

Bethany Lutheran Church

“ALIVE”

Always Living In View of Eternity

STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

Student Leadership Team Info Packet
Bethany Lutheran Church Student Ministries
3701 West Slaughter Lane. Austin, TX, 78749
Landon@blcms.org

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Welcome Letter

Dear Potential Leader and Parents,

I am so glad that you're interested in serving as on the Student Leadership Team (SLT) here at Bethany. It is such a unique way of serving God, developing relationships with other students, and learning new leadership skills.

The commitment and quality of our SLT is very important. We are looking for young men and women who have a desire to care for their peers and to serve Christ. We are not looking for people who are simply looking for another social outlet. We are looking for people who will commit to being spiritual leaders to other high school and junior high kids. Because we place great value in this branch of our ministry, we will place great value in those selected into the SLT.

The interview process will take place each May/June on a typical year. If you are interested please access an application online (www.blcms.org) or directly from Landon. Before filling out the application, please prayerfully consider with your parents all the commitments and expectations for all student leaders. If you have any questions or need more information please don't hesitate to contact me.

Parents, we want to be sensitive to the family life of each of our students. We do not desire to create conflicts, in the way of time between commitments at home, school, and church. We pray that you will go over your students current commitments with them and show your support for this important program if your child decides to apply for a SLT program position.

We expect commitments from your student if they are in SLT to be part of Sunday school, worship, YALL Youth group, and Wednesday night Confirmation or ICU Bible study depending on students age. These commitments are already being done by many of our students. The extra meeting for SLT would be one time a month meetings with Landon usually on Sunday afternoons before youth events. Also, the SLT student will spend time planning for youth events, leading devotions, spending extra time with students in need, and other opportunities that arise as our program develops.

SLT is a great way to invest your time for something eternally worthwhile. I look forward to reviewing your application and scheduling you for an interview.

Peace in Christ,

Landon L. Becker
Minister of Youth and Education
Phone: (512)-292-8778
Email: Landon@blcms.org

Is God Calling You To Serve?

- 1.) Express Interest: You may desire to serve God by loving people, but are not sure how to do it or where you can make a difference. We will help you with this. Talk to another student leader, adult volunteer, or Landon to find out more information as you prayerfully consider this opportunity.
- 2.) Receive SLT Material: Read over all the pages and information in this application. This packet gives you the basic information that you will need to make an informed decision about your involvement.
- 3.) Prayerfully consider your commitment: Please pray about commitment and your time schedule. We encourage you to seek advice from family and friends about your decision to be part of SLT.
- 4.) Complete the Application: We require that you fill out the application itself and attach answers to the nine questions we ask about you. We also would like three references, at least one of whom is not from our church nor is a member of your family. You can choose a (1) teacher/coach, (2) adult volunteer at Bethany, and/or (3) an employer. There are obviously other people that you could ask as well to fill out the reference form.
- 5.) Interview with the selection committee: This group will include Landon and at least three to six other non-biased adults. The interview will be a time to share your observations about youth ministry, your spiritual journey, and communicate your desire to be on SLT. This will be a time to discuss your application and areas of responsibilities you are interested in serving.
- 6.) We will inform you of our decision within one week of the conclusion of our last interview.
- 7.) Sign your commitment sheet and turn into Landon if you are selected to SLT.
- 8.) Connect with a personal mentor who will pray with you and for you. These will be assigned by Landon.
- 9.) Evaluation Meeting: Landon will sit with you two times a year and evaluate your feelings and perceptions regarding your involvement with SLT. We will continue to evaluate through the year and adjust your role to better fit your style, personality, and strengths.

Expectations of Student Leaders

- *Be committed to serving God and youth in our ministry at Bethany.
- *Be brave as there should be no cliques. The SLT leaders should make everyone feel welcomed.
- *Be a leader-Any game, study, any experiment can be fun with the right attitude. Be the first jump in and help, participate, and initiate. Clap, yell, scream, and cheer when appropriate. No SLT leader should sit out on the sidelines.
- *If you are dating, our hope is that your relationships with that person would be above reproach in all that you do. Set an excellent standard for others to follow.
- *Actively look for ways for meetings to be better.
- *Follow through.
- *Pray regularly for SLT members, Landon, youth ministry, and Bethany's ministry.
- *Be on time for activities.
- *Attend monthly SLT Bible studies and meet with your mentor as required.
- *Regularly attend church, youth group, Sunday school, Bible study, etc...
- *Be faithful and dependable on your duties and areas of responsibility.
- *Attend scheduled retreats, trips, special events, and other youth activities.
- *Invite, Invite, Invite!
- *Debrief with Landon.
- *Intentionally find ways to serve and encourage other students.
- *Commit to the SLT for one year.
- *Don't be triangulated.
- *Stay positive!
- *Always publicly support the youth ministry, leaders, and decisions.
- *Diffuse gossip, rumors, and conflict.

