**Worship Band Covenant**

All those who play, sing and are a part of the worship band in any capacity are leaders in the student ministry and have a great responsibility with that role. Other people are watching you on stage and off stage, in the church, in school and everywhere else you go. Student leaders’ behavior outside of the church is as much a factor as when they are serving on stage. The huge scope of your influence necessitates the Student Pastor, as the head over this ministry, establish guidelines for all leaders that must be adhered to in order for students to remain in a leadership position.

Please understand we are not out to get anyone, but we are focused on lifting up and promoting the name of Jesus. This means all of us must live a life that is striving each day to become more like Christ. Does this mean we expect you to be perfect? No, but we do expect you to seek God and his forgiveness when you do fall.

The following covenant is for the student worship band/singers. They are in place to help guide you in your walk with Christ. This covenant is biblically based and is meant to encourage, as well as challenge you in your daily life. To look at it as ultimatums is to sell short the promise of God’s blessings in our lives when we seek Him and follow His ways instead of our own. We are not looking for perfect students, but we are looking for students who desire to grow in living a life of character and integrity. The following will be our standards for students serving in leadership in our worship band.

**1 Timothy** sets the standard for all leadership in the church and especially in Immanuel Student Ministries. One verse, in particular sets the mark for the student leaders in the IBC band. **4:12**- “*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****.*” This verse is a perfect example of how we, as leaders, should live our lives on a daily basis, at church or out in the world. This standard is biblical, ethical, moral and it is a great goal for our worship band. Here’s how it breaks down and is expected to be carried out for each member in the worship band:

***Speech***

* Strive to build others up and not tear them down others with your tongue.
* Stay clear of foul, vulgar, suggestive language.
* Ecclesiastes 5:6- “*Do not let your mouth lead you into sin…*”
* Eph 4:29, “*Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for the building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.*”
* Encourage one another
* James 3:10 “*From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so*.” How can you lead praise and worship if you have a mouth that regularly is ungodly?

***Life***

* “Social responsibility”- others are watching. Lead them in the right direction.
* Do what is right; strive to live a life of holiness.
* Don’t follow the crowd. Live for Christ even when others run away and try to take you with them.
* Set an example for others to follow in the way you handle yourself in your day to day life.
* Leading others in worship is a great privilege. What is in your life will overflow in worship.

***Love***

* Be kind to others.
* Set the example; accept those that others push away. Be kind when others are rude and mean spirited.
* Don’t bash others.
* Be known as a builder and encourager

***Faith***

* Have a personal devotion.
* Be actively growing in your walk with Christ.
* You cannot lead people to where you are not going.

***Purity***

* What you put in. (rated R movies, TV shows, Music)
* Internet Sites
* Who you are around. Remember, “bad company corrupts good character”.
* Sexually pure. The bible says, “*Flee sexual immorality.*”

**Other Guidelines:**

* Being on stage and in leadership requires you to strive to live a life focused on Christ. This includes your action away from the church in your day-to-day activities.
* Dress at practice and on stage must be in good taste and not distracting to those around or in the crowd. Your dress should not draw attention to yourself, which means…if it’s drawing attention to you, it is taking attention away from Christ.
* Stage area and surrounding areas must be kept neat and clean. Make sure you pick up loose papers, cords, etc.
* To be in the worship band you must faithfully attend the following activities.
	+ You need to regularly be at church on Sunday morning to play on Wed. Night.
		- We will provide exceptions here: If family situations, transportation issues, extenuating circumstances exist, you can talk to Warren and work out a plan. But it is unfair to others to just be involved for one hour on Wednesday night.
	+ You need to be involved in other activities at Immanuel as often as possible. We need disciples to lead, not performers for a show.

**Practice Guidelines**

* Be on time.
* Come with a good attitude.
* You must be at practice to play or sing on Wednesday night.
* Have your equipment plugged in and ready to go by the time practice is to begin
* Have music/chord charts with you and easily accessible when practice begins
* Give all your attention to the individual that is leading.
	+ When the leader is talking respect them by not playing, joking around, talking, etc while he is working through elements of the practice with you.
* Practice your music at home. No way to get better if not practicing.
* When possible, listen to the music prior to practice.
* On Wednesday nights pre-service warm-up/practice you need:
	+ To have all the music for that night practiced and ready to perform.
	+ To have any chord charts that you might need in front of you before practice begins.
	+ Be prepared for the run-through before the actual run-through takes place. This means know all chord/musical progression, have instrument set-up and plugged in, have any other supplies or music that is needed right in front of you.
	+ By the time Wednesday night arrives everything should be in place.

**New Band Members:**

* As we enlist new Band members each new person will be required to agree to the current Band Covenant, as listed above.
* Potential members will be required to be involved in the Student Ministry for 6 weeks before being allowed to audition.
	+ This includes them attending Sunday church and Wed. night worship.
* Potential Band members will be encouraged to come and sit and watch practice.
	+ This allows them to get to know the band.
	+ Plus it allows them to see how the band works together on music.
* Potential Band members will be required to go through an audition.

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