



PULSE: HIGH SCHOOL



THE BEAT: MIDDLE SCHOOL

HERITAGE CHURCH STUDENT MINISTRIES

VOLUNTEER ADULT LEADER PACKET

Dear Potential Student Ministry Leader,

WE ARE EXTREMELY EXCITED THAT YOU ARE CONSIDERING YOUTH AS AN AREA OF MINISTRY!

At Heritage Church we believe everyone has something to offer and that **everyone will be a “10” in some area of our church**. Because God has entrusted us with over 80 students, we are constantly looking for men and women of God who might grow into becoming a “10” within our student ministry. Even if you feel like a “2” right now, we’re thankful you’re willing to explore opportunities to serve God.

We believe **healthy student ministry is built on healthy relationships**—between adult staff and students. Relationships are the key to students feeling loved and understanding God’s love in practical ways. This is when real spiritual growth takes place in a student’s life.

The quality of our staff is very important. We are looking for men and women who have a deep commitment to Christ and a desire to care for students. Please take time to read the following material with prayer and consideration.

After you have read the material, and if you wish to pursue being a youth leader, please come by and pick up an application. After you have completed the application, turn it in to the office. We will then call you so we can schedule a time to visit. Please know all information will be kept strictly confidential.

In the meantime, **please feel free to observe:**

Sunday nights from 5:45pm-8pm

AND/OR

Wednesday nights from 5:45pm-7:15pm.

As you know, Heritage is a great church and our student ministry is a great place to **allow your time to make eternal investments in students’ lives!** We are looking forward to meeting you and spending some time talking about your hopes and desires for ministry. If you have any questions, please feel free to call our church office at 479-474-6424. Ask for Brian Seewald (High School Youth Pastor) or Brad Sneed (Middle School Youth Pastor).

“ARE YOU ALL IN?!”

Brian Seewald

High School Youth Pastor

THE TRUTH

WHAT DO STUDENTS NEED?

We will only change the youth world one student at a time. Today's students do not connect to programs they connect with people. The most effective way to impact students is through significant relationships with caring adults in their lives. One of the common roadblocks for adults getting started in student ministry is they have misconceptions about what it takes to be a youth worker.



Common misconceptions are...

- ❖ You must be young
- ❖ You must have adequate Bible training
- ❖ You must be a perfect example of a Christian
- ❖ You must be a captivating communicator
- ❖ You must feel secure
- ❖ You must be able to act like one of the students
- ❖ You must have plenty of free time
- ❖ You must know everything about the latest youth culture
- ❖ You must be wild, crazy and dynamic
- ❖ You must be liked by all students

Student ministry is not the easiest ministry in the church and it's normal for you and okay for you to feel inadequate about your skills. Your confidence will grow the more you're around students and you see how God can use inadequate people (like you and me) to do great things.

HERE'S THE TRUTH ABOUT WHAT STUDENTS NEED:

Students need adults who will. . .

- ❖ love God and live for Him
- ❖ be interested in their life
- ❖ take initiative to spend time with them
- ❖ pray for them
- ❖ be real
- ❖ say encouraging words
- ❖ believe in them
- ❖ laugh and have a good time
- ❖ remember their name and care for them
- ❖ share God's love through personal experience
- ❖ be consistent to their attendance
- ❖ be patient



HOW DO I GET INVOLVED IN THE LIVES OF STUDENTS?

We will later explain the application process, but first it is important for you to understand what commitment we ask of our staff. For effective ministry with students you need to:

- 1. Understand the mission at Pulse Student Ministries:** *Take a look at the values and goals that make our student ministry effective in reaching and caring for students.*
- 2. Commit to a role at Pulse Student Ministries:** *Consider the role for which God has shaped you in order to build relationships with students.*
- 3. Grow as a minister:** *Develop your personal ministry to students.*

1. UNDERSTANDING THE MISSION AT PULSE AND THE BEAT STUDENT MINISTRIES

Youth Ministry Mission Statement: To be the Student Ministry of God's Dreams!

We will accomplish this Mission by the 5 cornerstones of Heritage Church.

