



## **Philosophy of the Glorify Ministry of North Main Baptist Church**

- Music **prepares** the heart of the worshipper and the worship leaders to receive a revelation of God through His Word and by His Spirit.
- Music is a **worship** experience. Appropriate music can not only prepare people for worship, but it can be a worship experience in itself. Good church music will focus attention to the living God.
- Music is a tool that **Engages**. Music in the church should lift up the name of Jesus and present the gospel message in a clear and concise way. Music that presents Christ as alive promotes an atmosphere of celebration!
- Music is a tool that **Equips**. Scripture, theology and Christian principles can all be taught through sacred music. This is why the message in song is so important.
- Music is a tool that **Encompasses**. Gospel music should not be used as a platform to showcase one's talents and abilities. Music in the church should be used to present "the unsearchable riches of Jesus Christ" to everyone.

## **Worship Choir**

### **I. Membership**

The Worship Choir has an open enrollment all through the year. Scripture says, "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord". The requirements for membership are a heart that loves music, a desire to serve through music, a commitment to rehearsal times and worship services as well as being a member of North Main Baptist Church.

### **II. Attendance Policy**

Consistent attendance is a **vital** part in the success of the Worship Choir at North Main Baptist Church. If you must be absent from rehearsal or a Sunday worship service, please mark the calendar in the choir room accordingly or call/e-mail the office at 836-4892 or [asmith@northmainbc.net](mailto:asmith@northmainbc.net). In the event of three consecutive missed rehearsals and/or worship services without prior notification, the choir member will have their name moved to an inactive status and their folder could be reassigned. **PLEASE CALL IF YOU ANTICIPATE YOUR ABSENCE!** You are asked to be at Wednesday evening rehearsal even if you won't be in attendance on the following Sunday. Also, if you must be absent from rehearsal on Wednesday, we still encourage you to sing on Sunday. If you are a new choir member or you have been moved to inactive status you must attend **2 consecutive** rehearsals before singing in a worship service. Again, consistency is the key to the excellence in worship leadership for which we strive.

### **III. Service Dress**

As part of the worship service, it is our responsibility to maintain a professional and modest image. Ladies' skirts or dresses should cover the knees. Dress pants may also be worn by ladies. Collared shirts are required for men. No jeans!

#### IV. Folder and Chair Assignments

A folder will be assigned to you on your first night of rehearsal by a choir officer. After each rehearsal and service, folders should be returned to the music room.

Seating is divided by voice part (1<sup>st</sup> Soprano, 2<sup>nd</sup> Soprano, Alto, Tenor & Bass).

Please sit in your appropriate section. **There are no assigned or permanent seating assignments in the Worship Choir.**

#### V. Music

Music will remain in your folder at all times. Music that you should have in your folder will be listed each week on the Choir Notes. Please make note of the selections/books that need to be in your folder and prepare it accordingly. Please return music when it is no longer listed on the choir notes.

Music can be picked up on the front table **before** rehearsal. Please make an effort to have all the selections you will need for the nights rehearsal so that valuable rehearsal time is not wasted passing out music. Music should be returned to the return box under the folder slots.

Weekly congregational music should also be picked up from the front table and should be discarded after use.

#### VI. Worship & Rehearsal Schedules

##### **On Sunday:**

Services begin at 10:55am.

1. Be in the choir room ten (10) minutes prior to the service time, **ready to lead in worship.**
2. When exiting the choir loft, exit from the closest rear door of the loft beginning with the front row and moving back. Do not close your folder and turn to leave until the row in front of you has exited. Return to the Sanctuary as quickly as possible remembering not to cross in front of the pulpit.

##### **On Wednesday:**

1. Rehearsal begins promptly at 6:30 pm and will end at 8:00 pm.
2. Before rehearsal, **get your folder** (be sure to always check and make sure you have the correct number), **pick up the choir notes** (front table), **pick up the congregational music** (front table), **pick up any new music** (front table), and fill out a prayer request form if appropriate. Music **WILL NOT** be passed out during rehearsals.
3. Be sure to get your name tag before you take your seat as it helps us to learn everyone's name!

#### VII. Worship Choir Officers Job Descriptions

##### **President**

- Arrange choir seating for Sunday AM Worship service
- Plan Quarterly choir fellowships with the help of Minister of Music and Choir officers
- Co-ordinate/Oversee Care group leaders in the assimilation of new choir members (i.e. Folder numbers, Music, Choir Enrollment cards, Choir Bereavement Cards, seating, etc.)
- Full-fill duties of Absent choir officers and Care group leaders
- Full-fill other duties as assigned by the Minister of Music

##### **Vice-President**

- Greet new member and direct them to a Care group leader
- Aid choir president in full-filling duties
- Act as choir president in the event the president is absent

## Secretary

- Record choir attendance on a weekly basis and for special rehearsals
- Inform Minister of Music and respective Care group leaders of members with consecutive absences
- Send Birthday Cards and Bereavement Cards to choir members at the appropriate times
- Organize meals for Choir members at appropriate times
- Send a Welcome Letter to New Members after their second consecutive visit
- Send choir evaluation form to new choir members after 3 months

## Treasurer

- Oversee the choir checking account
- Oversee all collections of and pay all expenses (as approved by choir president and Minister of Music) from the choir fund
- Oversee the purchasing candy for the candy bowl
- Work with choir secretary to fulfill choir bereavement card wishes
- Keep choir president and Minister of Music informed of choir checking account balance

