

# *Crosswinds Church*

## *Praise Team Covenant*

*A covenant is a voluntary agreement between people promising mutual help and common effort. To join the Crosswinds Praise Team, you must agree to the elements of this covenant. The participants in this covenant are you, the Lord, and the Crosswinds Praise Team.*

- Vision:** Worship is central to the life of the Christian and the church (Romans 12:1). Our vision for this ministry is to encourage congregational praise and worship of our Lord through music. We have adopted the musical style of contemporary/modern songs because we feel that it will best communicate spiritual truths to the people in our local community. Our additional goal is to extend the congregation's praise, worship, and devotion to God through Christian media such as radio, internet broadcasts, and current artist albums.
- Believers:** We believe that God wants what is best for our lives, and God's best for us is found in Jesus. We believe that it's only through Jesus that we can truly worship (John 4:24).
- Disciples:** We are intentional about our growth as Christians. We are practicing the basic habits of Christian discipleship (private worship, personal Bible reading, and prayer). We are also active learners, involved in the core classes, discovery groups, and other learning opportunities offered by the church. Furthermore, each Praise Team member is encouraged to develop their gifts through training.
- Ambassadors:** We are representatives of our Lord and of this church (2 Corinthians 5:20). We will practice a lifestyle and develop habits that are consistent with being followers of Christ. We will also be intentional in our efforts to share Christ with others as God gives us opportunity. We will portray Crosswinds Church in a positive light in the community.
- Active:** We are active participants in our church, as demonstrated by faithful attendance, fellowship, and support of Crosswinds' Mission Statement and Core Values (see supplemental sheet). Furthermore, we are either members of Crosswinds Church or are moving towards membership, through completion of the church's 101 CLASS and following the elements of the Membership Covenant.
- Givers:** We are financially giving to support Crosswinds Church on a regular basis (1 Corinthians 16:2).
- Team Players:** As members of the Praise Team, we are not seeking glory for ourselves. Rather, we seek to glorify the Lord and lift up one another. When we are not leading from the platform we will lead by example to encourage everyone (seekers, new Christians, and mature believers) to spiritually connect with God.

As a part of this ministry team, it is vital that we show courtesy and respect for each other in our actions and words. This includes being punctual for rehearsals and performances, arriving prepared, and letting the Praise Team leader(s) know in advance if you cannot be at a practice or worship gathering. Two weeks advance notice should be given, or as soon as possible in the event of an illness or unplanned schedule conflict.

**Peacemakers:** At times, we may hurt a brother or sister, or be hurt ourselves. Broken relationships obstruct our worship (Matthew 5:23-24). As Christians, we will follow the principles for reconciling relationships as given in Scripture (Matthew 18:15-35; Luke 17:3-5; Romans 12:9-21).

**Contributors:** We encourage the development of the talents God has given to the Praise Team members. We encourage supplemental practice, participation in workshops, and specialized training. Crosswinds provides some resources to support this.

Sharing of ideas and positive feedback make us better. All opinions and suggestions will be considered and discussed at an appropriate time. The final decision on any suggestion will be made by the Praise Team Leader or Pastors.

By signing this covenant, I voluntarily enter into a ministry relationship with my fellow Praise Team members, pastors and my Lord, Jesus Christ.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Crosswinds' Mission Statement

*We're here to help people discover God, His love, and His ways, while we pursue them together.*

## Crosswinds' Core Values

Our values shape what — and who — we are. At Crosswinds Church...

- ☞ **We value DISCOVERY.** We want people to discover a personal God and Christian faith. God is knowable and wants to be known (Isaiah 55:6, Jeremiah 31:34, John 17:3). God reveals Himself in a many ways – through the Bible, nature, our experiences, and most significantly, through Jesus (2 Timothy 3:15-16, Romans 1:20, John 5:39). Discovering God and His ways is an ongoing and life-long activity. Discovery is always exciting, and we want to encourage and support that activity in each person, no matter where they are on the journey of faith.
- ☞ **We value HOPE.** We should live in hope because our future is in the hands of a loving God (Jeremiah 29:11). Life should be lived with an upward focus (Psalm 121:1-2) and a hope for heaven (Philippians 3:20-21, Revelation 21:3-5). Even when this life is stressful or difficult, we can have hope because of God's help that is available to us (Romans 8:28,32,15:4).
- ☞ **We value RELEVANCE.** God and His Message matter for us today. The Psalmist wrote, "I say to God, 'Be my Lord!' Without you, nothing makes sense." (Psalm 16:2, The Message) The Bible and Christians are often challenged as being irrelevant. God's forgiveness is relevant; disobedience and sin are still what they were in ancient days (Ecclesiastes 1:9, 1 Corinthians 10:13). God's understanding of human life is relevant (Psalm 139:13-16); we must have sound spiritual insight if we are going to solve the complex ethical questions that have been raised by our scientific advances. God's fellowship and loving help are relevant (1 Corinthians 9:19-22, 13:1); there is an epidemic of loneliness in our society.
- ☞ **We value UPLIFTING WORDS.** Too often, our speech is a contradictory mix of fruit and thorns (James 3:10-12). We want to encourage one another (1 Thessalonians 5:11,14, Hebrews 10:24-25) and praise God (Isaiah 40:9, Colossians 3:16) through our words and communications.
- ☞ **We value GOODNESS.** The follower of Christ should pursue holiness – godliness, moral purity, honesty, integrity (Psalm 15, 1 Peter 1:15-16, 2 Peter 1:4-5a). Salvation begins with justification, but moves on through sanctification.
- ☞ **We value LOYALTY.** Solomon observed, "Lots of people claim to be loyal and loving, but where on earth can you find one?" (Proverbs 20:6, The Message) When differences appear and push comes to shove, many would just as soon walk out rather than work it out. Loyalty means tolerance of Biblical interpretations that differ from our own (Romans 14:1,19). Loyalty means forgiveness and reconciliation (Matthew 5:23-24, 18:21-22, Ephesians 4:32-5:2). Loyalty means encouraging and preserving the peace (Matthew 5:9, Philippians 4:2-3).
- ☞ **We value AUTHENTICITY.** Sometimes we wear masks to hide our true faith, hurts, and struggles. A true understanding of the gospel eliminates this kind of hypocrisy: nobody wins points for being good apart from Jesus Christ, and nobody loses points because they face temptations or struggle with disappointment and troubles. Healing and growth come from being authentic about our faith and needs (Proverbs 28:13, James 5:16, Matthew 8:5-6, John 5:6, 1 Corinthians 10:13).