
Great Oaks Community Church

Worship/Creative Arts

Information & Application

Thank you for your interest in being involved in the Worship/Creative Arts ministry at Great Oaks Community Church. We, ***the Worship Ministry Leadership Team***, desire to identify individuals who want to follow Jesus Christ and use their God-given gifts and abilities to serve Him in worship ministry. Below you will find the information you need to take the next step in serving within the Worship/Creative Arts area here at Great Oaks Community Church.

WHO SHOULD APPLY

- Vocalists (either for lead or backup parts)
- Guitar (Electric, Acoustic, or 12 String)
- Piano/Keyboards
- Bass
- Drums
- Percussion (Hand drums, shaker, etc.)

Our typical group on Sunday consists of 1 Lead Vocalists and 2 BackUp Vocalists, Drums, Acoustic Guitar, 2 Electric Guitars, Bass and Keyboards. Even though we already have each position covered, we are always looking for more people. Other instruments will certainly be considered, even though they may not be used each week. Examples include orchestral instruments such as brass, strings, and woodwinds – even steel guitars or mandolin may be used from time to time.

VENUES

Our worship team is continuing to grow with opportunities to serve within the Children & Youth areas. If you feel this is something you might be interested in helping with, please check the box on the application on page 8.

TIME COMMITMENTS

Being a part of the worship team is a considerable investment in time. Rehearsals are each Thursday evening from 6:30 – 8:30pm. Warm up and run-through on Sunday mornings begins at 7:30am sharp. Please note as well that practice at home is expected in order to ensure a smooth rehearsal. Not only do we let ourselves and the team down when we do not rehearse, we let God down. ***Perfection is not the goal, but quality is.***

Once a quarter we also have our **T3 Training (Thursday Team Training)**, which begins at 5:30pm for dinner and ends at 7:00pm. Those assigned for that weekend will then begin rehearsal once training has ended.

EQUIPMENT

Great Oaks provides the necessary equipment to hook up your instrument to the sound system. Musicians are expected to have their own instruments with the exception of drums. Guitarists should have their own amps, if necessary. All cables needed to hook up the amps to the sound system will be provided.

SERVANTS HEART & LEADERSHIP

Leadership begins first with service. With that being said, we do ask that all new members sit within GOCC for at least 6 months to serve within some other areas of ministry such as First Impressions, Ushering, Children's ministry, etc. The primary purpose for this is to let you get to know us as a church, as a worship/creative arts team, and as brothers and sisters in Christ and for us to get to know you. You are welcome during this time to attend worship rehearsals on Thursday evenings to observe and get an idea of how we function as a team.

Another aspect of a servant's heart is ***trainability***. We are always looking for ways to increase our excellence in all areas of the worship/creative arts arena. It takes at times positive critique to help us individually and together reach the same destination.

Great Oaks Community Church
Worship/Creative Arts
The Interview Process

Please read this section carefully as it will help you to understand exactly what to expect in the interview process.

WHEN ARE APPLICATIONS DUE?

Worship Team Interviews are conducted on an ongoing basis. When you turn in your application packet, you will be contacted within a few days to schedule your interview.

**Please note that you must have attended GOCC for 6 months or longer and participated within the First Step class to begin the Interview Process.*

WHEN ARE THE INTERVIEWS?

Interviews are scheduled based upon availability. Before rehearsal on Thursday evenings or after rehearsal work very well, but if that is not available we can setup another time during the week. After the interview you will be notified of the next step in regards to the audition.

WHAT HAPPENS IN THE AUDITION?

When you schedule your audition, you will be given a song to learn from the team's repertoire. It should be a song that you're familiar with. You will also be asked to pick a song that you would like to do. We ask that you pick a song that the team has done in the past. If you'd like a list of songs to choose from, please ask. You should come prepared to play these songs to the best of your ability for the audition. At the audition, you will also be given one song to sight-read. It will again be a song that the team has done before, so you will likely be familiar with it. The purpose of this is to gauge your sight-reading skills.

Specific Pointers

- **Vocalists:** Learn the melody and work out a harmony part in your range.
- **Pianists:** Be prepared to play chords and melody with the provided backing track.
- **Guitarists:** Be able to strum and fingerpick chords along with the provided backing track. If you can sing as well, we will ask you to sing after the instrumentation is complete.

- **Bassists and Drummers:** Be prepared to play your parts along with the pianist and/or guitarist or provided backing track

WHEN WILL DECISIONS BE MADE?

You will be notified within a week of the interview as to your next steps. If we feel you are ready, you will be asked to begin attending rehearsals for 6-8 weeks. This time is for the team and yourself to get to know one another a little better. After this time, we will talk about when you may be ready to begin joining the team on Sunday.

If you are not qualified or need some areas of improvement we will let you know within a week of the audition and some next steps you can take.

