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Student Leadership Team Application

State Youth Council of the TN Church of God

2016-2017

*Applications will be reviewed and applicants will be contacted for an interview as part of the selection process.
Interviews will most likely take place in January or February.*

Please type the information asked for below.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Today's date:

Name:

Date of birth:

Age:

Grade in high school 2016-2017:

Current address:

City/State:

Zip:

Current Phone (home):

E-mail:

Contact Parent(s) full name(s):

Address if different than listed above:

Home Church and Pastor:

How long have you been attending your home church?

Mailing address (if different from the above)

City/State:

Zip:

Phone:

Are you planning on attending the 2016 State Youth Convention?

PERSONAL AND SPIRITUAL HISTORY

(If you are using this form as a hard copy, feel free to attach an additional sheet with numbered answers if necessary.)

1. Write a brief testimony about how you came to know Christ and when.

2. Write about one or more significant events in your life that have impacted your faith development.

3. How would you describe your spiritual journey at this time? Circle your answer.

Distant from Christ Close to Christ
1.....2.....3.....4.....5.....6.....7.....8.....9.....10

Tell about a specific event or happening in the last six months that illustrates why you placed yourself where you did on this scale.

4. Who is the person with whom you have the most meaningful accountability relationship right now in your spiritual journey? (For example - youth pastor, Sunday school teacher, mom and/or dad, friend, etc.) What is it about him/her and your relationship that helps you on your spiritual journey?

5. Give a brief statement about your home life: occupations of parent(s), religious, and social life in your home.

6. What do you do when you experience conflict with someone? How do you generally handle confrontation? Circle your answer.

I fight back I try to understand the other point of view.
1.....2.....3.....4.....5.....6.....7.....8.....9.....10

Tell about a specific event or happening in the last six months that illustrates how you handle conflict.

7. What do you sense is God's call for you in the next year?

8. Describe briefly your areas of personal involvement in the local church and in the work of the Church of God in your district.

9. Describe how you feel about being considered as a nominee for the Student Leadership Team. What do you think you could bring to the team (ex. leadership, creativity, etc.) and why do you want to be a part?

10. How do you get along with persons of racial, economic, and cultural backgrounds different than your own?

11. Describe your general attitude toward the church – local, state, and national. Circle your answer.

Often Frustrated Generally Hopeful
1.....2.....3.....4.....5.....6.....7.....8.....9.....10

Expound on your answer.

Please list below the names and addresses of the three persons to whom you are sending the enclosed reference forms (these should be persons who are familiar with you and your involvement in the church). One of these must be your pastor and/or youth leader. Include at least one reference from outside of your local congregation. This could be a teacher, coach, or employer (No Relatives Please)

Name Complete Mailing address – include e-mail if available.

1.

2.

3.

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO:

Chris & Carie Ricketts
1633 Pineola Ave
Kingsport, TN 37664

Student Leadership Team Commitment

After spending time in prayer and discussing with my family the commitment necessary to be an active part of the TN Church of God Student Leadership Team, I commit to the following:

- I acknowledge the Lordship of Jesus Christ in my life and have a relationship with Him.
- I am committed toward growing and maturing in my relationship with Christ through consistent, intentional time alone with Him, involvement in some type of accountability, and participation in a community of faith.
- I commit to striving for a servant attitude. Mark 10:45 (NLT) says, "The Son of Man came here not to be served but to serve others." Serving others is the focus rather than pride, ego and boasting.
- I am committed to make choices and live a lifestyle that are godly and "above reproach," knowing that others will follow my example. A litmus test on media and all actions would simply be: "Would Christ be approving of this?"
- I commit to live by a **HIGHER STANDARD**. The Bible commands us to "abstain from every appearance of evil" (1 Thessalonians 5:22 NAS). Those in leadership should have a godly hatred of sin and should be willing to walk away from anything that might have the appearance of evil. Student Leadership Team members are expected to avoid alcohol, tobacco, and other illegal drugs. Members are also expected to stay away from places that would be hindrances to their witness.
- I commit to supporting the leadership of the Tennessee Youth Ministries as well as the other members of the Student Leadership Team by being loyal in words and actions. If there is a problem, I will go directly to the person with whom I have an issue. I will strive to live out Ephesians 4:29.
- I commit to attend three planning meetings consisting of possible overnight stays in January, May, and September (at Fall Retreat).
- I commit to attending and supporting the State Youth Events – Youth Convention and Fall Retreat
- I commit to make contacts through letters, e-mails, or phone calls to promote youth events both on the state and district level.
- I will be available to communicate and promote State Youth Convention, Fall Retreat, and Youth Camps at area/state/district youth events.
- I commit to working at the SYC 2014 convention behind the scenes. I understand that I will have to be one hundred percent devoted to my role. I realize that I may not get to spend much time with my youth group.
- I commit to lifting the convention up in prayer and striving to fulfill our purpose: *to create a moment for life change*.
- I commit to completing any outside assignments I agree to, and **on time**.

I understand I am serving the church at large and will not do anything to jeopardize the integrity of the North American ministry. If for any reason I cannot complete my commitment, I will step away willingly.

Full name (please print) _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Parent's signature _____

Date _____

***Please sign and mail this form back with your application. Make one copy to keep for yourself.**

1 Timothy 4:12 (NIV):

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity."

