

Worship Team Job Description

Essentials

- ✓ Must be a worshipper in all things!
- ✓ Following Jesus and growing in their faith and personal worship
- ✓ Be a member of EBC
- ✓ Be competent on their instrument, and/or with their voice
- ✓ Honing their musicianship in their spare time
- ✓ Be responsible for their own instrument or voice
- ✓ Supportive to the worship leader and worship team
- ✓ Attend rehearsals regularly
- ✓ Be prompt for rehearsals and services
- ✓ Be familiar with the songs on the EBC song list
- ✓ Keep up to date with worship trends and new songs

Our musical worship is not about musical ability and performance; it is about offering all that we are in order to lead the congregation in our worship to God.

Practical Notes

Songs

The majority of the songs for the morning and all age services will be picked from the “song list” (approx. 50 songs), this will be updated every school term to enable a consistent rotation. This does mean that it will be relatively easy for the worship teams to be familiar with the songs we choose for our worship, but it will be the musician’s responsibility to know the songs. We will supply music (MP3/CD’s/links) of all of the songs as well as chord charts.

The worship leaders will supply the service orders/songs to the church office on the Thursday the week before the Sunday (as in 10 days in advance); these songs will then be forwarded to the musicians so that they know what the set list for Sunday and Tuesday’s rehearsal is in plenty of time.

All songs on the song list will be in our Worship Live database so that all of the musicians and worship leaders have access to the same copies of the music, in the same format, and in the right key.

Sundays

All musicians are on the rota according to the frequency they are available and the instruments that they play. Rotas have been distributed to every worship team member, and we will send reminders the Monday before the service you are playing for, but please also book those dates into your diary.

Everyone must arrive promptly for Sunday services:

8:30 start for the 9:30 service

9:15 for 10:15/All Age celebrations

10:30am for the 11:15 service

We need to be finished soundchecking and topping and tailing 20 minutes before the start of the service (30 minutes before a big event like Christingle/Community Carols etc). Songs should be rehearsed at rehearsal as reiterated, Sunday morning is the time to only get set up and levels set...we should not be running through all of the songs at this point!

On a Sunday, or for any services, all musicians must take responsibility for their own equipment, and also assist with how they attach to the PA. So singers should be able to clear away their own microphones and cables, guitarists should be ready to plug into amps and DI boxes, drummers

should have their own sticks etc. It is not the sole responsibility of the PA operator to set up and clear away the stage; we are a worship team and do it all together.

Similarly, if you have a glass of water/coffee/cappuccino/chocolate cake/toast on Sunday, please make sure that the empties are returned to the kitchen and aren't left on the stage. And this goes for spare copies of music and service orders.

There needs to be an understanding that the stage lighting is not for the sake of the musicians but to create a great environment for the congregation. To that end, if you cannot see your charts/words clearly enough, there are some stand lights in the instrument cupboard. Please take responsibility to use these if needed.

Rehearsals

We rehearse every Tuesday, 8 - 9:30. On alternate weeks we will have a second rehearsal in rooms 1 and 2; the main hall will be for rehearsing for the Sunday, the back rooms for refining and learning together. Please be there promptly so that we can finish promptly, 8pm is start time not arrival!

Rehearsals will primarily be for refining and honing songs, working out beginnings and endings and developing as a band/team. Rehearsals will not be for learning songs; it will be expected that you are familiar with the songs we will choose. We will have some rehearsal evenings during the year that are set aside for running through potential new songs.

Practice versus Rehearsal: Practice is what the individual team member does on their own, rehearsal is when the team members come together with their individual known parts and put it all

Use rehearsals as an opportunity to listen to each other. Make up different parts. If the worship leader is singing the tune, the three backing singers are singing the tune, the violin is playing the tune and the pianist is following the tune with their right hand, is this excessive?! The acoustic guitar and piano often play similar chords...try and split them up. Use a capo. Play up the octave. The pianist doesn't need to play all of the bass notes if there is a bass player, so try some alternative chord voices or counter melodies.

Smile. Be confident. Enjoy yourself. Model the worship that you are playing with your face and your body. We are worshipping a wonderful, exuberant and awesome God, let's reflect the words and music we sing and play in our actions, both on stage and off of it. No-one in the congregation will believe "How Great our God" is if we are looking miserable and tired. And try and retain the positive attitude on and off of the stage; you are "visible" to the congregation while we are leading the worship, but are also visible after the service when queuing for coffee and cake. Happiness and positivity are infectious, let's make good use of them even when you've forgotten the words and broken a string. We are worshipping to an audience of one, and He is interested in the heart of our worship, not the technicalities.

Goals for 2014

Continue to learn the songs that we use in our worship. Commit to listen to them every week, if you are playing that week then pay close attention to the songs that are being used, even if you are familiar with them. Learn the parts, melodies and rhythms that your respective instrument or voice has.

Commit to practicing on your instrument or voice at home so that you are constantly improving. Whether this is specific to the Sunday as outlined above, so learning parts and chord changes, or whether it is a specific course or book on how to be a better singer or master blues guitar in 12 easy lessons! It is your responsibility to improve your gifting.

Everyone to have gone through a Music Theory 101 course to help them get a better understanding of harmony, chord structure and charts. Material will be provided, we will agree a time and make it interesting. Promise!!

Be Prepared!!! We will provide you with the music charts, CD or MP3 copies, rehearsal time and the equipment to use your gift. By the time Sunday comes you should be confident of the songs that we will be using, familiar with the words and structures, and will have prepared prayerfully to lead the congregation in our worship. We are all worship leaders! The congregation will reflect our worship.

To work as a team, meeting together, learning together, praying together and supporting each other.