

LEMC Youth Small Group Leader

The Mission:

“We are cultivating growing and passionate relationships with Jesus – Embodying the fullness of Christian Life, we inspire and empower the Next Generation to own their influence and build the Kingdom.”

The Win:

As a small group leader, we need you to invest in the lives of a few to encourage authentic faith. You win when teens take steps in their faith in Jesus and deepen their relationships with others in the group.

The main way of doing this is by practicing and fostering an environment for our **group values** to happen.

Broken

We are students who recognize that we are broken and provide safety for others to be broken.

Caring

We are students who believe in you, and believe that you can live a fulfilling life.

Generous

We are students who seek to pour the fullness of life we have received back into others.

Visionary

We are students who believe that Christ is for everyone, and desire to see the Spirit working in all our areas of influence.

Accountability:

Reports to the Next Generation Pastor (Aaron)

Qualifications:

- You love God.
- You are currently living a life in pursuit of God.
- You care about the next generation.
- You are committed to consistently investing in and caring for your few over a period of time.
- A strong team mindset and willingness to work together with other Youth Leaders to accomplish goals
- You attend Church regularly.
- Become RISK approved by completing a volunteer application, reference checks, interview process, criminal record check, and Plan to Protect training.

General Expectations:

The Core Four:

- **Engage:** Be intentionally reaching out to teenagers – going to them before they come to you. Keep a present frame of mind.
- **Play:** Carry the attitude of inviting, celebrating, and affirming students.
- **Guide:** You'll be responsible for shepherding the spiritual journey of each member of your small group, helping them take next steps that draw them closer to Christ.
- **Pray:** You'll pray personally, for your students, and with your students.

Additional Expectations:

- Be on time
- Come prepared - review the questions and the materials that will be used in your small group each week.
- Participate in opportunities/events to connect with leaders, to learn and dream together.
 - **This includes selecting 1 day/time per month for a 30min check-in with Ps.Aaron**
- Communicate - "see something, say something"

Time Commitment:

- As a small group leader building meaningful relationships with students takes consistency and intentionality.
- This means being present when you are at youth, this is a time to connect with students not leaders.
- Taking time during the week to reach out and connect with students over coffee, attending sporting events, or taking them out for lunch.
- Overall small group leaders should look to commit around 3 hours per week (2 hours on wednesday nights and 1 hour during the week.)

Our Ministry Commitment:

- To pray for you and your family.
- Provide you with the tools/materials to be effective in your role.
- To provide ongoing training and resources.
- To seek out your feedback on how we're doing and any suggestions you have on how to improve the ministry overall.
- To listen to your needs and concerns and to do our best to work with you.

Length of Commitment:

First Season:

- If this is your first season helping with youth you will be asked to take a 3 month probationary period.
- This means you will have minimal responsibilities and will be expected to just begin building basic relationships with the students.
- The goal is to see if serving with youth is both a good fit for you and for the students.
- After 3 months you will have a follow-up meeting with Pastor Aaron and discuss the transition into full-time serving with youth.

Returning Leaders:

- You will be asked to sign on for a 1 year term of serving (from September until August)

Wednesday Schedule:

- Our nights start at 7pm - please aim to be there by 6:45pm
- As students arrive, immediately begin looking for members of your small group. You are trying to connect with the students from your group and acclimatize potential new ones. In this time you are asking how their week was, check in about tests or projects, and find out what has been happening in their life.
- When we move into large group time, transition WITH your group. Bring as much energy as you can, be present and alongside your small group. Play the games, cheer on other groups, and engage with your students.
- During the teaching and study part of the night, your goal is to help students from your group focus and to minimize distractions for others.
- At the end of large group time you will be dismissed to small groups. You are trying to help students wrestle through the truth they just heard and to discover how it applies to their life.
- Students are dismissed at 8:30pm - Before this make sure you have prayed with your group before they leave.
- By 8:45pm there will be a debrief and prayer time in the boardroom. This is a chance to share wins and to join in prayer over any areas of concern.

Saturday Social Events:

- Some months will have either a bi-weekly connect night (usually from 7-10pm)
- Other months may have a bigger full-day or longer connect day (Ranging 3+ hours)
- The expectation would be that you attend 1 connect night per month and make an effort (as available) to participate in the longer connect days.

Before the start of the fall You will receive a full-year calendar of all dates/times for youth events (September – August) . Please put these dates in your calendars now so that you are not surprised by them later!