

SOUTH RIVER

B A P T I S T C H U R C H

Where the living water flows

* Step into the water in Worship * Wade out deeper into His Word

* Make a ripple through Witness

WORSHIP
MINISTRY

HANDBOOK 2016



Worship Ministry Calendar 2016

January

29 Worship Ministry Banquet 6:30 pm FLC

February

20 Student Band Workshop 9 am

21 AV Ministry Interest Meeting

27 AV Ministry Workshop 9 pm

March

5 Praise Team Workshop 9 am

April

9 Orchestra Training Workshop 9 am

23-24 Crimson Flood from Liberty University

May

29 Mosaic Night of Worship 6 pm

June

5 Guest Artist Concert 6 pm

11 Praise Team Workshop 9 am

17-18 Drama Training Workshop Fri 6:30 pm; Sat 9 am

July

17 Missions Concert 6 pm

August

12-13 Worship Choir Retreat (Christmas in August)

28 Singspiration Concert 6 pm

September

10 AV Ministry Workshop 9 am

18 Drama Night 6 pm

December

4 Children's Christmas Musical 6 pm

11 Worship Choir Musical 6 pm

Spiritual Purposes for Worship Ministry

The chief end of man is to “glorify God and enjoy Him forever”. Worship should be at the center of our lives personally and corporately. Though worship is not synonymous with music, people view it to be a key component of corporate worship celebration. The Word of God supports this idea. The purpose of music throughout all the Bible is to please God Almighty alone or to “bless the heart of God”. When we focus on pleasing Him alone, what people think doesn’t really matter, The Holy Spirit often may choose to use our worship to lift up or exalt the Person and work of the Lord Jesus before those that are lost, unsaved, undon. He may choose to encourage the believer to be faithful to the Lord in their lives.

Though there are many areas of worship that can be a focal point, the ultimate purpose for our lives and worship should be to advance the kingdom of God and live as people of the kingdom. Worship should be our lifestyle, not just something we do on Sundays or Wednesdays. We look to Revelation 5:9-10 as a pattern. We have the promise in this passage that one day those from every people-group will be represented around the throne of God, worshipping the Lamb. Therefore, we should be spreading a lifestyle of worship around the world. All of us should step into the water in worship, wade out deeper in study and application of the Word of God, but then make a ripple as we witness to all the nations.

River Worship Choir

The Worship Choir is an enthusiastic group of singers at South River. As lead worshippers in our worship celebrations, we take our role seriously in preparation musically, mentally, physically and spiritually. What we do is not performance at all. Our focus is to worship to an Audience of One and give praise and glory to the Lord Jesus, who gave His life for us. We regularly lead in both Sunday AM worship celebrations (8:15, 10:45), as well as special events, seasonal musical, and other special services throughout the year. We emphasize maintaining a vital and growing love relationship with the Lord through personal devotional time, Bible study and prayer. All are expected to regularly attend a discipleship group as well.

Joining the Worship Choir

The process of joining the Worship Choir is quite simple. There are no auditions required to join. Show up for a choir rehearsal on Sunday afternoon, fill out an information card and agree to a brief personal conversation/interview with Pastor Chris Pauley. This interview is spiritual and personal in nature, not primarily musical. We ask that you be a member of South River Baptist to join the choir, though you may certainly attend choir rehearsal and other events while you are in the process of uniting yourself with our body of believers. Upon your first visit in choir, you will be greeted by a Welcoming Team member and introduced to other members of the choir. We want you to feel welcome and a part of the Choir Family. After your interview, we will talk about any further concerns and questions, confirm your membership, and you may sing with us for worship celebrations as soon as you are ready.

