

# Coastal Community Church

## Music Ministry

### :: Music Team Guidelines ::

First of all, thank you for taking an interest in serving Christ and His Body, the Church, through this ministry. Only by people like you “stepping up,” does our team become a ministry *of* the church body rather than a ministry *for* the church body.

Before you read any further, it’s important that you understand that serving on stage is indeed different than other serving opportunities within the local church. The biggest difference is that it’s based on an audition process.

To serve in this kind of capacity requires an acceptable level of musical ability as determined by the music pastor and audition team. The second reason it is different is because it deeply involves the condition of your heart, spirit, and your walk with Christ.

### Music Team Mission

Coastal Community Church’s music team mission is three-fold

1. The glory of God, and the focus that He is the only object of our worship– to be God centered and Christ exalting
2. The edification of the church
3. Creativity and excellence

We are committed to teaching the local church truth about God through music and to provide the opportunity to sing truths to God in our weekend services.

**“Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us offer up to God acceptable worship with reverence and awe, for our God is a Consuming Fire”**  
**Hebrews 12:28-29**

Participating in the Music Team is more than just singing or playing an instrument. Throughout Scripture, God places a high value on those who lead His church in worship through song. As those called to lead Coastal’s congregation in music, it is important that we place the same value on our own individual participation in every aspect of the worship service. God desires that our lives reflect the attitude of praise and worship that we profess on weekend services. Worship should be a vital part of our everyday lives as believers. Jesus is Lord over all! We desire to esteem His Lordship in every area of our lives.

**“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship.”**  
**Romans 12:1**

## Basic Participation Guidelines

This Music Team packet has been developed with guidelines so that God would be honored and that you would reach the full potential of your calling as a music leader.

We view the Music Team not as a “performance,” but as a ministry, and require that those involved make the necessary time commitment and possess the necessary lifestyle. These guidelines are not meant to be legalistic, but rather to clearly communicate what Coastal’s leadership views as the minimum requirements to serve on the Music Team.

We, being fallen and sinful humans, understand your humanity; we do not require perfection! We desire that all involved in this ministry continually allow the Holy Spirit to further sanctify their lives. If any of the following areas are a problem, we are committed to help you overcome them.

### Basic Participation Guidelines

1. Music Team members must be committed disciples of Jesus Christ, live a lifestyle of worship, and display an ongoing, growing relationship with Him
2. Music Team members must be committed to Coastal Community Church and should display it by regularly participating in weekend services, and Music Team rehearsals.
3. Music Team members must interview and audition, and then go through a 6-month “Season of Apprenticeship.” This process can be accelerated or waived by the music pastor on an individual basis.

## Interview and Audition

After you’ve read through this document, you’ll have an opportunity to discuss each aspect of this document in an interview with a person on the audition team. Ask yourself the following questions before you decide to go forward:

Have I had a defining moment when God made me aware of my sinfulness and need for the Gospel? Have I received forgiveness of my sins made possible through His Son, Jesus Christ’s death on the cross and resurrection? Am I continually repenting and believing the Gospel of Christ?

Why do I want to be a part of the Worship Team? What’s my motivation?

How do I define worship?

How many days of the week do I live my life as a follower of Christ? (Would your friends, family members, and co-workers agree with your answer?)

These are questions that will be asked in the audition process. Please come prepared to give an honest answer to each question.

After your interview, you'll be invited to audition in front of one of the members of the audition team. This audition will be filmed and distributed to the rest of the audition team for review. After it is viewed by the audition team it will be deleted. The audition will help determine whether your musical ability is at a level to participate in this ministry. You'll be asked to audition two songs you've prepared (or a well known congregational song). A question worth thinking about before pursuing an audition is:

If I do not become a part of the Music Team, how will I feel about Coastal Community Church and its leaders?

Will I be able to worship in services without feeling hurt, angry, or bitter?

## Frequency of Service

There is no guarantee for how often you will be placed on the rotation. The schedules are made based on the needs of Coastal and there may be a higher volume of volunteers in your particular musical department. Please do not take frequency of service personally, but graciously understanding that this is a ministry with many different volunteers and needs.

If you feel you are not being utilized as often as you'd like and would like to serve more, there are opportunities in the Mission Department, Men's Ministry, Women's Ministry, and Children's Ministry every week to lead music. Please let the Music Pastor know you're interested so that he can plug you in.

## Season of Apprenticeship and Follow-Up

After you've been completed your interview and audition, you may (or may not) be asked to serve with the Music Team in a six-month Season of Apprenticeship. It's during this time that you'll receive the most training and feedback. Our team is committed to encourage and equip you, both musically and spiritually, to become a Music leader with the right heart and right skill-set.

During your Season of Apprenticeship the music leader will evaluate your Character & Commitment, your Competence, and your Chemistry with our Music Team.

