

# **How To Become a Youth Ministry Volunteer**

## **The Application Process**

### **1. Express Interest**

You may have an interest, but are unsure as to where you can help. Some of the most unlikely people make the greatest volunteers, so take the next step as you prayerfully consider this ministry.

### **2. Initial Contact By Church Staff**

This is an opportunity for us to briefly get to know each other and for us to hear your desire to be involved in student's lives. We will give you a general overview of the ministry and arrange for you to visit and observe our programs.

### **3. Receive Youth Ministry Material**

You will be sent literature detailing the different areas of our youth ministry including a list of programs, meeting times and places and the philosophy behind the programs. You will also receive the application packet.

### **4. Observe Programs**

While you are still in process of completing the application packet, you are encouraged to observe our programs. This is an important opportunity to get a feel for the ministry without having expectations or responsibilities placed on you. You will have a chance to meet students, other staff, and write questions and thoughts for the upcoming meeting. 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 and we encourage you to continue observing.

### **5. Complete Application Packet**

This application packet was developed with care in order to obtain appropriate information to be used in the selection process. Two references need to be completed. You can choose a 1) pastor, 2) close friend, and/or 3) an employer within the past year.

### **6. Interview with Staff**

This is an opportunity for you to share thoughts from your observations, describe your spiritual journey, and discuss in more detail your gifts and desires for working in the youth ministry. We'll discuss a more specific job description that coincides with your SHAPE.

**7. 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 your commitment.

**8. Return Signed Commitment Sheet**

Once you've decided you want to make a commitment, you'll sign a commitment contract which lays out agreements and expectations for ministry. We will also make sure all of your application material is received.

**9. Begin Ministry**

This date will vary depending on your involvement and desire.

**10. Participate in 30 Day Check-up Meeting**

After approximately your one month mark, you will meet with staff and evaluate your feelings and perceptions of your involvement. We will continue to evaluate throughout the year your ministry involvement and adjust your role to better fit your style, personality, and strengths.

## **What Students Need**

We will only change the youth world, one teen at a time. Students are not connected to programs, only to people. The most affective way to impact these students is through significant relationships with key people in their lives. Our goal is to develop leaders that minister to students.

### **Teens Need Adults Who Will . . .**

- love God and live for Him
- be interested in their life
- take initiative to spend time with them
- pray for them
- say encouraging words
- believe in them
- go to “their world”
- remember their name and care for them
- share God’s love through personal experience
- be consistent to the programs to which you have committed
- be patient

## **How To Be Involved In Students’ Lives**

We will later explain the application process, but first it is important for you to understand what commitment we ask of our staff. For affective ministry with students you need to:

### **1. Understand the purpose and planned values of our ministry.**

Take a look at the values and goals that make our high school ministry affective in reaching and caring for students.

### **2. Commit to a program.**

Consider the role for which God has SHAPED you in order to build relationships with students.

### **3. Grow as a minister.**

Develop your personal ministry to students.

*Youth Ministry Volunteer Application*

## Youth Ministry

## Volunteer Application

ALMA FIRST CHURCH OF GOD  
200 WEST SUPERIOR STREET  
ALMA, MI 48801

Thank you for taking time to share with us about you. We want you to know that the following information will be confidential and only shared with the appropriate pastoral staff that deem necessary.

**General Information**

name: \_\_\_\_\_ today's date: \_\_\_\_\_  
address: \_\_\_\_\_  
date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ phone day: \_\_\_\_\_  
occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ night: \_\_\_\_\_  
employer: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>WORK STATUS</b>			<b>MARITAL STATUS</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> part time	<input type="checkbox"/> full time	<input type="checkbox"/> student	<input type="checkbox"/> single	<input type="checkbox"/> married	<input type="checkbox"/> divorced

**EDUCATION**

high school: \_\_\_\_\_ year graduated: \_\_\_\_\_  
college / trade school: \_\_\_\_\_ year graduated: \_\_\_\_\_  
degree: \_\_\_\_\_ minor: \_\_\_\_\_  
other education: \_\_\_\_\_ year graduated: \_\_\_\_\_

**Personal and Spiritual History**

Write a brief testimony about how you became a Christian.

Write briefly about significant events in your life that have impacted you spiritually.

**Describe three major ways in which you have grown in your spiritual journey since you became a Christian.**

**How would you describe your spiritual journey now?**

**What accountability do you currently have in your spiritual journey?**

**What do you do when you have a conflict with someone? Would you consider yourself "good" at handling confrontation? How do you handle confrontation?**

**Are there any special issues or concerns happening in your life right now that would have an impact in your commitment and involvement in the youth ministry? (e.g. relationships, other commitments, past issues etc.)**

## Legal and Lifestyle Concerns

In caring for students, we believe it is our responsibility to seek an adult staff that is able to provide healthy safe, and nurturing relationships. Please answer the following questions accordingly. Any special concerns can be discussed individual with the pastoral staff.

Are you using illegal drugs?

yes  no

Have you ever gone through treatment for alcohol or drug abuse?

yes  no

If yes, please describe.

What is your view on drinking alcohol?

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

Are you willing to be finger printed for State Criminal Conviction Clearing?  yes  no

**Ministry**

How long have you attended Alma First Church of God? \_\_\_\_\_ Is this your Church home?  yes  no

List the date and activities of other ministry experiences here at Alma First Church of God and the reasons for ending that ministry.

date stated	ministry / activity	date ended	reason

Describe any other ministry / church experience you have been involved with.

What spiritual gifts do you feel you have, and how would you like to use them in youth ministry?

Why do you want to do youth ministry?

What are some of your expectations of the youth ministry staff?

The information contained in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I, undersigned, give my authorization to Alma First Church of God or its representatives to release any and all records or information relating to working with minors. First Church of God may contact my references and appropriate government agencies as deemed necessary in order to verify my suitability as a youth worker.

I understand that the personal information in this application will be held confidential by the professional Church staff.

signature: \_\_\_\_\_ today's date: \_\_\_\_\_



## YOUTH MINISTRY REFERENCE

Confidential Recommendation Form

### TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT:

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name, First Name, Middle Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### TO BE COMPLETED BY REFERENCE:

*Our ministry would appreciate a confidential statement from you concerning the applicant named above, evaluating his/her ability to undertake Christian ministry and his/her potential as a Christian leader. Please complete and return in the envelope provided.*

#### Rate as follows:

Superior/Above Average/Average/Below Average/Don't Know

Kindness & generosity	Moral integrity
Patience	Perseverance
Self-discipline	Willingness to oppose injustice
Desire to serve God	Spiritual influence on others
Spiritual maturity	Theological insight
Completes assigned tasks	Leadership potential
Plans ahead	Working w/Others
Wise use of money	Wise use of time
Involvement in peer relationships	Punctuality
Emotional maturity	Resolve conflict

#### Comments:

1. What are the applicant's greatest strengths? (Be as specific as possible.)
2. Do you have any concerns regarding this person working with students?
3. In your opinion, is the applicant able to be a positive role model to youth?

Please indicate whether your recommendation is given:

\_\_\_\_\_ Enthusiastically \_\_\_\_\_ Strongly \_\_\_\_\_ Fairly Strongly

\_\_\_\_\_ Without Enthusiasm \_\_\_\_\_ With Reluctance

**OTHER REMARKS**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

**CONFIDENTIAL** Do not return to applicant. Please mail this statement directly to: Pastor Ben Kreider, 200 W. Superior St., Alma, MI 48801

**OR** Return to Main Office at Alma First Church of God (same address) w/ note attached: "ATTN: Pastor Ben"