

The logo features three concentric, semi-circular arcs on the left side, rendered in a light gray color. To the right of these arcs, the word "Crossgates" is written in a bold, sans-serif font. Below "Crossgates", the word "Worship" is written in a larger, bold, sans-serif font.

# Crossgates Worship

Carrying **the transforming love of Jesus**  
to every longing heart

WORSHIP MINISTRY HANDBOOK  
2021-2022

# INDEX

- Worship Staff ..... 2
- Note from David ..... 3
- Worship Ministry Expectations ..... 4-5
  - Spiritual
  - Lifestyle
  - Musical
  - Reminders
  - Visual
  
- Digital Resources ..... 6
  - Planning Center
  - Music Stand
  
- Accountability ..... 7
  - Schedule
  - Connect Partners
  - Absences

# WORSHIP STAFF



## **DAVID OLIVER**

Worship Pastor

601.824.2737 | 601.941.4771 | doliver@crossgates.org

## **ALAN CAGLE**

Associate Pastor of Worship

NextGen Student Worship

601.824.2757 | acagle@crossgates.org

## **JONATHAN HENDERSON**

Associate Pastor of Worship

Worship Band

601.824.2763 | jhenderson@crossgates.org

## **GINA SULLIVAN**

KingSingers Children's Choir Coordinator

School of Worship Arts Director

601.825.2719 | gsullivan@crossgates.org

## **LIZ SHOWS**

Worship Administrative Assistant

Praise Team

601.824.2737 | lshows@crossgates.org

## **ELIZABETH TATUM**

Worship Ministry Assistant

601.824.2739 | etatum@crossgates.org

## **TOMMY CREEL**

Orchestra Director

Accompanist

## **LAURA CALLAHAN**

Accompanist

## **SARAH BEDFORD, LANDON DIAL, KRISTEN SANSING, BRIELLE WEST**

Worship Ministry Interns



Dear Worship Choir, Orchestra, Praise Team and Band Members,

Thank you for serving the Lord through the Worship Ministry of Crossgates Baptist Church. I am so grateful that you are giving your time and talents to the Lord in this way!

Your role in the Worship Ministry is vital to our weekly worship experience. Our mission each week is to carry the transforming love of Jesus to every longing heart. To obtain this goal, we must prepare ourselves spiritually, musically, and visually.

Inside this Worship Ministry Handbook, you will learn about membership, expectations, schedules, and online tools. Thank you once again for your desire to serve the Lord through music. We are so grateful for you and look forward to ministering alongside you each week!

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David". The letters are cursive and fluid, with a prominent "D" and "A".

David Oliver  
Worship Pastor

*Come, let us tell of the LORD's greatness; let us exalt His name together.  
Psalm 34:3*



# WORSHIP MINISTRY EXPECTATIONS

*Jesus replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind." > Matthew 22:37*

## SPIRITUAL

As a member of the Crossgates worship-leading family (Choir, Praise Team, Band, & Orchestra), your goal should be to constantly pursue God, deepening your relationship with Him. He wants you to draw near to Him, to worship Him, and to love Him more. Your daily pursuit of God will be evident in your everyday life as well as in your worship leadership. One of the key characteristics we want to focus on is our Christlike humility, which needs to be evident in our actions, attitudes and words.

*Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from His love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose.*

*Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.*

*Though He was God, He did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, He gave up His divine privileges; He took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When He appeared in human form, He humbled Himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross. Therefore, God elevated Him to the place of highest honor and gave Him the name above all other names, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. > Philippians 2:1-11*

## LIFESTYLE

As a worship leader, you are foremost a representation of the body of Jesus Christ and, as such, are expected to live a lifestyle that is above reproach. You should constantly endeavor to set a Christlike example in your personal life: in all places, in all of your activities, relationships, and conversations with and about others.

*And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all He has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind He will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship Him. > Romans 12:1*

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Remember that the things you post on social media can either help or hinder the cause of the Gospel. You must make every effort to use your influence to share Christ with others and help them to know Him better.

*So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.*

*> 1 Thessalonians 5:11*



## MUSICAL

### CHOIR

It is not necessary to have musical training to be a member of the choir. Auditions are not required, but you should be able to match pitch and memorize music. Staff members are glad to meet with you individually if you need help determining your proper voice section.

### ORCHESTRA

To participate in the orchestra, you should have at least two years of experience playing in a band or two years of private lessons. Auditions are not required. You should contact our staff prior to attending so that we will have rehearsal music available for your instrument.

### PRAISE TEAM & BAND

Members of the Praise Team and Band are chosen by audition. These people are dedicated to extra rehearsal time and individual preparation. Those who are interested in Praise Team or Band are invited to talk with our staff for more information.

### SOLOISTS

Soloists are chosen sometimes by audition; other times, the director will choose a soloist without the need for an audition. Because it is important to have the flexibility to hear the testimony of one song from the hearts of multiple people, solo songs are not permanently assigned and are interchangeable between soloists. Those who are interested in being considered for a solo are invited to talk with the director for more information.

## REMINDERS

- Be on time and don't leave early unless you have another obligation.
- Avoid walking in front of the director or pulpit.
- Walk softly when leaving stage, and walk quietly, moving directly to your seat.  
(using side aisles or back hallways to go around to the back of the Worship Center)
- In light of the microphones, please clap quietly but with energy.

## VISUAL

### EXPRESSIONS

The way you present yourself visually is a very important part of leading in worship each week. You need to be intentional about your visual engagement in worship through facial expressions and body language. At times when the congregation may not seem to be engaged in worship, you can let them see your own expression of worship, leading them to focus on Jesus.