## Lifestyle of Worship

It's our prayer that our Music Team members develop a consecrated heart for God and a desire to grow in their relationship with Him. We are committed to help team members on this journey by encouraging these behaviors

Leading by Example: We must wholeheartedly worship God ourselves if we want to lead the congregation in worship. Be a genuine worshipper who is a living portrayal of worship described in Romans 12:1-2

A Right Heart: Your heart is reflected in your countenance and it is communicated to the congregation. If your heart isn't right, get it right before you serve, or let us know you need to sit out.

Encouraging Others: It takes courage to publicly bring an offering of praise to the Lord. As a Music Team, we need to cultivate an affirming ministry environment. Find ways to encourage during difficult situations.

Authenticity: People are hungry for what is real and want to be led into God's presence by those who are trustworthy stewards of God's grace (1 Peter 4:10-11). Present yourself in a transparent way.

Spirit of a Servant: A heart that is capable of being directed with a good attitude shows others you have a servant's spirit. Apply yourself to make a plan work even if it does not fit your personal preferences.

Faithfulness: God desires our diligence in using our gifts. Work on vocal parts and instrumental/technical skill improvement on your own.

While we encourage these right behaviors, it is also important for us to help you overcome any area you may have difficulty with. Outward expressions such as smoking, drunkenness, drug abuse, sexual sin, blatant rebellious attitudes, gossiping, anger and pride indicate greater inward struggle. Please let us help and counsel you if you are struggling in any of these areas, as they will affect the degree of your involvement on the Music Team if not appropriately handled.

## Discipleship

As Christ-followers, we must place ourselves in accountability relationships and discipleship groups that encourage growth and build community with other believers. Each Sunday, we will spend time having breakfast and enjoying community with each other following the 9:00 a.m. service. Each member of the Worship Team will have many spiritual ups and downs, but there should be an upward and observable trend in growth and obedience from month to month. Ministering each week in a powerful and profound way depends upon team members being clean vessels. This only happens when we remind ourselves of the Gospel and each other of the Gospel. We are so committed to a standard of personal holiness that we may ask someone to 'sit out' if their behavior diminishes the Music Team's ability to come into God's presence with clean hands.

A commitment to one another expressed in love, unity and teachability will help the Music Team maintain an environment of spiritual health. We are dedicated to preserving and strengthening a community where team members are encouraged to be the men and women who God has called them to be.

A Team whose lives exemplify healthy spirituality and God-centered priorities should be the focus of the music leader.

## Dress Code

Although there is not a “dress code” at Coastal per se, there are two things that the music team member is required to keep in mind; modesty and sensitivity. Keep in mind that you are leading God’s people in worship through song on stage.

## Tuesday Rehearsals

Music Team rehearsal is held each Tuesday night in the auditorium at Coastal Community Church at 615 p.m.

Musicians should arrive with time to set-up their equipment before rehearsal is scheduled to begin. Vocalists are required to show up shortly after.

### Tuesday Rehearsal Schedule\*

6:00 PM Musicians Arrive and Set-Up

6:10 PM Vocalists Arrive

6:15 PM Full Music Team Practice

6:30 PM Full Worship Team Rehearsal

8:00 PM Practice Ends

\*If you are not able to attend rehearsal, you will not lead worship on Weekend services unless approved by Music Pastor

## Weekend Worship Services

Participating in the Music Team means that you arrive earlier and leave later than the congregation. Our expectation is that you will arrive on time each week that you are scheduled, and with an attitude ready to worship. Consistent lateness cannot be tolerated.

### Sunday Schedule

7:15 a.m.- Musicians and sound guys arrive.

7:30 a.m.- Practice

8:45 a.m.- Prayer

9:00 a.m.- 1<sup>st</sup> service starts

9:30- Breakfast and Fellowship

11:00- 2<sup>nd</sup> service starts

12:20- Services End

## Tech Team Support

The Tech Team is responsible for all technical aspects of the service, including the sound system, lighting system, video elements, recordings, and projection. The great tech challenge is to become invisible! It's the perfect place for selfless, secure servants. Tech Team members go through a training process and audio volunteers have been specifically chosen by our team for their abilities to mix sound and blend voices "by ear." A good relationship between Music Team members and Tech Team members is very important—and equally important is your ability to trust them to skillfully make our worship services look and sound as great as possible. As they serve you and Coastal's congregation each week, please remember treat them with respect.

If you have any questions or problems, please talk to your leader and allow your leader to communicate with the Tech Team.

# Worship Team

## Commitment Letter

As I consider participating in Coastal Community Church's Worship Team, I commit to the following personal and spiritual standards:

I acknowledge the Lordship of Jesus Christ in my life and have a personal relationship with Him.

I am committed to growing and maturing in my relationship with God through consistent quiet times, accountability, and faithfulness to the local church.

I am committed to choices and a lifestyle that are both Godly and "above reproach," knowing that my lifestyle in itself is an act of worship.

I commit to having a servant's heart, a desire for excellence, and a passion for seeing people connect to God in worship. I will treat other members of the team with respect while holding them accountable as servants and musicians.

I commit to growing as a vocalist/musician through personal practice time so I will be better equipped to serve as a member of the worship team.

I commit to making rehearsals, meetings, and any worship team training a priority and I will be prompt in my commitment.

Name

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Date

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