(Based on the Great Commandment in Matt. 22:37-40 and the Great Commission in Matt. 28:19-20)



PULSE CORNERSTONES:

- P**ursue God with a Passion (Worship)
- U**nite as One (Welcome)
- L**ead a Christ-like Lifestyle (Walk)
- S**erve God and Each Other (Work)
- E**mbrace the World with God's Love (Witness)

KEY VERSE:

"So if you're serious about living this new resurrection life with Christ, act like it. Pursue the things over which Christ presides. Don't shuffle along, eyes to the ground, absorbed with the things right in front of you. Look up, and be alert to what is going on around Christ--that's where the action is. See things from his perspective. Your old life is dead. Your new life, which is your real life--even though invisible to spectators--is with Christ in God. He is your life." **Colossians 3:1-3 (MSG)**



THE BEAT CORNERSTONES:

- B**elieve | To Have Confidence in THE TRUTH (Leading Youth to **WORSHIP** Christ)
- E**ngage | To Be Involved (**WELCOME** and **WORK** within the Body of Christ)
- A**dvance | Making Disciples that make Disciples (Nurturing Youth in their **WALK** with Christ)
- T**ake | Being a Light Unto the World (Sending Youth out to **WITNESS** for Christ)

KEY VERSE:

"Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; He's the one who will keep you on track. Don't assume that you know it all. Run to God! Run from evil! Your body will glow with health, your very bones will vibrate with life!" **Proverbs 3:5-6 (MSG)**

2. COMMITTING TO A ROLE AT PULSE AND THE BEAT STUDENT MINISTRIES



Sundays Nights 5:15pm-8:15pm

This is our large group meeting that's designed to have a friendly, fun, challenging and exciting atmosphere. This evening program shatters the "church is boring" stereotype and helps students celebrate life. It is filled with laughter, antics, videos, singing, activities and a message that challenges students towards spiritual maturity.

Leadership Role: We need adults to greet, learn names, talk to students, encourage students to attend other programs and help create a welcoming atmosphere.

DETAILED EXPECTATIONS:

OUR CALL: Our call is to create a comfortable environment for students to BELONG. This comfortable environment includes facilitating conversation, remembering names, caring for immediate needs, and helping get students plugged into our mid-week LIFE Groups. This is a vital role within our ministry because a student won't become aware of God's love if he/she doesn't feel loved by anyone in a crowded room.

COMMITMENT:

- ❖ Arrive 30 minutes prior to the start of the evening for a quick Adult Staff Meeting. Early arrival demonstrates care. Arriving before the students will allow you to greet students as they enter the room.
- ❖ Be a greeter. Shake hands and help students feel welcomed and valued.
- ❖ Encourage student interaction. Introduce students to other students and facilitate group interaction during games and other interactions.

- ❖ Know students' Names. Students love to be known by their name. As our group continues to grow, so does the need for knowing students' names. Leadership involves the positive recognition of students by their name.
- ❖ Help visitors connect with an SLT so they can fill out our Welcome Card.
- ❖ Model genuine worship during. Singing during the worship songs models a true heart after Christ.
- ❖ Respond to disruptions. Encourage students to pay attention and respect the attention of others during the message.
- ❖ Ask students... "Will I see you next week?" Show you care that they are there regularly.
- ❖ OPTIONAL: Follow-up. Write a quick note to students who missed a week.

MINISTRY TIME BREAKDOWN:

- ❖ Arriving early for prayer and fellowship (30 min/wk)
- ❖ Worship Service and Meal (2.25 hr/wk)
- ❖ Staying after the service for fellowship/supervision/clean-up (15 min/wk)
- ❖ Prayer and Preparation (Priceless)
- ❖ This translates into a **MONTHLY** time commitment of approximately 13 hours
- ❖ Every other Month – Adult Staff Meetings – 3 hours



Wednesday Nights 5:40pm-7:15pm

This is a key program for making our big group smaller by dividing into Bible study groups. These groups meet for Bible study, interaction, prayer requests and accountability. It is very powerful for students who are being cared for on a small group basis.

***Leadership Role:** This is your opportunity to go deeper with a group of students you can care for, encourage, pray with, and follow-up on during the week. We are now trying to meet around 5:40pm for prayer as a staff!*

DETAILED EXPECTATIONS:

OUR CALL: Our call is to oversee and care for the spiritual development of a small group within one of our Life Groups.

