

Church Music Internship

(Pastoral Track)

What is this?

The Church Music *pastoral internship* is all about "**equipping saints for the work of ministry**" (Eph. 4:11-13) and *particularly* those individuals who are gifted in leading worship in song within the church and those who may aspire to pastoral ministry. This internship will involve and *require* both "heart and hands" (character & skill) gifting and will develop interns toward a stronger theology of worship, and more specifically *worship in song*. This internship will explore how music should be stewarded inside of a local church, as well as giving these pastoral interns practical opportunities to lead worship in song on Sunday mornings in the main gathering of the church.

Interns in this program will *usually* be invited to audit our *broader pastoral internship program* that meets every other week to equip men who aspire to pastoral ministry. Additionally, those in this internship will get to spend time with Kurt throughout each week (schedules will be flexible based on each intern) making this a very relational and practical program. They will be doing *real ministry* within the church (based on interest & gifting), leading worship in song (when appropriate) for different gatherings, as well as helping organize these different gatherings. They will be exposed to much Scripture and many topics through auditing the broader pastoral internship and be able to read 4 books (approximate number) as part of this music internship and discuss topics of interest related to church music. Short response papers (2 pages) will be required for different topics related to church music. This pastoral internship is designed to *shape and deepen* a biblical philosophy of music within the church.

Who's this for?

While we believe both men and women will play important roles within the music ministry at First Irving, *this particular internship* is targeted towards men who aspire to pastoral ministry. Usually those who participate with this pastoral internship will have already been members for more than 1 year and known broadly by the church. This internship seeks to develop men to have pastoral instincts as they lead and shepherd through song in the church. We want the pastoral music interns to begin to think *more like pastors* (even if they never become an elder/pastor in a church). We believe churches are *uniquely* and richly blessed to have *humble, gifted, biblically qualified* men who are deeply invested in the singing of the church.

Time Commitment Required?

The Church Music Internship **is at least a year-long commitment** (Two full semesters at least - Spring and Fall), but **usually works best over a two year period** of time to accommodate the amount of reading/work involved. We usually find that the more patient someone can be in this process, *the more effective* the Lord can make them in leading God's people in song each week. Only on *rare occasions* can this internship be accommodated to fit within a single semester. Speak with Kurt if you have specific questions about your situation.

How to apply?

The Church Music Internship **requires 3 steps** before being considered: **First**, that you love First Irving (the church as a whole) and have demonstrated this by becoming a covenant member of our church. **Second**, that you fill out the Church Music Pastoral Internship Application (see internship page on website). **Third**, you will meet with Kurt for an *informal* interview and audition to assess your fitness for this internship. This will involve talking through answers given on your application and additionally singing through a couple songs and/or playing your instrument. There *is* a level of musical skill required in order to participate in this internship.

If you have more questions about how you can be equipped within the Music Ministry, please don't hesitate to reach out to Kurt.

I hope you will consider this internship if you aspire to this kind of service and desire to see God's people shaped through music and song in the local church. I look forward to reading your application!

(curriculum below)

Pastoral Track Curriculum:

All pastoral interns will:

1. **Read** 4 books

- "**Corporate Worship**" by Matt Merker during their 1st semester (substitutions can be made if intern has read before)

- "**Does God Care How We Worship**" by Ligon Duncan during their 1st semester/year

- "**Worship Matters**" by Bob Kauflin during their 2nd semester/year.
(substitutions can be made if intern has read before)

- "**Worship by the Book**" by D.A. Carson during their 2nd semester/year.

2. **Discuss** these books with Kurt each week (or every other week) and ask relevant questions. *At least* 1 hour per week (or every other week) of time at the church is required for this internship.

[Example Topics]

- a. Discussion of "*Does God Care How We Worship?*" and the Regulative Principle of Worship.
- b. Discuss Carson's definition of worship in "*Worship by the Book*" and talk about specific applications for a local church. What should it teach us about how we use the word "worship" in the church?
- c. Discuss the question, "*How can singing be seen as a 'means of grace' for God's people? Explain how this might be according to Scripture.*"

3. **Write** 4 short papers (1-2 pages each, double-spaced)

[FIRST SEMESTER / YEAR]

-Response paper for "*Corporate Worship*" (due by the end of 1st semester)

-Paper on Col. 3:16-17 & Eph. 5:15-21 answering the question "*How do these passages practically effect your philosophy of music ministry within the local church?*" (due by the end of 1st semester)

[SECOND SEMESTER / YEAR]

-Response paper for "*Worship Matters*" (due by the end of 2nd semester)

-**Philosophy of Music Ministry paper**

4. **Memorize** Col. 3:16-17 & Eph. 5:15-21

(curriculum below)

5. **Create & Plan** their own order of service for a hypothetical Sunday gathering. Each intern will explain and defend their order of service to Kurt and other interns (if applicable)

Some pastoral interns may:

1. Help plan, lead, and sing all the songs in a specified Sunday gathering without Kurt on stage.
2. Be asked to participate in ***the general pastoral internship*** led by pastor Blair and the other pastors in the church.
3. Will serve as a leader/musician within the music ministry on Sunday mornings on rotation
4. Plan and lead a few songs for various other gatherings of the church (student ministry, member meetings, D-Now, etc)