December 10, 2016

Dear Parent,

Congratulations! Your youth has been recommended to be a part of the selection process of the State Youth Student Leadership Team for 2016 - 2017. You must have done a great job in parenting because being recommended for this team is a high honor.

Before we consider your child, we want to be sure you understand what this commitment would entail if he/she is one of four students chosen to be a member of the Tennessee Church of God State Youth Leadership Team.

The desire is to interview candidates in February. Candidates will be interviewed by a panel including the current State Youth Directors, members of the Congregational Ministries Team, as well as possibly past or current members of the State Youth Council.

Below we have highlighted some of the main responsibilities of a team member. This will help you get a picture of the commitment it takes to be on this team. Your student has received a commitment sheet that each future team member and his/her parent(s) will have to sign. Your signature will signify your commitment to encourage, support and empower your youth in his/her involvement on the team, if selected.

Your student would have to commit to the following if selected:

1. Your youth will be responsible along with the other three representatives for planning the State Youth Fall Retreat and the State Youth Convention.
2. Your youth will be required to attend two planning sessions. The target date for these sessions will most likely be September 2016 and January 2017.
3. In addition they are required to attend the 2016 State Youth Convention, the 2016 State Fall Retreat, and the 2017 Youth Convention. Youth Conventions are held in March/April each year and Fall Retreat is in September.
4. Your youth will be requested to visit district youth gatherings in your area to promote the convention.
5. Your youth will need to make contacts through letters, e-mails, or phone calls to youth in their district.
6. Your youth needs to be able to communicate with persons of all ages and of various cultural, racial, and economic backgrounds.
7. Your youth will need to understand that at the State Fall Retreat 2016 and State Youth Convention 2017 they will be working behind the scenes. At this convention they will need to be one hundred percent devoted to their role. It is important that you understand that your youth may not get to spend much time with their youth group

In turn, as the State Youth Directors, we commit our staff and ourselves to:

1. Encourage, support and empower Christ-centered leadership in your child.
2. Pay all of your youth's expenses incurred by attending the planning sessions for State Youth events (excludes district events) and the registration cost of convention and Fall Retreat.
3. Contact you if any concerns might surface regarding your child's commitment to the team.

Please read carefully the commitment sheet. Notice that your child must sign it. Your signature, also, indicates that you are in full agreement with the role and responsibilities of your child being on the TN Church of God Student Leadership Team if chosen. The State Youth Council believes in healthy families and so we want to do all we can to support you and communicate with you as parents. If for any reason you do not feel your child should be considered to be a part of this team, please e-mail us at chris@kingsportchurch.org or 423-782-7324 or 1633 Pineola Ave Kingsport, TN 37664.

In Christ,

Chris Ricketts

Carie Ricketts

Reference Form

TN Church of God Youth Student Leadership Team

_____ has been recommended as a candidate for the Student Leadership Team. This team will serve as the planning committee for the State Fall Retreat and the State Youth Convention. Team members need to be godly representatives of the younger generation and be able to communicate with various age groups and with persons of various cultural, economic and racial backgrounds.

Your ratings and comments will be kept in confidence. Please fill out both pages, being frank and honest. Feel free to use a separate sheet of paper for comments on any ratings that need further comment. Thank You.

How long have you known this person? _____

In what capacity? _____

Printed name of evaluator: _____

Signature of evaluator: _____ Date: _____

RELATIONSHIPS	Poor	Acceptable	Good	Excellent	Don't Know
Personal					
Appearance - Neatness, grooming, physical features.					
Emotional Stability - Self-Control, objectivity, sensitivity to others, mental health.					
Attitudes - Wholesome and positive attitudes toward others; sincerity and honesty.					
Social Skills - Ability to maintain cordial relations; cooperative, tactful, pleasant personality.					
Family Life - Happy and balanced homelife with family members.					
Knowledge - Wide range; informed on Bible, current events; studious.					
Response Under Pressure - Ability to manage conflict, accept criticism.					
Ministry					
Concern for Others - shows concern and compassion for others.					
Ministry Involvement - is a part of an active ministry .					
Church Attendance - is a regular part of the local church.					
Example - models a Christ like example.					
Team skills - able to listen to and influence others in a team setting.					
Other					
Spiritual Maturity - is an active growing disciple.					
Theological - Basic beliefs consistent with those held by the Church of God.					
Interpersonal Relationship - ability to relate to and work with peers, persons younger and older, persons with differing views, persons of different race and culture.					
Leadership skills - able to influence those around them in a positive way.					
Student Leadership Application Reference Form, page 1 of 2					

PLEASE GIVE FRANK EVALUATIONS OR COMMENTS

These comments and/or concerns will remain in confidence.

1. Please give your evaluation of the spiritual life and development of this individual.
2. List any special abilities he/she has.
3. What do you consider his/her greatest strength to be?
4. What do you consider his/her greatest weakness to be?
5. Team members will represent Church of God Youth Ministry in Tennessee. They will have a critical role in setting direction for the State Youth Events in 2016-2017. Do you have any concerns regarding this person being a part of this team? If so, please explain.

Thank you for taking the time to answer this form honestly.

If you have any questions regarding this reference form, please contact Chris or Carie Ricketts at 423-782-7324.

Your name _____ Position _____

E-mail _____ Date _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Work Phone (_____) _____

Please mail this form postmarked no later than February 8, 2016 to:

**TN Church of God State Youth Council Nominees
Attn: Chris & Carie Ricketts
1633 Pineola Ave.
Kingsport, TN 37664**