CORNERSTONE ASSEMBLY

CREATIVE ARTS HANDBOOK
What Is Worship?

"Worship is responding to all that God is with all that I am."

Biblical definition:

**Genesis 22: 1-14** Abraham lived so closely to God that he responded when God called. We see Abraham's purpose in worship because of his preparation and the faith he practiced his theology of worship by the sacrifice of Isaac.

**Exodus 10:3** "Let my people go so that they may worship me". God's desire was to free a nation from slavery to worship Him. As pre-Christ followers we were enslaved to our sins, but Christ set us free; primarily to worship Him. The first commandment reminds us of this.

**Romans 12:1** All of life is intended to be an act of worship. In view of all Christ has done on our behalf, to worship, yielding our whole life, moment by moment, is the only logical thing left to do.

What do we believe about corporate worship?

The Holy Spirit is our worship leader. The "lead worshipers", include not only the musicians, but also anyone who speaks, prays, or has a part in leading the service. They facilitate the congregation's worship by reminding them of who God is and what He has done.

The role of the people upfront is to assist the congregation with cues to facilitate worship. The entire service is the Holy Spirit's message to us. This is important in our theology of worship.

No person, service element, verse or song, drama, movie clip, etc., has any power to produce worship. This is the work of the Holy Spirit as He engages our spirits responding to the truth of God. John 4:22 says we can worship the God we know.

Consider these examples from Scripture: 2 Sam. 6, 1 Chron. 29, 2 Chron. 5, and Acts 2:42-47. Because cultures differ, styles and expressions differ. Humility must rule when configuring style and expression to accommodate what serves the culture before personal preference. Mark 10:45 reminds us Jesus came to serve others.
What are the essentials to set the tone for worship?

1. Ask and depend upon the Holy Spirit to lead: John 14:26, Rom. 8:26-27.

Is what we communicate in corporate worship what we really believe?

Regardless of the quality of the "performance" of the service, it is most important for church leaders to worship intentionally. In this way, we will train people to do likewise and not expect to be entertained.

There is a strong link between prayer and worship. Corporately, passion for one will be reflected in the other. Participation in corporate prayer is a good indication of the depth and consistency of our worship.

Are there additional elements of truth we must include?
Drama, movie clips, interviews, personal faith stories (testimonies), visual art, dance, signing are popular today. Efforts must be made to use new expressions as they become available.
Worship Team

I Fulfill spiritual obligations:

A. Be growing in the Lord.
   1 Pet. 3:18 “But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ...”

B. Make peace with people.
   Matt. 5:23,24 “… if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.”

C. Your individual worship experience flows out of your own heart.
   Rom. 12:1,2 “I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.”

D. Handle any comments you hear about the music graciously.
   Eph. 4:2, “Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.”

II Fulfill rehearsal/communication obligations.

A. Text/Call with as much notice as possible if you can’t make it to service/rehearsal.

B. Respect others’ time, skills, and experience.*

*Have a spirit of excellence and come prepared. Please download any provided songs and practice on your own time so you will know your specific part. (This always helps rehearsal go much better). Psalm 33:3 “Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy.”
*Be early. If you’re a band member allow enough time for setup and tuning before rehearsal. (Our goal is to always start rehearsals promptly)

* Please read weekly emails/texts to stay informed on the latest info. When prompted to, please respond with “got it” so that we know you received last minute changes.

C. Fulfill the commitment you make to the Lord:

Because you are considered a leader by your participation, it is required that whatever commitment you make, in terms of time and frequency, you fulfill. **Col. 4:17** – “...Take heed to the ministry which you have received in the Lord, that you may fulfill it.”

Finally, always remember that you are a minister of this house. Your spoken words, actions, and attitudes (whether good or bad) reflect on our ministry as a whole. “My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry” **James 1:19**
The dance team is part of our overall Worship Ministry here at Cornerstone. Therefore, a person's character, accountability, spiritual growth, marriage, family etc. are considered. If you are interested in being a part of this expression of worship, please let us know!

"Then, young maidens will dance and be glad, young men and old as well."

**Jeremiah 31:13**

1. Must be a person of INTEGRITY
   - walking in obedience
   - has accountability
   - submits to leadership

2. Must be a WORSHIPPER from the heart
   - actively participates during worship
   - considers everyday life activity worship to the Lord

3. Must have a personal time of worship- has an ongoing worship time at home during the week, not just on Sundays

4. Must be PRAYING for dance ministry
5. Must be able to BLESS OTHER DANCERS - give encouraging words.

6. Must be able to receive an answer of NO or WAIT - there may be times when dance is not appropriate for one dancer or for all dancers.

7. Must take care of their bodies: just like a vocalist takes care of their vocal chords, YOUR BODY IS YOUR INSTRUMENT OF WORSHIP. Eat healthy, stay fit, and ALWAYS warm up before rehearsal.