Great Oaks Community Church
Worship/Creative Arts
Our Mission & Expectations

OUR MISSION

Helping People Experience God through Music, Media and the Arts

OUR EXPECTATIONS

1. Must have an **active, obedient** relationship to Jesus Christ.
2. Must be an **active, whole-hearted worshiper** who fully enjoys praising God.
3. Must demonstrate a joyful and willing spirit.
4. Must possess a **high level of musical ability** -- excellent sense of pitch & rhythm, must be musically independent and possess an appropriate level of music understanding [depending on individual instrument/voice]. **Perfection is not the goal, but quality is.**
5. Worship Team singers, musicians, media and sound-techs **MUST** attend one Service per Weekend
6. Must have time at home to practice the set list for the upcoming weekend. Not only do we let ourselves and the team down when we do not rehearse, we let God down. **Perfection is not the goal, but quality is.**
7. Rehearsal is **required**, Thursday evening from 6:30-8:30pm, on every assigned weekend. Media & Sound-techs should plan to come half an hour earlier for adequate set up.
8. One Thursday a quarter we host our **T3 Training (Thursday Team Training)** event from **5:30 – 7:00pm**. Rehearsal will continue after, for those assigned to that weekend. Dinner will be provided and we **earnestly** encourage your participation
9. If a team singer/musician/media/sound-tech cannot attend their "weekend", they are responsible to find a replacement from an approved list and switch weekends. If they are unable, they should call their appropriate team leader (listed below) and they will find a replacement.
10. ALL singers & musicians need to be conscious about **appropriate dress & appearance**. **THOUGHT** – Does what I wear distract others from worshiping Jesus? Does it bring attention to myself? Would it be considered immodest by some?

OUR EXPECTATIONS (CONT'D)

TIME COMMITMENTS

Being a part of the worship team is a considerable investment in time. Rehearsals are each Thursday evening from 6:30 – 8:30pm. Warm up and run-through on Sunday mornings begins at 7:30am sharp. Please note as well that practice at home is expected in order to ensure a smooth rehearsal. Not only do we let ourselves and the team down when we do not rehearse, we let God down. **Perfection is not the goal, but quality is.**

Once a month we also have our **T3 Training (Thursday Team Training)**, which begins at 5:30pm for dinner and ends at 7:00pm. Those assigned for that weekend will then begin rehearsal once training has ended.

SERVANTS HEART & LEADERSHIP

Leadership begins first with service. With that being said, we do ask that all new members sit within GOCC for at least 6 months to serve within some other areas of ministry such as First Impressions, Ushering, Children's ministry, etc. The primary purpose for this is to let you get to know us as a church, as a worship/creative arts team, and as brothers and sisters in Christ and for us to get to know you. You are welcome during this time to attend worship rehearsals on Thursday evenings to observe and get an idea of how we function as a team.

Another aspect of a servant's heart is **trainability**. We are always looking for ways to increase our excellence in all areas of the worship/creative arts arena. It takes at times positive critique to help us individually and together reach the same destination.

We are excited that you feel God leading you to be a part of the Worship/Creative Arts team here at Great Oaks. If you have any questions/concerns please feel free to give us a call at 309.383.4330 or email Pastor Nate Westerfield at nate@greatoaksgc.org. Fill out the application below and turn it in to the office during office hours (8:30 - 4:00p.m) or on Sunday mornings to the Welcome Center.

Thanks again for your interest & God Bless!

Nate Westerfield

Great Oaks Community Church
Worship/Creative Arts
Application

Please complete pages 6-8 and return to Nate Westerfield via email
(nate@greatoaksgc.org) or you can drop it at the Welcome Center Sunday Mornings
**If extra space is needed for any question, please use the backside.*

ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Birth Date: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____ Gender: _____

Marital Status: Single Engaged Married Divorced

Spouse: _____ Years Married: _____

Children: Name: _____ Age: _____
 Name: _____ Age: _____

Employed: Full Time Part Time

Employer: _____ Position: _____

Student: Full Time Part Time

School: _____ Major: _____

Have you attended Great Oaks Class 101: Yes No
(We ask that you please sign up for the next class if you have not attended.)

How long have you attended Great Oaks Community Church: _____

Are you currently serving in any other areas of ministry at Great Oaks:

SPRITUAL INFORMATION

1. Please describe your personal relationship with Jesus Christ. *[Please include: When did you begin following Jesus? How did Jesus change your life? How do you ensure growth in Christ?]*

2. What is your understanding of biblical worship? Define worship.

3. Why is worship important to you personally? How do you personally express praise and worship to God.

4. Who knows your heart best here at Great Oaks Community Church?

5. May we contact them as a reference? Their contact information:

6. Do you sense God's calling/leading you to be involved with Worship ministry?

Yes. Please explain.

I'm not really sure. I just want to get involved and serve.

7. What is your desired (or available) level of commitment?

I am only willing (or able) to be used as a substitute when needed.

1 Sunday per month

2-3 Sundays per month

8. For musicians: What instruments do you play with proficiency? If you play multiple instruments, which one do you most prefer to play?

10. If given the opportunity would you be willing of prefer to play/sing within the Student/Children's ministries? Yes No

9. Do you have any questions or comments for the Worship Ministry Leadership Team?
