

# THE RIDGE

## Adult Volunteer





Thank you for your interest in getting involved with our students!

At Laurel Ridge Church, we believe that serving with students is an amazing responsibility and a great privilege. Before we start looking at what it means to volunteer in Student Ministry, let me introduce myself.

## **Brandon Buchert**

Associate Pastor of Student Ministries

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I graduated from William Jessup University in 2012 with a B.A. in Youth Ministry. I am currently attending Grand Canyon University where I hope to earn my M.A. in Christian Education. I have been a member of Laurel Ridge Community Church for as long as I can remember. Since childhood, God has called me to Student Ministry. I am so blessed to be able to work with a great congregation, and an amazing staff.

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## **Vision and Strategy**

Our Vision in ministry is to lead students to imitate Christ in their daily life and to influence their world. Our goal is to bring the word of God to the lives of teens, love them as Christ loves us, and teach them what Christ has commanded us. Our Mission statement is simple. It's just 5 words that describe our Ministry at Laurel Ridge Community Church.

**CONNECT.GROW.SERVE.GIVE.GO.**

# When Can I Serve?

## **Student Community Groups**

**9:15 & 11am Sunday in 301 for 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students.**

Student Community Groups meet in room 301 on Sunday mornings during both services. Students are free to hang out in room 301 before and after each service. During the 9:15 service both Middle School and High School students are together, and at 11am, classes are split into 2 groups after a short worship time. The Middle School class stays in room 301, and the High School class transitions into room 203. We have a higher attendance during the 11am service, and we split-up so students have a better opportunity to interact with Community Group Leaders and with each other. They can work through issues that apply to their age group, and discover what God's Word says about that specific issue. Our goal is to eventually split-up the 9:15am service as well.

## **Midweek Programs @ THE RIDGE (6:15 – 8pm)**

**Tuesdays in the Worship Center for 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students.**

**Wednesdays in the Worship Center for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students.**

During our Midweek Program, we don't just play games, we also dive into the Word. I hope that even if students don't remember a word I say, the reinforcement of Christ's love by the Student Ministries Staff & Volunteers will leave a lasting impression on their heart. As far as the structure of THE RIDGE goes, the basic format of the night will remain unchanged from week to week. The content changes, but the format remains the same, so that both the staff and the students experience comfort and familiarity.

# How Can I Serve Sunday?

## Community Group Leader

**Job Description:** We need group leaders for our Sunday Morning Community Groups. Leaders intentionally develop relationships with students in a small group setting. Our growth goal is to begin offering separate Middle School and High School Community Groups during the 9:15am service every Sunday. We need to effectively double our Sunday Volunteers to achieve this goal.

**Student Interaction:** High

**Time Commitment:** Ideally, for this position, we need someone who is willing to be there for students during one service every Sunday. We understand that “life happens” and that is okay. You may not be available every week, but teens just love to see that someone is involved in their lives on a reliable basis, and they will love you for showing them that you care enough about them to make a weekly commitment.

## Assistant Community Group Leader

**Job Description:** We need Assistant Group Leaders to help bring change to the lives of these students. If you are interested in spending time with students, but don't feel comfortable leading a discussion, or if you don't think you can make an “every week” commitment, but you are available most Sundays, this position is for you.

**Student Interaction:** Medium-High

**Time Commitment:** Flexible. We are willing to work with your schedule.

# How Can I Serve Midweek?

## Tuesday or Wednesday

### Greeter/Check-In

**Job Description:** Your job as a greeter is to make students feel welcome, and connect them with other students. Check-In workers check in all students at the registration computers each week, and collect guest information prior to service.

**Student Interaction:** Medium-Low (about 5-10 minutes per interaction)

**Time Commitment:** Arrive at 5:45 on Tuesdays and Wednesdays to help set up and begin welcoming students. Once everyone is registered, feel free to depart, or hang out with us for the night, it is your choice. We would love your help whenever you are available. Just bring a smile and a welcoming attitude.

### The Ridge Lounge/Dinner Crew

**Job Description:** We currently sell candy and soda before and after our Midweek Programs. Our immediate need is adults to manage the snack bar on Tuesday and/or Wednesday. Our long term goal is to begin serving dinner every other Tuesday and Wednesday. You cook, we buy.

**Student Interaction:** Medium-Low

**Time Commitment:** Arrive at 6:00pm every Tuesday and/or Wednesday that you are scheduled.

### Midweek Adult Leader

**Job Description:** We don't have small groups on Tuesday or Wednesday, but we are still in need of Adults who like to hang out with Teenagers. Teens love "real" people who are not afraid to get down to their level, chat, talk about Christ, and get hit with a few dodgeballs.

**Student Interaction:** High to Medium-High

**Time Commitment:** Ideally, one night a week. We are totally willing to work with your schedule!

# What is an Adult Volunteer?

## The Qualifications

- Be a follower of Jesus in a growing relationship with Him.
- Be passionate about students and their relationships with Jesus.
- Be committed to being a consistent voice in the lives of students.
- Lead a lifestyle that is committed to Biblical standards.

