

Youth Ministry
Vineyard Community Church of Indianapolis



We exist to seek God and serve people. We value:

God Encounters

We seek the presence of God in everything we do and desire for Him to move.

Living Real

We live genuinely and openly with God and each other.

Alive Truth

We use Biblical truth in relatable and understandable ways.

Student Leadership

We aspire to train, coach, and release student leaders to grow in influence and gifting.

The Least of These

We aspire to bring the Kingdom to those overlooked and helpless.

Check-out a Program

Take a look at the various ministries we have to know which ones you would be interested in considering.

Mn'M (Monday Night Mayhem) – The Garage, 6-6:30pm (clubhouse); 6:30-8:30 (youth group)

This is our large group designed for middle school students (6th-8th grade). During clubhouse, students hang-out, play games, and interact with each other. Around 6:30, we begin a group game and eat pizza. Afterwards, we have a teaching and break out into small groups for sharing and prayer. The aim is for community, worship, and spiritual formation, while any one of those values may take the forefront for the evening. Students are welcome to invite friends and the atmosphere is open enough for them to feel comfortable.

Volunteer Roles:

- Small Group Leader
- Game Coordinator
- Worship Leader or Musician
- Audio/Visual
- Hospitality (food and service)
- Teaching
- Setting up and tearing down
- Event Coordinator (EG., *Overnighters, Outings, Lock-ins, Summer Camp, Mission's Trip*)

Senior High Small Groups – In Various Homes throughout the week

During the week we offer Bible study, discussion, prayer and friendship for senior high students in the various homes in which we meet. The groups are intended to care for and encourage students in their Christian lifestyle. The first Wednesday of the month small group leaders will meet to plan and pray over their groups. The rest of the weeks are devoted to small groups.

Volunteer Role:

- Area Small Group Leader
- Area Small Group Leader Assistant (Leader in training)
- Area Small Group Host

The Filling Station – The Garage, 5-7pm

During the month, we may offer several Sunday Night student led services, outreaches, or socials. Students are encouraged to help in leading games, worship, announcements, teaching and prayer groups every Sunday. The night is designed to allow students to grow in their gifts, learn leadership, and reach their peers or neighborhood in a natural way. We want the students to be able to have fun and get new students, to get challenged with deep, relevant teaching, and to go after God. We want the space to be comfortable but intentional.

Volunteer Roles:

- Social Organizer
- Outreach Organizer
- Hospitality – Food
- Hospitality – Environment
- A/V Specialist
- Teacher
- Game Planner
- Musician or Worship leader
- Set-up or Tear Down Helper

Connecting Point – The Garage

10:30-11:15

All youth are invited to connect with each other and new students in this intermittent period between services. Adults are needed to pray over the area beforehand and oversee the various games and activities being played while getting to know students better and helping them connect and care for each other.

Administrating and Coordinating Events

Overseeing and organizing any of our missions, adventure, and outreach events are one of the many ways to use your gifts and passions. If you have any desire to help plan and administrate such events, let Brian know! This is a KEY component to youth ministry and a big help to the pastoral staff and church when done well! These events help build momentum and plant seeds in our kids that will sprout throughout the course of their lives! Some events we presently have planners that you could intern under OR investigate are:

- § Backyard Bash (September)
- § Cloud 9 Vineyard Fall Retreat (October) <http://www.cloud9retreat.com/>
- § New Year's Adam Lock-in (December)
- § 30 Hour Famine (February) <http://www.30hourfamine.org/>
- § Summer of Service Vineyard Youth Conference (June) <http://www.summerofservice.com/>

Talk with me if you are interested in helping administer events.

What Am I Committing To?

- Consistent attendance to a program—we ask that you arrive fifteen minutes before and stay fifteen minutes afterwards. These extra minutes become key relational times with students.
- Relational ministry with students during the week. We ask that you invest roughly one half hour of extra time per week for follow-up with students through notes, phone calls, hanging-out, etc...
- Attendance and involvement to a monthly staff meeting
- Growing as a Christian and consistent Christian lifestyle

Our goal for you, if you should join our leadership team, is for you to become more of an independent minister, enjoying your relationships with students and not one solely dependent on the program for interaction:

- Time: be patient; feeling comfortable and connecting with students takes time.
- Participation: Going on special events (SOS, Cloud 9, overnigher, etc...) will help intensify and solidify your relationships with students.
- Initiative: the more you invest, the more you will get out of it. Your relationships will grow deeper as you invest your time.

The Application Process: How do I become a youth ministry volunteer?