## Care group Leaders

- Help orient new choir members in respective section
- Contact choir members in case of consecutive absences
- Contact choir members about special rehearsals
- Contact new choir members personally after 1<sup>st</sup> visit, 3<sup>rd</sup> visit, and 6 months
- Inform Minister of Music and choir president of choir member needs

## Social Chair

- Work with Minister of Music and choir president to provide quarterly fellowships
- Help organize and prepare choir Christmas dinner
- Plan/organize snack and refreshments for special rehearsal
- Plan/organize meals for special rehearsals if requested

## VIII. Care Contacts

Care contacts are personal contacts from the choir secretary, music office, or care group leader to choir members. The schedule is as follows and should be carried out by the music office, choir officers, and care group leaders

Week 1 –	Welcome Letter from M of M
	Contact from care group Leader
Week 2 -	Contact from choir secretary
Week 3 -	Contact from care group leader
3 Months -	Contact from secretary
6 Months -	Contact from care group leader
	Evaluation from music office



## **Guidelines/General Information**

### **Choirs**

**Worship Choir** – This choir has an open enrollment to all church members age 18+ and leads in worship every Sunday morning in the 10:55 service by supporting congregational singing, as well as, delivering a special musical testimony. This choir also presents music on special occasions and for special services (i.e. Christmas, Easter, Spring Worship Experience). Rehearsal is on Wednesday nights from 6:30 – 8:00.

**Youth Choir** – This choir has a completely open enrollment to Students in 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades. The purpose of this choir is to teach teens how to participate in worship as well as how to lead in worship through music. This choir occasionally presents music in our Sunday Evening Worship Services and takes a tour in the summer. Rehearsal is on Sunday afternoons from 4:30 – 5:15, August through May.

**Children's and Cherub Choirs** – These choirs have an open enrollment for kids age 3-5 (Cherub) and grades 1-5 (Children's). Using the Children's Music Series from Lifeway, these choirs teach kids who God is and how to worship Him, as well as, basic musicianship. These choirs occasionally present music in our Sunday Evening Worship Services as well as present special programs at Christmas and in May. Rehearsal is on Sunday afternoons from 5:00 – 6:00, August through May.

**Sunshine Choir** – This choir has an open enrollment for adults age 55+. This choir occasionally presents music in our Sunday Evening Worship Services and monthly at area nursing and retirement homes. Rehearsal is on Tuesdays from 10:00 – 11:00, September through May.

### **Praise Band/Team**

The Praise Band/Team of North Main Baptist Church's primary role is to glorify God by enhancing our congregational worship on a weekly basis. This is a group of auditioned instrumentalists and vocalists who support our congregational singing in 8:30 Sunday morning worship service and the Sunday evening worship service as well as perform for special events. This group rehearses at 8:00 on Sunday Mornings and at 5:15 on Sunday afternoons, as well as, special rehearsals as called.

### **Accompanists**

Our accompanists are compensated on a per session basis and are hired by the Personnel Committee at the advisement of the Minister of Music and the Music Committee. Their duties include regularly scheduled worship services and choir rehearsals, as well as, special events and rehearsals. Currently, we have 2 accompanists for Sunday morning services, and 2 different accompanists for Sunday evenings. It is also the responsibility of the Sunday morning accompanist to accompany the Worship Choir when appropriate, as well as play for Wednesday evening choir rehearsals.

Currently, accompaniment for any other choir, other than the Worship Choir, is done on a volunteer basis (i.e. Sunshine Choir, Youth Choir, Children's Choirs).

Accompaniment or performance for events such as Weddings, Funerals, and soloist are not required nor directed by North Main Baptist Church and compensation should be discussed between the two parties involved. If someone contacts the church and wishes to use an accompanist of North Main Baptist Church they will be given the accompanists information to contact them directly.

The Music committee will conduct semi-annual interview with each accompanist.

### **Accompanist Schedule**

#### **Sunday Morning**

8:00 – Rehearse with Praise Band for Sunday am worship

8:30 – Worship service

10:45 – Report to Choir Room

10:55 – Worship service

#### **Sunday Evenings**

5:15 – Rehearse with Praise Band for Sunday pm worship

6:00 – Worship service (offertory needed unless otherwise instructed)

#### **Wednesday Evenings**

6:30 – 8:00 Choir rehearsal

### **Soloist/Ensembles**

Soloists and Ensemble members should be active members of North Main Baptist Church, exceptions may be made by the Minister of Music. Unfamiliar guest soloists should have competent recommendations and/or an audition by the Minister of Music. Soloist/Ensembles should not take choir rehearsal time to practice with accompanist. If at all possible the accompanist and/or band should be given the music at least one week in advance. If the soloist is singing with CD or tape accompaniment, rehearsal (sound check) with the sound tech is required (this should not take place during Praise Band rehearsal). The soloist/ensemble should contact the sound tech to set up an appropriate time.

In general, song selections should fit with the pastor's sermon or worship theme and should be discussed with the Minister of Music no later than one week in advance. If this is impossible it is always appropriate to sing a song of praise to God.

Soloist's dress should be modest. Ladies should not wear anything that is too tight, too baggy, too short or too low. Also no spaghetti straps. Men should wear dress pants or Khakis with a collared shirt. A tie is encouraged for Sunday mornings.

### **Library**

Music Library is located in the music suite. All Christmas music and Children's music is located in the children's choir closet in the Multi purpose room. See the music library notebook located in the music library for filing details. Any music taken from the library should be checked out through the music office.

### **Contact information:**

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