Worship Choir Procedures & Expectations

- Attend regularly scheduled choir rehearsals (Sunday afternoons 4:30 - 6 pm in Choir Room) each week. Choir Room is located in the hallway to the congregation left of the Worship Center. If in town and physically able to attend, you should be in choir on Wednesday nights.
- Arriving late for choir. Come in quietly and get to your seat to pick up where everyone else is in rehearsal.
- Talking in choir rehearsal. Choir rehearsal is NOT primarily a time for fellowship. Conversation should be kept quiet and to a minimum. The biggest distraction to others and Pastor Chris is when you are talking when you are supposed to be singing. We provide times for fellowship outside rehearsal.
- Leaving early. You should plan to stay for the entire rehearsal. If you must leave early, please inform Pastor Chris or Amanda in advance.
- Sunday mornings. If you are singing for either 8:15 or 10:45, please arrive early so we can be ready to sing through our choral praise song and pray before worship celebration begins.
- During the worship celebrations on Sunday mornings and evenings, the choir generally will sing at the beginning. It is strongly encouraged that you stay for the full time of congregational singing and leave quietly during prayer before the offering.
- It should go without saying that you are expected to come back in for Pastor Chris' message during one of the two services in the morning, as well as stay for the message on Sunday evening. Worship is more than just our music and praise. It is also our response to the Word of God.
- Roll sheets. Up until now, I have checked roll sheets myself for worship celebrations. The roll sheets will be available on a table at the front of the choir room. Please check your attendance as you come in or go out for worships and rehearsals.
- Absence cards. I will begin placing small absence cards on a table in the choir room during rehearsals. Please be responsible to communicate with Pastor Chris or Amanda when you will be absent. This helps us know where you are and what's going on in your life, so we can pray more effectively for you.

Worship Choir Etiquette

During worship celebrations and events, always be aware that you are visible to the congregation. Future plans will move us toward more visibility in our community and within the Worship Center. It is very distracting to worship to see choir members talking, moving excessively, fidgeting.

Please make every effort to engage in every aspect of the worship celebration. Talking to others during time of welcome, prayer, baptisms and announcements are distractions to those around and those in worship.

Selected Groups

- Solo Ministry. Praise the Lord we have wonderful soloists that bless us every week with their offering of praise. If you wish to be involved, please see Pastor Chris to set up a time to come sing for him. No pressure, but you must participate in a larger Worship Ministry group.

Selected Groups

- Small ensembles. We are in the process of forming some small ensembles out the choir. If you have a knack for singing harmony, this might be the place for you.
- Praise Team & Band. We are looking for back-up players for the band and more singers to “lighten the load” for our praise team. Please see Pastor Chris to set up a time to sing/play for him.
- Worship Orchestra. We have begun the process of starting an orchestra to play during worship celebrations. Let us know of people who play instruments. Several students are interested, but we need adults as well. It really doesn’t take that long to get back in shape to play, if you have a heart to praise the Lord through an instrument. God gave you that opportunity years ago to give Him glory through it!
- Student Praise Band. We have some student who lead worship on Wednesday nights, but we particularly need more band members (guitars, bass). If you know someone who plays, please let Pastor Chris, Dan Bridle or Pastor Scott know.
- Children’s Choir/Little Lambs. We have wonderful leaders for our children, but they would like to have more kids involved. This is our choir of today, not just tomorrow. We seek to cultivate the heart of a worshipper across all ages, beginning with our littlest ones.

Tech Ministry (formerly AV)

The Tech Ministry Team at South River seeks to glorify the Lord by operating technical equipment for worship celebrations and events as an act of personal worship and service. We provide training in a class session environment, as well as “on the job” so to speak. Our desire is give you all the tools necessary to add to how God has gifted you to help you be successful in this ministry.

Positions needed:

- Sound operators of sound equipment/mixing for worship celebrations, outside events, and student events
- Computer operators of presentation software for worship celebrations and student events
- Creative visual artists to assist in creating church-wide print and screen publications
- Video artists/technicians who can capture footage for video publications and video enhancement in worship celebrations.

See Pastor Chris or Robert Miller if you are interested in serving in this vital ministry.

Worship Players (Drama)

The Worship Players will be a team of Christian artists who present the gospel of Jesus Christ clearly and precisely, committed to planting seeds of righteousness and truth while anticipating the Spirit of God to minister and change the lives of its hearers. Using non-traditional forms of worship, we will seek to focus on and solidify the principles of the Bible through realistic and timely dramatic presentations. Our scriptural mandate is Colossians 1:27b & 28 - “Christ in you, the hope of glory. Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.” (NKJV)