1. Express interest: If you have an interest in serving God by helping students but you are unsure where, we can help you with this. Just showing interest does not commit you in any way to serving in this ministry. We see it as a step in discovering how you can best grow and serve Jesus in this local church body.
2. Initial Contact by Church Staff: This is an opportunity for us to briefly talk with you and learn about your desire to do youth ministry. We can give you a general overview of the ministry then and make an arrangement for you to visit one of our programs if desired.
3. Receive Youth Ministry Material: This information will allow you to know more about us and to know how you can serve in this ministry.
4. Observe Programs: Come to one of our events and see what happens during that time.
5. Complete Application Packet and S.H.A.P.E. description or Spiritual Gift Inventory: After you observe a program or two you'll have an idea of how you may want to serve. Also, the inventory should help us know how God made your passions and planned your experiences so that we find the best fit for you to serve. We realize the packet asks probing and reflective questions. We want to make sure you and the youth will be a good fit for each other and we value your time and energy. All questions of a sensitive nature will be held confidential.
6. Interview with Youth Pastor: During this time, it will allow you to share where you are in your spiritual journey and how the answers from your spiritual gift inventory fit with what we can offer you in terms of service. This is a chance for you to also ask any questions about our ministry as we ask questions to get to know you.
7. Prayerfully Consider Your Commitment: If you are offered a place to serve, we'll give you a commitment sheet for the position and ask you to pray over your decision before committing. Please consult your family and friends during this time, too.
8. Return Commitment Sheet: If you feel led by the Lord and without reservation, sign the sheet and join the team. Hand this in to Brian once you have finished.
9. Begin Ministry and Have an Evaluation Meeting: After your first few times of service, we'd like to get with you to hear how your experience has been and how we can make it more rewarding for you.

At this point, you may be feeling overwhelmed with all the information. Let me tell you our church wants to offer you if you were to serve in this ministry:

- Structure and leadership
- Encouraging words
- Training and learning opportunities
- Prayer and accountability
- Challenge to develop your ministry and personal giftings

Above is a description of our present ministries. I'd ask for you to continue below and fill-out information about yourself so that we can get to know you a little. Thanks!

Vineyard Community Church
Youth Ministry Volunteer Application



Personal Information

Name _____ Date _____

Social Security Number _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Cell Phone _____ Email _____

Date of Birth _____ Work Status: part time full time student

Marital Status: married divorced single

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 (include date). You may write on the back of this application or provide an additional sheet.

Write briefly about significant events in your life that have impacted you spiritually. You may write on the back of this application or provide an additional sheet.

Describe several ways in which you have grown in your spiritual journey since you became a Christian.

Describe your spiritual journey now.

What accountability do you currently have in your spiritual journey? Explain.

What do you do when you have conflict with someone? How do you handle confrontation?

How long have you attended the Vineyard? _____

Do you attend a Home Group? If so, which one? _____

List (name, city, and contact information) other churches you have attended in the last five years. Please explain why you left.

List previous work experience in the area for which you are applying, describing the roles you performed. If you require more space, please add another sheet.

List any gifts, training, education, or other factors that have prepared you for this kind of ministry. How would you like to use them?

Why do you want to do youth ministry?

Applicant's Statement of Integrity

The following questions are very personal and of a sensitive nature. We pray that you understand that these questions are not asked to cause you any shame or foster any feelings of condemnation. In caring for students, we believe it is our responsibility to seek an adult youth worker that is able to provide healthy, safe, and nurturing relationships. Please answer the following questions accordingly. Any special concerns can be discussed individually with pastoral staff. *All information contained in this application will remain confidential.*

Are you using any illegal drugs? yes no

Have you ever gone through treatment for alcohol or drug abuse? 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 a victim of any form of child abuse? yes no

If yes, would you like to speak to a counselor or pastor? yes no

Is there any other issue in your life that you think would inhibit your ability to effectively minister to teenagers that should be known (use of pornography, outbursts of anger, struggle with homosexuality, areas of lacking self control, etc...)? yes no

If yes, please explain.

The information contained in this application is correct and complete. Since ministry with youth requires the highest degree of integrity and accountability, I (1) authorize any person or organization in this application to render written or oral evaluation which frankly discusses my character and fitness; (2) release any such person or organization from liability incurred thereby; (3) waive any right to inspect such evaluations; (4) agree to refrain from unscriptural conduct (see 1 Timothy 3:1-13); (5) authorize the Youth Pastor to make a request for a Criminal History report (see below two paragraphs); (6) agree to inform the Youth Pastor if any information in this application is no longer complete or correct.

I, the undersigned applicant (also known as "consumer"), authorize Vineyard Community Church through its independent contractor, LexisNexis, to procure background information (also known as "consumer report and/or investigative consumer report") about me. This report may include my driving history, including any traffic citations; a social security number verification; present and former addresses; criminal and civil history/records; and the state sex offender records.

I understand that I am entitled to a complete copy of any background information report of which I am the subject upon my request to Vineyard Community church, if such is made within a reasonable time from the date it was produced. I also understand that I may receive a written summary of my rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act.

Applicant's Signature _____

Date _____

Once you are finished with this application, please submit it to the church office or youth pastor. All applications will be kept confidential.

Personal References: Please fill out at least three of the four references below.

Name: _____	Nature of Relationship: _____
Length of Time Known: _____	Home Phone: _____
Cell Phone: _____	Email: _____

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Length of Time Known: _____	Home Phone: _____
Cell Phone: _____	Email: _____

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