COMMITMENT:

- ❖ Our commitment is minister to the needs of the group as a whole as well as 10-12 students within a small group.
- ❖ Help create an environment of community, family and encouragement within a small group.
- ❖ Follow-up on students' needs (as needed) throughout the week through letters, phone or personal visitation.
- ❖ Challenge small group students to grow in their faith and BELIEVE.
- ❖ Attempt to meet with your small group outside of Wednesdays when possible.

TIME COMMITMENT:

- ❖ **Mandatory Staff Meeting/Prep Time at 4:30pm on Sundays up in The Block (1 hr/wk)**
- ❖ LIFE Group (Minimum 1.25 hr/wk)
- ❖ Texts/phone calls (15 min/wk)
- ❖ Prayer and preparation (Priceless)
- ❖ This translates into a **MONTHLY** time commitment of approximately 10 hrs
- ❖ OPTIONAL: Connect with students outside of small group - 2hrs/mo.

There are other opportunities to get involved in our ministry. The two listed are the best places to start. If you have a specific gift and desire, we would love to talk with you about your ideas.

3. GROWING AS A MINISTER

Our goal for our staff is to move people from program-directed ministry to self-directed ministry. As you grow in this ministry, you will develop a strong sense of your purpose in the life of our students. Out of this sense of purpose grows direction and vision for how you make a difference in students' lives. The keys to developing as a minister are:

TIME - be patient; it just takes time.

PARTICIPATION - going to special events and camps will help solidify your relationships with students.

INITIATIVE - the more you invest, the more you will get out of it.

STUDENT MINISTRIES' ADULT VOLUNTEER APPLICATION
CHECK ONE: [] PULSE LEADERSHIP [] THE BEAT LEADERSHIP

General Information

NAME: _____ Todays Date: _____

Marital Status: single married divorced Anniversary: _____

Maiden Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

Phone (cell): _____ Check if you receive texts Phone (other): _____

Email: _____

Work Status: part time full time student

Occupation: _____ Employer: _____

Education

High School: _____ Year Graduated: _____

College / Trade school: _____ Year Graduated: _____

Degree: _____ Minor: _____

Other Education: _____

GROWTH/TESTIMONY

NEW: Write a brief testimony about how you became a Christian. What significant events in your life have impacted you spiritually? Describe three ways in which you have grown since you came to know Jesus.

CURRENT: In what ways are you being challenged to grow now or have seen growth this past year? Explain briefly your game plan for growing in the following four areas this next year: Wisdom (mental growth), Stature (physical health), Favor with God (spiritual growth), and Favor with men (relating to and responding to others).

NEW: Describe three major ways in which you have grown in your spiritual journey since you became a Christian.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

NEW/CURRENT: What accountability do you currently have in your spiritual journey? Friendships? Life Group?

NEW/CURRENT: What do you do when you have a conflict with someone? Would you consider yourself "good" at handling confrontation? How do you handle confrontation?

NEW/CURRENT: Are there any special issues or concerns happening in your life right now that would have an impact in your commitment and involvement in the youth ministry? (i.e. relationships, other commitments, etc.)

Legal and Life Concerns

NEW/CURRENT: In caring for students, we believe it is our responsibility to seek an adult staff that is able to provide healthy, safe, and nurturing relationships. Please answer the following questions accordingly. Any special concerns can be discussed individual with the pastoral staff.

Are you currently using illegal drugs?

yes no

Have you ever gone through treatment for alcohol or drug abuse?

yes no

If yes, please describe briefly.

Have you ever been arrested and / or convicted of a crime?

yes no

If yes, please describe briefly.

Have you ever had sexual relations with any minor after you became an adult?

yes no

Have you ever been accused or convicted of any form of child abuse?

yes no

If yes, please describe briefly.

Have you ever been a victim of any form of child abuse?

yes no

If yes, would you like to speak to a counselor or pastor?

yes no

What are your views on drinking alcohol and using tobacco substances? Why do you feel this way?

CURRENT/NEW: How long have you attended Heritage Church? _____

Are you a member? yes no

Have you been baptized? yes no

NEW: How have you been involved at Heritage? Fill out below.

DATE STARTED: _____
MINISTRY/ACTIVITY: _____
DATE ENDED: _____
REASON FOR LEAVING: _____

DATE STARTED: _____
MINISTRY/ACTIVITY: _____
DATE ENDED: _____
REASON FOR LEAVING: _____

DATE STARTED: _____
MINISTRY/ACTIVITY: _____
DATE ENDED: _____
REASON FOR LEAVING: _____

NEW: Describe any other ministry / church experience you have been involved with outside of Heritage.

