Leadership Application

Thanks for your interest!

Dear Potential Student Ministry Leader,

I am so excited that you are checking out a possible leadership role in our Student Ministry at FCC! We have a HUGE need for adult leaders who want to make an impact for Christ in a student's life. We believe healthy student ministry is built on healthy relationships—between adult leaders and students. Relationships are the key to students feeling loved and understanding God's love in practical ways. The quality of our leadership team is very important. We are looking for men & women who have a deep commitment to Christ and a desire to care for students. Included with this packet is an application for our ministry. Please fill it out with much prayer and consideration.

Once I have received your application material, I will call you to set up an appointment with you. All information will be strictly confidential and shared only with appropriate pastoral staff members. I look forward to meeting you. If you need to reach me, please feel free to call me at **513-218-6053** or e-mail me at **zmays@fcchh.org**

Zachariah Mays
First Christian Church
Student Minister

WHAT STUDENTS NEED

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. One of the common roadblocks for adults getting started in youth ministry is a misconception about what it takes to be a youth worker.

COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS ARE:
>>You must be young
>>You must have outstanding 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 play guitar
>>You must know the 8 most popular videos on MTV
>>You must be wild, crazy and dynamic
>>You must be liked by all students
>>You must own a 15-passenger van

Student ministry is not the easiest ministry in the church and it's normal and okay for you to feel inadequate about your skills. Your confidence will grow the more you're around students and see how God can use inadequate people (like us) 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 a student's life
>>Take initiative to get to know students
>>Pray for students
>>Be real
>>Say encouraging things
>>Believe in the students
>>Laugh and have a good time
>>Remember names
>>Share God's love through personal experience
>>**Be consistent with attendance**
>>Be patient

Every ministry is driven by something. There is always some guiding force that determines the direction and goals for the individual or the group. Unless the driving force behind a church is biblical, the health and growth of the church will never be what God intended. Strong churches are not built on programs, personalities, or gimmicks. They are built on the eternal purposes of God. That is the foundation of our Student Ministry as well. Everything we do in our Student Ministry revolves around one purpose or idea.

Our focus is to lead students into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

As a leader in The Forge Student Ministries, it is essential that you know and understand our mission statement:

To create irresistible environments led by skilled staff and volunteers where students are encouraged and equipped to pursue intimacy with God, community with insiders, and influence with outsiders.

MINISTRY VALUES

As a leadership team we try to incorporate our ministry values in everything we do.

REAL
We value an environment that is transparent and genuine.
RELEVANT
The most effective way to reach students is to present the gospel in a relevant way.
Ex: leaders and environment that reflect and respect the student's life stage.
RELATIONAL
We purposefully build relationships with students and facilitate them building relationships with one another.
RELAXED
Students are under enormous stress. We strive to create a ministry that helps relieve the stresses of life, not add to them.

TAKING THE NEXT STEP

Are you ready to take the next step toward becoming a Student Ministry volunteer?

1. Prayerfully Consider Your Commitment
We want you to take time to pray and think through this commitment as well as seek counsel of family and/or friends about serving in the Student Ministry.

2. Complete the Forge Student Ministry Application
The application should be included with this booklet. Please take your time and fill out all of the enclosed forms.

3. Observe Programs (optional)
While you are still in the process of completing the application packet, you may want to observe our weekly programs. This can be a great opportunity for you to get a feel for the ministry without having expectations or responsibilities. You'll have a chance to meet students, other leaders, and write out any questions and thoughts that you have. Observing can often be overwhelming or uncomfortable (students don't typically go out of their way to make you feel welcome. . . until you get to know them). This is a natural feeling EVERYONE HAS and we encourage you to continue observing.

4. Schedule an Interview
Every one of our leaders must be interviewed. During this time, you'll have the chance to get to know more about us, and we'll learn more about you. You'll have the opportunity to describe your spiritual journey, and discuss in more detail your gifts and desires for working in the student ministry. You cannot be official as a volunteer until we have received all of your completed paperwork and you have had your personal interview.

Questions?
If you have any questions regarding the application process, please contact us!

Zachariah Mays
First Christian Church
zmays@fcchh.org
513-218-6053

The Forge Student Ministries
Leadership Application

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form. We want you to know that the following information will be kept confidential and will only be shared with appropriate pastoral staff. We are looking forward to knowing you!

Contact Information

Full Name: _____ Date: _____

Name you prefer: _____ Gender: M ___ F ___

Email:_____

Address, City, Zip: _____

Primary phone: (_____) _____-_____ DOB: _____

General Information

Occupation: _____ Employer:_____

Work Status: _____ part time _____ full time _____ student

Marital Status: _____ single _____ married _____ divorced

Spouse Name: _____ Anniversary: _____

Children: _____ Ages: _____

Education

High school: _____ year graduated: _____

College / trade school: _____ year graduated: _____

Degree:_____

Other education: _____ year graduated: _____

References

Due to the fact that this leadership position is in contact with minors we are in need of 2 *non-family* personal references. Please list 2 people that you have known for more than 2 years.