### ATTIRE

What you wear each week in worship matters. It is important that your clothes are MODEST and fit properly (not too tight). As you get dressed for worship, you should take care not to choose clothes or jewelry that may draw undesired attention to yourself. Your goal each week is to point others to Jesus; therefore, you do not want anything you wear to distract from that goal.

### THINGS NOT TO WEAR

- > Sleeveless tops
- > Big logos/wording (except for Crossgates volunteer shirts)
- > Short skirts or dresses
- > Low cut tops
- > Hats
- > Wrinkled clothes
- > Colognes/scented lotions!!!



# DIGITAL RESOURCES

The Worship Ministry provides you with two online tools that are valuable resources: Planning Center ([planningcenteronline.com](http://planningcenteronline.com)) & Music Stand. From these apps/websites, you can listen to and look at upcoming music, and find contact information for other members. New members will receive a welcome email invitation to join. Worship Staff members are always ready to assist you.

## PLANNING CENTER

Download the free Planning Center Online app from Apple App or Google Play Store. Once you receive the welcome email to join, click the link, enter your email address and create a password. (If you are a current member, but don't remember your password, just tap "Need a new password?" to create a new one.)

Use these icons to navigate:

-  returns you to the "home" page
-  takes you to worship & rehearsal plans (choose the "Worship Ministry" folder)
-  takes you to the songs list
-  takes you to the member directory

The following web browsers are supported for these apps:

Google Chrome | Firefox  
Safari | Edge | Windows Mobile

Planning Center/Music Stand apps will not work with Internet Explorer.

## MUSIC STAND

Download the free Music Stand app from your Apple App or Google Play Store.

(Your password is the same as your Planning Center password.)

- > Click the "home" icon in the top left corner.
- > Choose the plan you want to rehearse.
- > Click the title of the song you want to see.
- > Click the play button at the top to listen.

## TABLETS/IPADS

Choir members are welcome and encouraged to use their own tablets/iPads to view their music digitally in rehearsals each week via the Music Stand app. Orchestra and band members will use tablets/iPads during rehearsals and Worship Encounters.

### CHECK OUT THE SHORTCUT: [PRACTICE.CROSSGATES.ORG](http://PRACTICE.CROSSGATES.ORG)

Get current DOCUMENTS and forms.  
Listen to & look at upcoming MUSIC.

ACCESS IT FROM YOUR TABLET  
OR PHONE:

Choose these folders in order:

- > "Crossgates Worship Ministry"
- > "practice.crossgates.org" (twice)
- > "Choose the date that appears"

*I will proclaim the name of the Lord; how glorious is our God! He is the Rock; His deeds are perfect.  
Everything He does is just and fair. He is a faithful God who does no wrong;  
how just and upright He is! > Deuteronomy 32:3-4*

# ACCOUNTABILITY



Attendance, participation, and punctuality for all rehearsals and Worship Encounters are all important factors in serving. Our church family looks to you as a worship leader, and effective leaders are committed to preparation. Your faithful, on-time, weekly attendance shows that you believe your worship leadership role is a priority. *(If you're not early, you're late!)* Our main responsibility is to lead Sunday AM Encounters. Please plan to lead both hours unless you have other responsibilities.

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### Sundays

- 8:00 AM Orchestra Warm-up (Worship Center)
- 8:40 AM Choir Warm-up for 1st Worship Encounter (Music Suite)
- 9:00 AM 1st Worship Encounter
- 9:25 AM Worship LifeGroup (Open to everyone; Music Suite)
- 10:10 AM Choir Warm-up for 2nd Worship Encounter (Music Suite)
- 10:30 AM 2nd Worship Encounter
- Bonus afternoon Choir & Orchestra Rehearsals as scheduled
- 6:00 PM Worship Encounter (Worship Center)

### Wednesdays

- 6:45 - 8 PM Choir Rehearsal (Music Suite)
- 6:45 - 8 PM Orchestra Rehearsal (Worship Center)

Special events (Night of Worship, Easter, Christmas, etc.) and bonus rehearsals are scheduled in advance.

**CHILDCARE** is provided during all rehearsals and services for 5th graders and younger. Reservations are not required for weekly rehearsals. Childcare for special events can be reserved online at [crossgates.org/choir](http://crossgates.org/choir) & [crossgates.org/orchestra](http://crossgates.org/orchestra).

## CONNECT PARTNERS

Our goal is to be 100% connected to each other as a family, helping each other along in our spiritual walk and personal prayer needs. To do this, each person in the choir and orchestra is paired with a Connect Partner and asked to minister to each other in these ways:

- > Each day, pray for your Connect Partner.
- > Once a week, contact your Connect Partner by text, talk, or email to encourage them and learn about their prayer needs.
- > Communicate any important info about your Connect Partner to a Worship Staff member that you think we need to know, such as illness or other ministry need.

## ABSENCES

We do understand that everyone will need to be out occasionally. Here are some easy ways to tell us about absences so that we can know when you will be out and how we can pray for you:

- > Contact your Connect Partner.
- > From [planningcenteronline.com](http://planningcenteronline.com), click "Block-Out Dates" in the left sidebar.
- > Contact us at [worship.crossgates.org](http://worship.crossgates.org) or 601.824.2737.

*I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all the marvelous things You have done. I will be filled with joy because of You. I will sing praises to Your name, O Most High. > Psalm 9:1-2*