Qualities of a Student Leader

- *Positive Attitude The ability to work with and see people in a constructive way.
- *Servant The willingness to give of time and energy without needing noticed.
- *Team Player Lift others up and is always looking out for others.
- *Willing to Grow A hunger for personal and spiritual growth.
- *Follow Through Commitment to be responsible and fulfill obligations to best of ability.
- *Integrity Trustworthy and consistent in what you say versus how your walk.
- *Relational The ability to make others feel welcomed, greeted, known, and cared for.
- *Sense of Humor Ability to laugh at yourself, try new things, and be okay with mistakes.
- *Patience Be patient with yourself and with others. Reach out in love!
- *Potential Leadership Ability You don't have to be a leader, just be willing to learn. Leaders are not just up front people, they are behind the scenes as well.
- *Respect Respect yourself, your peers, adults, parents, and conduct yourself in a way that earns trust and respect of your peers.
- *Teachable Spirit Be humble, open to loving criticism and able to learn from others.

What you can expect from Landon

- *To be loved, accepted, and cherished.
- *Training and learning opportunities.
- *Challenge to develop your area of ministry.
- *Contact to pray together and get encouragement.
- *Assign task in your area of responsibility.
- *Lead monthly in depth Bible studies.
- *Provide trainings for leadership.
- *Discover areas for character development in each student and keep them accountable to change as needed.
- *Assign an adult mentor to each SLT leader.
- *Provide encouragement for all SLT leaders and students.
- *Oversee SLT ministry.
- *Ensure you are successful and that learning happens from each experience.
- *As the program develops, train adult volunteers for SLT to effectively use SLT students.

AREAS OF MINISTRY YOU CAN BE A PART OF

Here are some ministry opportunities that you can be a part of. It is possible that not all of these areas are up and running yet, but are examples of dreams for the future. Please also note that as SLT gets up and running this year, you the student leaders, may design new ministries as well as we evaluate needs of the youth ministry.

- 1.) Jr. High Ambassador
Plan ways for high school youth to minister to Jr. High youth two to four times a year.
- 2.) Drama Team
Organize comedy, drama presentations for youth group meetings and/or retreats. Four to twelve dramas a year.
- 3.) Tech Crew
Help with set up, power points, lighting, video presentations, sound board, behind the scenes jobs. (future)
- 4.) Girls Night Coordinator
Organize Girls night out, recruit student and staff as needed.
- 5.) Guys Night Coordinator
Organize Guys night out, recruit student and staff as needed.
- 6.) Coffee House attendant (future)
Coordinate breakfast food for Sunday morning Café, snacks for youth group, food for events.
- 7.) Greeting Team
Greet all students at youth night, introduce new people, hand out visitor info cards, hand out calendars, event flyers, follow up with visitors during the week, follow up with students who have missed more than two to three weeks of youth group.
Recognize birthdays with cards/announcements.
- 8.) Advertising and Film Crew
Help create video advertising of events/announcements for church services, create memory videos, work with students to create silly/funny short films for Bible Study, work with drama team on occasion.
- 9.) Prayer and Praise Team
-team to lead worship during youth events and Sunday school on occasion
-lyrics for power point, hand outs, etc., lead worship during youth retreats.
- 10.) Prayer Team
Work with Landon on finding people who would commit to praying for SLT, youth ministry, etc...
Coordinate 2-4 prayer meetings a year.

11.) Youth Events/Youth Night Coordinator

Help with and lead announcements, games, ice breakers, find people for personal testimony times, help plan yearly calendar with Landon, Bible lessons, event registrations, help recruit adults for special event nights.

12.) Retreat Leaders

Attend and help plan retreats, be student leaders on confirmation retreat helping people feel welcomed, leading bible studies, leading games, recruiting other students to help, etc...