8. Respect others’ time and skills - be on time & come prepared.
Tech Team

Our technical team must understand the importance of what they do, and how much every other team relies on their professionalism and dedication. Tech volunteers are an important part of our service until the Lord and must view their position as a ministry that God uses to change lives.

LEADER: DAVID WIGGINS- Will organize and post a schedule of who is due to serve.

THERE ARE SEVERAL AREAS OF SERVICE ON TECHNICAL TEAM:
SOUND (Mixing/Recording of HD24 and Sermon CD, Insuring all mics work and being available for sound check)

**Main Computer:** Easy Worship/Lyrics; Countdown Videos/ Other computer related details

**Lights:** Learning the software; creating scenes

Changing batteries (TO EVERYTHING THAT MAY NEED A BATTERY)

Turning On /Off Power to light and sound equipment

**Video:** Recording Worship; Sermon (coming soon!) and any special events

**Miscellaneous:** Occasionally, we need people for misc. duties (such as spotlight, props, costumes, staging)
• Members must be a minimum of age 12 to serve

• Members should arrive at least one hour before service time (if it is their turn to serve)

• Members are required to either call or text if they will be late or cannot make the service (email is fine, if it is a day in advance)

• Members should be rotated on a service-to-service basis according to the schedule. (If a member is unavailable when they are due to serve, they will serve when they next come up on the schedule. Forfeit their turn.)

• Members should be at all rehearsals (if it is their turn to serve)

• No more than 3 members in the sound booth at any given time

• No food or drink in the sound booth (EVER!)

• No watching football games or other forms of entertainment in the sound booth (especially not as people are coming into the service)

• No surfing the net on the sound booth computers, unless you’re trying to download material, which will be used for service purposes. We’ve had virus crash our computers 3 times in one year!

• Members who miss more than 3 service days without notice will not be considered for future service.

• Members who have computer service should always return to the welcome screen after sound check and make sure music is playing as people are walking in*

*EVERYONE KEEP IN MIND THAT YOU ARE SETTING AN ATMOSPHERE OF PRAISE & WORSHIP AS PEOPLE ARE ARRIVING, AND THE SOUND BOOTH IS THE FIRST THING THEY ENCOUNTER AS THEY ENTER THE SANCTUARY.
Drama Team

Leader: Barbra Copeland

**Purpose In Ministry:** To nurture and utilize the gifts God has given us, so Christ can be glorified through us. To evangelize, making a difference for the cause of Christ, by bringing the Gospel to our church and our community through the very powerful media of drama. To be a witness and model Christ-likeness to others, especially our peers - in pure speech, a godly life, Christian love, humble faith, and moral purity.

**Purpose In Personal Development:** To grow closer to Christ through serving Him. To develop leadership skills while serving others. To work within a team to learn unity in Christ by encouraging, supporting, and building up our teammates. To aim for a lifestyle that evidences our faith in every aspect.

**Purpose In Enhancing the Church:** To minister to and serve our church by presenting the Gospel of Jesus Christ using Christian art, mime, and drama in conjunction with other teams within the Creative Arts ministry. To use the talents of our members to enrich the church’s outreach.

**5 Habits of Highly Effective Actors**

1. **Projecting** - When actors are nervous, their voices will get softer. You can practice by sitting at the back of the room, and speaking until you can be clearly heard in the front. Vocal warm-ups similar to those singers use are also helpful.
2. **Articulate** - Be motivated to speak clearly. You are sharing the gospel and that should be clear.

3. **Blocking** – is making sure that all can be seen; this is important for actors and the audience. Those in seats that are unable to see what is happening on stage will be lost.

4. **Expression** - Verbal communication is 10% of the message, everything else you say with your expression and body language. Even if you are not speaking lines you can still be “speaking”.

5. **Body Language** - The dominant part of the message.
JPW & YOUTH BAND

Our Junior Praise & Worship and Youth Band are meant to be tools for exposing children and teens to the different Creative Arts fields with the hopes of developing future servant leaders.

**JPW Leaders: Barbra Copeland & Haley Crutcher**

- Will meet on Sunday nights after worship service.

- Attendance will be limited to children 6-12 yrs old. No teens are to attend, unless they are specifically asked by one of the JPW leaders for assistance.

- Worship Team members will be asked to donate at least one Sunday night every other month towards helping with JPW supervision and activities.

- JPW will perform during the church service several times a year:
  5 minute selection during Palm Sunday
  Opening of our 4th of July service with the Star Spangled Banner
  30 minute program during Christmas Season

**Youth Band Leaders: Steve & Indy Dixon**

- Will meet on the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month.

- Attendance limited to teens 13-18 yrs old. No children are to attend unless specifically invited by the leaders.

- Areas of concentration will be Piano, Bass, Drums, Vocal, and Sound.
• Personal practice time will be a requirement for all. Those who do not take band practice seriously will not be allowed to continue with the band.

• Youth Band is a training tool for developing future members of the adult worship team.