: our Sunday morning singers have rehearsal with Justin every Wednesday at 6:00. Our Collective worship team only meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6:00. Rehearsal attendance is mandatory in order to be able to sing/play for your scheduled Wednesday or Sunday. We do this to maintain a level of accountability with everyone. We understand that everyone has situations that come up that cannot be helped, and in this instance a clear level of communication is crucial. Letting us know ahead of time (at least 2 hours) that you cannot attend is just as important showing up and attending the rehearsals. In each month there is a 4-hour rehearsal, or a workshop, that is mandatory for all members of the worship team (this includes the youth band all the way up to the Sunday morning band).
2. **Services:** As a member of the worship team, you would be required to be a part of all the services where worship is the main focus. For example, participating in our Annual Christmas and Easter Programs. We all would need to be a part of those services in some manner or another. We have weekly services and

attending and participating in those services is extremely important. For the services, especially Sunday, we will have a rotation for the singers and if need be, the band as well. The week you would be assigned to sing is the week you are assigned, should you be absent, you will have to wait for the next time you are on rotation. People can fill in for missing people and will not affect their turn in the rotation (i.e. someone slated to sing next week and covers for someone else this week, will be able to sing both weeks).

- 3. **Christmas Program and other choir focused special services:** Being a part of the worship team (singers in this case) means that we all participate in a vocal capacity during any and all choir centered special services, this is including but not limited to the Christmas programs, Easter services (should a choir be used), and any other service that our pastor calls on us to participate in.

### IV. A Few Questions

Below are just a few questions that the pastors (music, associates, and lead) would like to ask in order to get a little background about each applicant.

- 1. Do you have a personal relationship with Jesus?

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- 2. What is worship to you?

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- 3. Is being in a position of leadership, particularly worship, something you feel called to do?

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4. Can you commit to the rehearsal and the service schedule? Are there any conflicts you might foresee?

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5. Which area of the worship team did you want to participate in?

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6. For vocalists:

- a. Have you ever been in choir? \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Sung in church? \_\_\_\_\_
  - i. If so, how long? \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Had any formal vocal training? \_\_\_\_\_
  - i. If so, how long? \_\_\_\_\_

7. For instrumentalists:

- a. What instrument do you play? \_\_\_\_\_
- b. How long have you been playing? \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Have you ever taken lessons? \_\_\_\_\_
  - i. If so how long? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Any other comments:

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## V. Extras

Each applicant (instrumentalist and vocalist) must go through the audition process, as well as an interview. This is standard protocol and is an amazing opportunity for the staff of BFM to get to know each applicant and for you to get to know us as well. It is important that while we do not want to solely focus on the music aspect, we still put attention to it. The interview is to get a little bit of background, more than the application, musically and spiritually.

Referring back to the section on rehearsals, III.1, there was a four-hour rehearsal and workshop mentioned. The rehearsal is simply that, a rehearsal. The workshop however is a chance for like instruments to get together in order to focus on the technical aspects of what we do. This is an awesome chance for people not necessarily ready to make the jump to leadership to participate in worship at the church. These workshops are perfect for those beginning musicians (instrumentalist and vocalists), who are not quite ready to play or sing with the team, to learn the songs as well as get a few tips and “tricks of the trade.”