## The Expectations

- Attend regularly (weekly and special events). Again, we understand that “life happens.” If you would like to help out at THE RIDGE but are unable to make a regular commitment, there are still plenty of places where you can get plugged in.
- Be available to students to help them through difficult issues.
- Practice safe and healthy boundaries with students.
- Attend Volunteer Training events (2-3 per year).

## The Benefits

- A ridiculous amount of fun!
- A powerful opportunity to invest in students and in their families that will forever enhance your walk with Jesus, and theirs too!
- Lifelong influence in the lives of students and families you impact.

## Next Steps

Hopefully while reading this booklet, you have seen a place (or places) where you would like to get involved. If you are worried about time commitments, qualifications or have questions about anything else, please don't hesitate to contact Brandon.

In addition to this booklet, you should also have a 3 page application. Please print, fill out and turn in the application at the church office. Alternatively, find Brandon on Sunday, Tuesday, or Wednesday and hand it in to him. We are excited to serve with you! Thanks for reading!

If you have scheduling constraints, but still want to serve. Please let Brandon know, we always have need for “Utility Players” to help us during special events.

# Laurel Ridge Community Church

## Application for Volunteer in Nursery, Preschool, Children's and Youth Ministries

### Volunteer Information

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ home (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ work (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ cell

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle (Required) \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

Maiden Name or Other Names Used \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth\*: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Present Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

How Long at Present Address? \_\_\_\_\_

Former Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

How Long at Former Address? \_\_\_\_\_

Please list all states and counties of residence since turning age 18:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Please circle any of the following states in which you have lived: CA, CO, DE, LA, MA, SD, VT, WV, WY)

Driver's License Number: \_\_\_\_\_ State of License: \_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status:  Married  Single

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Membership: I am a member of this Church and have been since \_\_\_\_\_

[If less than 5 years, please indicate what church(es) you were a member of or attended regularly during that period]:

\_\_\_\_\_ Church in \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Church in \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

• I am applying for the following volunteer position: \_\_\_Nursery \_\_\_ Pre-School \_\_\_ Children \_\_\_ Youth

Commit to Sunday's \_\_\_\_\_, Commit to Wednesday's \_\_\_\_\_,

Serve once per month \_\_\_\_\_, Serve once per week \_\_\_\_\_, Serve in special events \_\_\_\_\_

### Experience

Please list your church and non-church experience within the last 10 years as a volunteer child or youth worker, giving a brief description, dates, and organization (*attach an additional page as necessary*):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Two References (other than relatives)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ home (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ cell

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ home (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ cell

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Volunteer’s Applicant’s Statement – Read Carefully**

The questions below are part of the process to help provide a safe and secure environment for our children and Youth. Please understand that the information provided in this application may be reviewed by additional members of the Laurel Ridge Church staff. It is our desire to work with you to find a ministry that is fulfilling and suited to your strengths and experiences.

Have you had any experiences that might make it difficult for you to minister to children at Laurel Ridge Church? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever used illegal drugs? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been hospitalized, treated for, or struggled with alcohol or substance abuse? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you engaged in any conduct that is contrary to the teaching of the Bible? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any health issues that could place the children at Laurel Ridge Church at risk? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been denied legal custody of your child/children in any legal proceedings including divorce decrees or settlements? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever engaged in or been officially accused of any child abuse, sexual misconduct, molestation, or similar offense? \_\_\_\_\_ If you have answered yes to any of the above questions, please explain briefly:

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**Laurel Ridge Church Leader’s Covenant**

Having committed to serve in Children’s or Youth and to the habits essential to continue my spiritual journey with Christ I will commit to:

- Read and practice the safety and security policies in place at Laurel Ridge Church
- Prepare for ministry by growing in my personal relationship with Christ
- Support the leadership by praying for the Children’s and Youth staff, leaders, and specifically the children in my class
- Commit to volunteer training sessions and regular team meetings

Should my application be accepted, I agree to follow the policies of Laurel Ridge Church and to refrain from unbiblical conduct in the performance of my services on behalf of the church. I understand that the personal information will be held confidential by the Laurel Ridge Church staff.

I hereby authorize Laurel Ridge Church and/or its agents to make an independent investigation of my background, references, character, adult criminal or police records, and motor vehicle records including those maintained by both public and private organizations and all public records for the purpose of confirming the information contained on my Application and/or obtaining other information which may be material to my qualifications for service now and, if applicable, during the tenure of my service with Laurel Ridge Church.

I release Laurel Ridge Church and its agents and any person or entity, which provides information pursuant to this authorization, from any and all liabilities, claims or law suits in regards to the information obtained from any and all of the above referenced sources used. The following is my true and complete legal name and all information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge:

I understand that California law requires Laurel Ridge Church to give me a copy of any report that I request in writing by U.S. Mail within seven (7) days of the date the information was obtained (Section 1786.29).

Applicant’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_