#1 Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email:_____ Relationship: _____

#2 Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email:_____ Relationship: _____

Personal Information

Write a brief testimony about how you became a Christian (include date).

Do you consider yourself to be a committed believer?

Do you feel like you are active in your walk with God?

How would you describe your spiritual journey now?

What kind of accountability structure do you have in your life? (Small group, mentor, etc.)

What people or experiences have been most significant in your growth as a Christian?

Are there any issues or concerns that would have a negative impact on your commitment and involvement in Student Ministry?

Ministry Information

Please describe any past ministry or church experience you have been involved in. What did you do and who was/is the leader? What led you to stop serving there?

List the date and activities of other ministry experiences here at First Christian Church.

What spiritual gifts and strengths do you feel you have, and how would you like to use them in Student Ministry?

Do you have any fears/areas of weakness that might affect where you serve in the ministry?
(Example: speaking in front of people, large crowds, inexperience, etc.)

What is one area you would like to grow in as a leader?

Why do you want to serve in Student Ministry?

Church Information
Do you call First Christian Church your home? _____

Are you a member? _____
If not, what church do you call home? _____

How long have you been attending FCC? _____

Lifestyle and Legal Concerns
In caring for students, we believe it is our responsibility to seek adult leaders that can provide healthy, safe, and nurturing relationships. Please answer the following questions accordingly.

Are you currently or have you ever used illegal drugs?
Yes ___ No ___
Have you ever gone through treatment for alcohol or drug abuse?
Yes ___ No ___ if yes, please describe:

Have you ever been arrested and / or convicted of a crime?
Yes ___ No ___ if yes, please describe:

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:

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 ___

Do you view X-Rated movies, visit adult bookstores or clubs, read X-rated magazines, or look at internet pornography?
Yes ___ No ___

Are you willing to undergo a background check? Yes ___ No ___

If single, are you pursuing a relationship that is honoring to God?
Yes ___ No ___

Are you currently maintaining a personal blog, website, myspace, or facebook account?
Yes ___ No ___

If yes, please provide addresses/URL:
_____

Do you have anything posted on your personal site that would create a negative perception of First Student Ministry?
Yes ___ No ___

I declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of Ohio that the foregoing is true and correct. First Christian Church may contact my references and appropriate government agencies to determine my suitability as an Adult Leader. I understand that all this information will remain confidential
by the church staff.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

What's your SHAPE?

All leaders have a unique SHAPE that can be used to minister in the lives of students. Our team has a strong desire to place leaders in an area of our ministry where they feel passionate and gifted. By examining your SHAPE we can be sure to plug you into the ministry that fits *who you are*. Take a moment and fill this form out and return it with your application.

What do you feel are your spiritual gifts?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

In what areas have you been able to use these gifts in the past?

WHAT ARE 3 THINGS YOU LOVE TO DO?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

MY STRONGEST ABILITIES ARE:

[A few examples might include: drama, writing, speaking, fine arts, photography, video, counseling, computers,
music, tutoring, athletics, etc.]

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

THIS IS HOW I SEE MYSELF:

[Circle the one that applies to you for each comment]

Around others, I am more... RESERVED OUTGOING

My decisions are based more on... FACTS/THINKING FEELINGS

In my relationships, I tend to be more... DEPENDENT on OTHERS INDEPENDENT

My use of time is more... DETERMINED SPONTANEOUS

The Forge Student Ministries
Leadership Commitment

After observing the ministry, praying, and discussing with my family the commitment involved with volunteering in The Forge Student Ministries, I choose to commit to the following:

 I acknowledge the Lordship of Jesus Christ in my life, and I have a personal relationship with God through faith in Christ.

 I am committed to growing and maturing in my relationship with God through quiet times, active attendance at church, and involvement in accountability. I am committed to stop serving if, at any time, my personal spirituality becomes compromised.

 I am committed to a lifestyle that is both godly and above reproach. I commit to making wise choices. I realize that my lifestyle and decisions are a model for students.

 I am committed to attending the mandatory leader meetings throughout the year.

 I will make a committed attempt to help recruit at least one other adult volunteer for our growing needs in the Student Ministry.

 I will not post any pictures of students on my personal blog, website or my space.

 I will not post anything on my personal blog, website, or my space that would be damaging to the reputation of The Forge's Student Ministry.

 I understand the philosophy of this Student Ministry and agree with its purpose and commit to shepherding the students that God brings to me. I commit to rejecting divisive behavior. I commit to bringing my disagreements, concerns, or problems about the

ministry to Zachariah Mays without talking or gossiping to students, other volunteers, or church members.

☐ 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 Zachariah Mays if I will be absent.

☐ I am making a commitment to one or more of the following programs: (Check all that apply)

☐ **Jr. High**	☐ **High School**
☐ Volunteer Leader (at all events)	☐ Volunteer Leader (at all events)
☐ Special Events (Believe, C2 Events, etc.)	☐ Special Events (CIY, Kings Island, etc.)
☐ Small Group Leader (Sep - May)	☐ Small Group Leader (Sep - May)
☐ Other _____	☐ Other _____

_____

Signature Date

_____

Printed Full Name