

Church of the Palms Summer Internship Program

Purpose: The purpose of the church internship program is to intentionally create opportunities for growth in faith, leadership and service to our graduating high school students, undergraduates and seminary students, with good academic standing.

Scope: The program involves a ten-week service commitment, 35 hours per week, completed between May and September in one of four main program areas: mission, education, worship or creative arts. Participants select an area of service and work with the pastor, other interns, staff and committees to create opportunities to grow in faith, leadership and various skills.

Benefit: The program aims to benefit both interns, congregation, and pastor.

The intern receives the benefit of a small group, confirmation like experience in which they can continue to develop their spiritual gifts through working with other interns, the pastor and church leaders. The intern also stays connected to his or her home congregation, helping to create a sticky faith.

The congregation receives the benefit of the passion of our young people who direct their energy at specific church ministries centered around four areas: worship, education, mission and creative arts.

The pastor receives the benefit of a small group community for our college-aged young people who can use their spiritual gifts in the support of the expressed needs of the congregation.

Scholarship: Interns will receive a scholarship of \$4000 per summer of service completed to be used for higher education at college, university, or technical/trade schools. Any high school graduate who is registered for full time in the upcoming fall for college or technical school or seminary **and** who is a member (or parents are members) of Church of the Palms is eligible to apply for a summer church intern position.

Requirements:

- Interns must apply for the summer internship using the appropriate form, selecting a program area focus: worship, education, mission, creative arts
- Interns meet weekly with the pastor, staff and/or mentor in a small group session
- Interns meet regularly with the designated mentors in the areas in which they serve
- Interns complete all the requirements of their specified internship

PROGRAM AREA Examples:

Mission: an intern has the opportunity to focus on the outreach mission of the church (ex. Food Pantry, Day of Hope, Mission Adventure Camp, MS & HS Mission Trips). The intern would work with the pastor, the Global Mission Committee and the Youth Director to create opportunities for the intern and church community to participate in the mission project.

Education: an intern will use and develop his/her gifts in teaching, planning and reaching kids and adults throughout the summer. This could include Impact Kids, Small Groups, Teaching Nursery, Palms Preschool and Health and Fitness in the Palms Center. The intern would meet with the Family Ministry Team to create a plan to teach and help in this area.

Worship: an intern decides to focus on the worship ministry of the church (acolytes, music, hospitality, drama, worship planning) and works with the Pastor and the appropriate committee and mentor to create a specific plan to use one's spiritual gifts in the service of the church's worship life.

Creative Arts: Video/Film, Photography, Audio Engineer, Graphic Design, Web (Digital), Writing are some of the "behind the scene" areas an intern would focus on to participate in telling the stories of the church. The intern would meet with the Director of Community Engagement to develop action plan.