13.) Website

Help design and implement a youth webpage, take pictures, films at youth events, gets contributing writers as needed for website, and design stories to keep website fresh, seeks out Christians music and other website recommendations to put on our website.

14.) Youth Participation Team

Youth involvement with worship service, offering, greeting people, reading, etc...

15.) Youth CD Library

Form a check out system, encourage youth to check out and return CD's, etc...

16.) OTHER

What are your ideas for ministry? What is your dream for Bethany's ministry?

Student Leadership Team Application (please attach your nine questions to this application)

General Information (please print)

Date / /
Name _____
Address _____ City, State, Zip _____
Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
Date of Birth _____ School _____
Email _____
Grade _____ Are you on Facebook? Y or N

What other areas of leadership have you served in if any?

Hobbies and Interest

How do you like to spend your free time? What do you like to do for fun?

How well do you feel you know your Bible?

- What's a Bible?
- I know the books of the Bible.
- I read it rarely.
- I read it once a week.
- I read it daily.
- I feel comfortable teaching others about it.
- I only read it when I study it at church.

In what ways have you gained your Bible knowledge to this point in your faith walk?

What is one thing that God has taught you recently?

Do you have a spiritual accountability partner? YES NO
Would you be open to greater spiritual accountability? YES NO

Date: _____ Signature: _____

“ALIVE” Application

Please type these questions and your responses to all of the following questions and attach it to the rest of the application when you submit it to Landon Becker. The response to all of these questions should not be more than two pages.

Personal

- 1.) Why do you want to be on “name” leadership team?
- 2.) Who is the person or people that have had the greatest influence on your life?
Describe why and how.
- 3.) How is God working in your life now?
- 4.) God gives us all gifts, talents, and abilities. List some of the gifts and abilities that you feel God has blessed you with and how tell how that would tie into your ability to serve as a student leader.

Ministry

- 5.) Please list the dates and activities of ministries experiences that you have been involved in here at Bethany.
- 6.) What is your personal vision the Bethany’s high school youth ministry? How might God accomplish some of those things through you?
- 7.) What are expectations you think we should have for our youth group students at Bethany?
- 8.) Explain how you are involved currently in making Christ known to others. Be honest.
- 9.) Is there anything else that you want us to know about you that we have not already touched on?

Student Leadership Team Reference

_____ is applying to become a Student Leader at Bethany Lutheran Church and has given your name as a personal reference. Please complete the form below and use one of the following methods to get it back to Landon Becker, Minister of Youth and Education.

*Fax to (512) ***.**** Attn Landon Becker

*Postal Mail to Landon Becker, Bethany Lutheran Church, 3701 W. Slaughter Lane, Austin, TX 78749

*Hand it to Landon personally in a sealed envelope.

I may contact you to confirm that I have received your evaluation of the student and may ask you some follow up questions. Your response will remain confidential; please do not return this to the applicant.

1.) Describe your relationship to/with this person.

2.) How long have you known this person?

3.) Please rate his/her ability at the following items:

	Low	Below AVG	Average	Very Good	Excellent
Involvement in peer relationships	1	2	3	4	5
Involvement in adult relationships	1	2	3	4	5
Emotional Maturity	1	2	3	4	5
Teachable spirit and open to correction	1	2	3	4	5
Ability to be a team player	1	2	3	4	5
Following through on Commitments	1	2	3	4	5
Honesty and Integrity	1	2	3	4	5
Hard Worker	1	2	3	4	5

4.) What are the applicant's greatest strengths? Weaknesses?

5.) Do you have any concerns regarding this student being a spiritual leader in our youth program? If yes, why?

Thank-you for taking the time to fill this out. If you have any questions regarding this reference, please call Landon Becker at 512-292-8778 or email Landon@blcms.org.

Your Name _____ Date _____ Signature _____

Contact Number _____ Email _____

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Your Name _____ Date _____ Signature _____

Contact Number _____ Email _____

Ministry Interests

Please check all of the items that you would be interested in leading. Complete this form and turn it in with your application.

Jr. High Ambassador

Drama Team

Tech Crew

Girls/Guys Night Coordinators

Coffee House Attendant (The Dock)

Greeting Team

Advertising and Film Crew

Prayer and Praise Team

Prayer Team

Youth Event/Youth Night Coordinator

Retreat Leaders

Website

Youth CD Library Coordinator

Youth Participation Team

Youth Outreach Coordinator

Other Ideas/ Interest You Have