NEW/CURRENT: How do you want to specifically serve this year? Any particular spiritual gifts you want to exercise?

NEW/CURRENT: Are you available for an additional hour or two each week to help in the office or The Block?

yes no

NEW/CURRENT: What are some of your expectations of the youth pastor?

NEW/CURRENT: What are some of your expectations of the adult staff?

I certify that the information contained in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I, undersigned, give my authorization to Heritage United Methodist Church or its representatives to release any and all records or information relating to working with minors. Heritage Church may contact my references and appropriate government agencies as deemed necessary in order to verify my suitability as a youth worker. I understand that the personal information in this application will be held confidential by the professional Church staff. This also certifies that Heritage Church will also conduct a background check on ALL potential youth ministry candidates.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

STUDENT MINISTRIES' ADULT VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT SHEET

After observation of the ministry, time I have spent in prayer, and discussing with my family the commitment involved with being on youth staff, I choose to commit to the following:

(PLEASE CHECK EACH BOX)

- I acknowledge the Lordship of Jesus Christ in my life and I have a personal relationship with Him.
- I am committed toward growing and maturing in my relationship with God through quiet times, active attendance at church, and involvement in accountability.
- I am committed to choices and a lifestyle that are both Godly and "above reproach", knowing that my lifestyle is a model for the students.
- I am making a commitment to the student ministry for at least the full school year.
- I will do my best at attending all staff meetings.
- I commit to living out the student ministry mission statement, the Cornerstones and the scriptures that back it up.
- I understand the philosophy of this student ministry and agree with its purpose and commit to shepherding students that God brings to me.
- Because I am making a significant commitment and my presence is important, I agree to be consistent and timely to the program(s) I commit myself to. I also agree to communicate with Brian Seewald/Brad Sneed if I will be late or absent.
- I will shape my ministry with the following CORE VALUES:
 - Relational approach:** "We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us." 1Thes. 2:8
 - Encouragement:** "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." 1Thes. 5:11
 - Laughter & Celebration:** "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." John 10:10
 - Acceptance:** "My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism." James 2:1
 - Transparency:** "I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling. My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power." 1 Cor. 2:3-4
 - Involvement of Students:** "Now the body is not made up of one part but of many." 1 Cor. 12:14
 - Outreach Oriented:** "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..." Matt. 28:19
 - Numerical Growth:** "Then the church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria enjoyed a time of peace. It was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord." Acts 9:31
 - Spiritual Growth:** "Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity..." Heb. 6:1
 - Homelike:** "We who believe are carefully joined together with Christ as parts of a beautiful, constantly growing temple for God." Eph. 2:21
 - Intimate:** "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective." James 5:16
 - Professional:** "Being respected is more important than having great riches. To be well thought of is better than silver or gold." Prov. 22:1
 - Strategic follow-up:** "Be sure you know the condition of your flocks, give careful attention to your herds..." Prov. 27:23
- I have completed the "SAFE SANCTUARIES" COURSE (designed to ensure the safety of children, youth and adults) **COME BY OUR OFFICE AND COMPLETE** OR Complete these steps for our "Safe Sanctuaries" Policy Online:
 1. Go to <http://learn.arumc.org/login/index.php> and CLICK <Create a New Account> and fill out short form
 2. An email will be sent to you...click on link to confirm your new account
 3. CLICK <YES> when asked if you want to enroll
 4. CLICK <Safe Sanctuaries Training> and read through Power Point
 5. CLICK <Safe Sanctuaries Training Quiz>, complete, print out, and turn in with this packet
 6. **SIGN THE FOLLOWING:** I have completed the online course for "Safe Sanctuaries" and understand my role and responsibility as it pertains to me as a volunteer adult leader with Heritage Church Student Ministries.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

I am making a commitment to at least one of the following programs:

(CHECK EACH AREA OF MINISTRY THAT APPLIES)

- Sunday Nights at 5:15pm
- Wednesday Nights at 5:40pm (**Online AUDIO Teaching MUST be accessed and listened to weekly!**)

Signature: _____ Date: _____