

# Breakthrough Youth Internship Information

2015/2016



We feel that internships in youth ministry help prepare the next generation for ministry. We want to encourage our interns to continue learning, engage with students, and build their faith through a practical application of Youth ministry.

Version 1.1



# Breakthrough Youth Internship Guidelines

## Job Objective:

- The objective for all Internships is to work together with our Youth Director and our Youth Leadership Team (YLT) to serve, lead, teach, mentor, and encourage youth of Faith United Methodist Church in their walk with Jesus Christ.
- Each Intern will be given well-rounded, “hands on” practical experience in Youth Ministry.
- Our goal is that each Intern would leave their internship with a strengthened faith, a confirmed sense of calling into ministry, and an understanding of the inner workings of running a youth ministry.

## Requirements:

- Spirituality—Each Intern must have a personal and living faith in Jesus Christ. All Faith United Methodist Church Interns should not only see themselves as spiritual mentors for the youth, but as living examples for what living for Christ is like.
- Education—All Interns should have completed their junior year of college.
- Transportation—Interns should have access to some form of transportation.

## Organization:

- The Intern will work under the direct supervision of the Youth Director. It is understood that the Intern will also be under the general guidance of the Youth Council.
- Breakthrough Youth and the Children’s Ministry work hand in hand with one another. With this in mind, the Children’s Director may also work with the Intern, providing direction and help when the Youth Director is not available.
- The Youth Intern will be recognized as a staff member of Faith UMC. Therefore they will agree to the policies and employee standards as established by our Staff Parish Committee.

## Project Responsibilities:

- Working together, the Intern will enhance the existing program through experiences in leadership, evangelism, fellowship, outreach, fun and mission.
- The Intern will aid in planning seasonal events as well as help write and prepare curriculum for weekly meetings.
- Interns will work with the Youth Director to meet the requirements of their school’s internship program. A list of requirements should be attached to the application for consideration by the Youth Director, Staff Parish, as well as the Youth Council.
- The Intern will work primarily with our 7<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> grade students in small groups.

## Weekly Responsibilities:

- Pray for our students’ list of prayer requests, the ministry, the team, and the students.
- Maintain contact with students and parents during the week through approved texts, emails, visitation, etc. Continue to encourage and lift up students in their present circumstances.

- The Intern will meet weekly with the Youth Director to talk about growth, what they have learned, experiences and development. These conversations will also include planning and visioning for the ministry in the short and long term.
- Attend weekly meetings and planning sessions.
- Organize, prepare, and execute formal and informal activities during the duration of the internship that are designed to help our teens grow in their faith.

### **Additional Guidelines:**

#### General:

- The intern will be given liberties toward brainstorming and implementing his/her ideas within the Youth Ministry. All ideas and activities must be presented to the Youth Director before they are carried out.
- Interns will have the responsibility of speaking to our students, parents, church members and staff. Breakthrough Youth Ministry believes each conversation should be full of respect and Christian reverence. We refer to Colossians 4:6 that says, "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt..."

#### Relationships:

While a Youth Ministry Intern is expected to form relationships with the teens, it is important that the Intern recognize their role.

- An Intern will understand that they are a spiritual mentors and not peers.
- An Intern may not under any circumstances become involved in a dating relationship with any youth group member.
- Interns are to never give one on one rides to youth members and avoid circumstances that would place them in a one on one setting with a youth member.
- While we do not want to discourage personal relationships, it is critical to understand that there is a line between being a friend and serving as a spiritual mentor.
- It is important that the Intern conduct themselves in such a way as to constantly bring honor to God as well as to never call into question their integrity or motivation.
- An Intern will recognize that they are only a temporary leader in this youth ministry, and that relationships built will be regarded as such.

#### Behavioral Standards:

Because you model Christ to our youth we ask our Interns to commit to refrain from activities that would cause a new believer to stumble. These include...

- Obscene language
- Use of illegal drugs
- Abuse of drugs or alcohol
- Sexual immorality

Compensation:

Compensation for this position will be discussed and decided upon by the Staff Parish, Youth Director and Finance Committee. Benefits may vary year to year depending upon available funds, position, and duration of the internship.

Our current stipend for an intern will be \$50 per week.

Time expected:

Internships during the school year will have very flexible office hours, but will expect approximately 20 hours per week spent on the Breakthrough Youth Ministry in its various forms. These include weekly activities, planning meetings, study and prep, as well as time spent with students. Many of these hours will take place on weekends, primarily on Sundays.

Goals:

Before the internship begins, the Intern and Youth Director will create a list of goals concerning experience, programs, growth and outcomes they wish to see during the internship. These goals will help focus the internship and help create tangible changes that will affect the ministry and the Intern in positive ways.

Hiring Process:

Applications must be turned in by February 29, 2016. These applications will be processed by the Youth Director, who will select candidates to meet with. Candidates that meet our criteria will then be selected to move on to interview with our Youth Council. A decision is to be made by April 10<sup>th</sup>.

Please note that this is by no means a comprehensive document. This serves only to provide an example of the philosophies regarding our Internship program.

**I have read and understand the responsibilities of the Breakthrough Youth Ministry's Internship Program.**

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

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

# Breakthrough Youth Ministry

## Internship Application

Please attach a resume, as well as complete and mail or email back to Faith United Methodist Church.  
Att: Youth Director 22045 County Road 18 Goshen, IN 46528 or elkhartfaith@faithumc.com, subject line,  
"Youth Internship."

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Years in College: \_\_\_\_\_ Major/Minor: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Church Affiliation/Membership: \_\_\_\_\_

### Please attach answers to the following questions:

- What are three gifts you bring to youth ministry?
- What experience do you have working with youth? How have your experiences shaped your call to serve?
- What are your primary reasons for seeking to serve as an intern? What outcome or goals do you hope to achieve?
- What extracurricular activities are you involved in and how would those shape your ministry at Faith?
- What personal strengths would you bring to our ministry and what areas of growth do you hope to build upon during the internship?
- How is God calling you right now? What ministry of vocation do you think God is drawing you towards and how does this internship work with that?
- Describe your relationship with God and Jesus Christ and how this internship works with your overall Christian journey.

### Reference:

Please attach two letters of recommendation, one of which is from a Pastor or spiritual mentor not associated with Faith UMC.