

Student Leadership at Immanuel
“It’s not Youth Ministry until youth are doing ministry!”



Student Leadership - Theology

Student leadership at Immanuel is a ministry that recognizes and affirms that:

- High school students are part of the body of Christ.
- Students are gifted by God to serve (Ephesians 4 and 1 Corinthians 12).
- Students are called to ministry in the church, school, home and community.

Internal and External Call to Student Leadership Ministry

Samuel received an “internal call.” God was calling and calling Samuel but it took time, and the discernment of Eli, to affirm that God was calling Samuel to a leadership role (1 Samuel 3).

Moses received an “external call” from God. He was reluctant and filled with excuses as to why he should not be a leader for God, but God called him, despite his excuses, and equipped Moses to be a gifted leader (Exodus 3 and 4).

Therefore, student leaders at Immanuel may receive an *internal call* to student leadership that needs to be encouraged and affirmed by the body of Christ, and Student leaders may receive an *external call* where others in the body of Christ recognize and affirm a student’s gifts for ministry. Both callings are valid and need to be affirmed. Both callings occur on God’s time and do not always fit neatly into our time frames and schedules.

Student Leadership Placement Process

Our goal is that call discernment for student leadership may occur within the following time-frame, fully recognizing that God’s schedule is not always the same as our schedule:

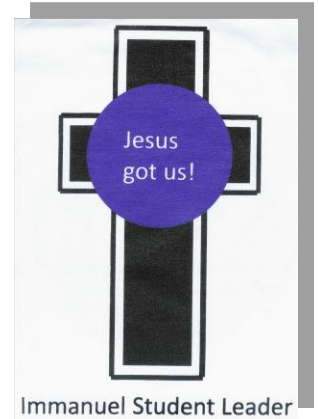
- ❖ In the Spring 9th graders and parents are introduced to the various forms of student leadership (Small Group Student Leaders, Tech Team Student Leaders, Program Team Student Leaders), and invited to prayerfully consider their calling to ministry.
 - **Program Team** serves as the up-front leadership on Wednesdays assisting with song leading, skits and announcements.
 - **Tech Team** provides technical support for the sound board, develops videos, slide shows and other technologies to support and enhance Immanuel’s youth ministries.
 - **Small Group** Student Leaders serve in Confirmation small groups. 10th grade student leaders may be placed in a 7th, 8th or 9th grade small group. (Please note: 10th grade students placed in a 8th or 9th grade group will have the option to be reassigned when that small group is confirmed, or these Student Leaders may choose to serve on the Tech Team, Program Team, or they may choose to complete their leadership commitment. All students seeking reassignment will be placed in a service ministry).
 - **Holy Commotion** Student Leaders are 10th-12th grade students who take a leadership role within Holy Commotion. These students will work closely with Erin & Jeanne and assist with: the selection of music; attending to group dynamics; spiritual leadership (prayer and care for others in the group).
- ❖ We hope that by July 1st all students feeling called to student leadership (either with internal or external call) would be able to be identified and recognized.
- ❖ From July 1 – 31 Immanuel staff will seek to tentatively place student leaders in a student leadership position (Tech Team, Program Team or Small Group Team).
 - Immanuel staff will ask Youth Ministry Team representatives to prayerfully review student leader placement for the purpose of affirming assignments and raising awareness of potential conflicts and issues. This is consistent with Biblical affirmation of giftedness within the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12).
 - This process is confidential until finalized. Immanuel staff and Youth Ministry Team are asked to keep this process in prayer and hold it in confidence (no sharing of student leader assignments with students or parents) until the process is complete.
- ❖ We aim to contact all potential student leaders by August 10th to:
 - Ask them if they are still feeling called to student leadership at Immanuel.
 - Discuss with them their calling (internal and external) and tentative placement.
 - Make adjustments to placements as needed.
- ❖ Our goal is to have all student leader positions assigned by August 15th

Student Leaders' Covenant

As a member of the Peer Ministry Trained Student Leaders at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Eden Prairie, MN, I understand the expectations that are placed upon me by the people I serve, my peers, and the leadership team. The guidelines below have been established by our Student Leaders. Please carefully read the following expectations and sign and date the bottom if you are in agreement.

The following list is expected to be followed when Student Leaders are in leadership positions in or outside of the church facility:

- I will ask for God's Holy Spirit and strength to enable me to be the best Student Leader that I can be.
- I will actively participate in growing my personal faith by:
 - Worshipping regularly.
 - Daily devotional habits (prayer and Scripture reading).
 - Participate in Senior High Faith Groups.
 - Participate in other Senior High trips, events and activities as possible.
- I will present myself as one who is an example and representative of Christ (Each day: at school, work, church and online).
- Confidentiality – with kids and each other (Except when a student threatens to harm themselves or someone else).
- Responsibility – to love and care for the people that God calls me to care for.
- Lead by example when at Immanuel (This includes: participating in actions with songs, listening, not talking during presentations, etc.)
- Lead by example when at school and when in the community.
- Bring my Bible to Confirmation each week (be a positive role model).
- Pray: for my ministry at Immanuel; for my friends at school; for my family.
- Do not use or be under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
- No cursing (face-to-face, texting or online).
- Do not gossip or carry on hurtful conversations.
- I will not sit with other Peer Ministry Trained Student Leaders during large group Confirmation. I will spread out to meet, greet and WHEAT students. I aim to provide a ministry of hospitality and welcome for all students (not just my friends).
- I will strive to include everyone – and not just work with my "favorite" students/friends.
- Make things fun!
- Appropriate dress (Consistent with our dress code policy).
- Be aware of my interactions with group members – I won't flirt during group time.
- I'll be on time, early if possible.
- I'll help other kids focus during large and small group times.
- I won't put other Peer Ministry Trained Student Leaders down.
- I will try to incorporate "wrong" answers given by students or other leaders into the "right" answer, be positive.
- I have the opportunity to request a "sabbatical" – a break (2-3 months) from my Student Leader commitments - after prayerful thought and discussion with Paul or Martin. This may be in the event of personal sickness, family issues, sporting conflicts or academic issues. However, this is not an excuse to skip a night of Confirmation due to my poor planning.



Name: _____ Date: _____

PEER
MINISTRY

March 2011