



Parent Info Packet

VILLAGE BIBLE CHURCH STUDENT MINISTRIES

Jeremy Anderson

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Our Mission and Vision

Discover Disciples

We love to see students coming to know the Lord. Our desire is to train and equip each of the students to confidently share the gospel of Jesus Christ with their friends and families as they carry out the Great Commission given to us by Jesus in Matthew 28, making disciples of all nations.

In Acts 19:8-9 we read, “And he (Paul) entered the synagogue and continued speaking out boldly for three months, reasoning and persuading them about the kingdom of God... This took place for two years, so that all who lived in Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks.”

Our vision is that every student in the Fox Valley area would hear a clear explanation of the gospel before the day they graduate. We believe that if God was able to work through the ministry of Paul to reach every person in Asia with the gospel in only two years, he can reach the whole Fox Valley area in seven.

Develop Disciples

We are also passionate about developing disciples of Jesus. We believe that God has commanded us to not just spread the gospel message, but to teach, and ultimately show others how to obey all that he has commanded us. Paul tells us in 2 Timothy 2:2, “What you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.” That is why we strongly encourage students to seek out intentional discipleship with an adult leader who is walking with the Lord to support and help guide them as they navigate the confusing years of middle and high school.

Everything we do as a student ministry has a specific purpose. From Wednesday nights to Sunday morning DM Groups to fun events, everything plays a role in developing your students into devoted disciples of Jesus Christ.

Deploy Disciples

In reference to students, you may often hear the saying, “They are the church of tomorrow.”

Well, we believe they are the church of today. That is why we encourage them to find places to serve, whether that is in the student ministry or the greater body of Village Bible Church.

1 Peter 4:10 says, “As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” Because we believe that the students are the church today, we believe this command is for them as well! Some of the places we have seen students step up and serve are in the nursery, children’s ministry, Awana, parking, and landscaping, to name a few.

Student Ministry Staff



Mario Arindaeng
Lead Student Ministries Pastor

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I graduated from the University of Michigan with a bachelors degree in 1991 and it was during my tenure as the junior high student ministry director at HPBC that I saw the need for more training in studying God's Word, so I attended Michigan Theological Seminary (now Moody Theological Seminary), and graduated with a Masters of Divinity in 1996. In 1996, I also accepted the position of the student ministry pastor

at Grosse Ile Baptist Church (now called Riverpointe Christian Church) in Grosse Ile, MI, where I led the middle school and high school ministries for 5 years. It was there that I met my wife, Beth. We were married on September 19, 1998. In March of 2002, the Lord led me to serve as the Lead Student Ministries Pastor at Village Bible Church in Sugar Grove, IL. God has graciously blessed Beth and me with 4 children since we started serving at Village.

MY HOPE FOR VILLAGE

My hope for the student ministry at Village Bible Church is to see our students grow deep in their relationship with Jesus, to the point where they are making disciples who make disciples (2 Timothy 2:2) and go wide in sharing the gospel with their peers so that every student in our surrounding communities hears a clear presentation of the gospel before graduation from high school (Acts 19:8-10).



Jeremy Anderson
Middle School Student Ministries Director

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After high school graduation, I attended Taylor University in Upland, IN for two years. The Lord used those two years to stretch me and help me to grow in ways I would never have imagined. It was during this time that I heard God's call for me to serve in ministry. After my sophomore year at Taylor, I transferred to Moody Bible Institute to finish my undergraduate degree in Biblical Studies. I also began an internship at

Village Bible Church in Student Ministry.

Currently, I am working on completing my degree from Moody as I continue to serve at Village Bible Church as the Middle School Ministries Director. My passion for student ministry continues to grow, and I love working with the students at Village. My desire is to teach them God's truths as He has revealed them to us in Scripture; and encourage them to live lives marked by faith in Jesus Christ as they engage culture, friends and neighbors on a daily basis.

Who am I?

Introducing the Middle School Volunteer Leaders



Jeremy Anderson

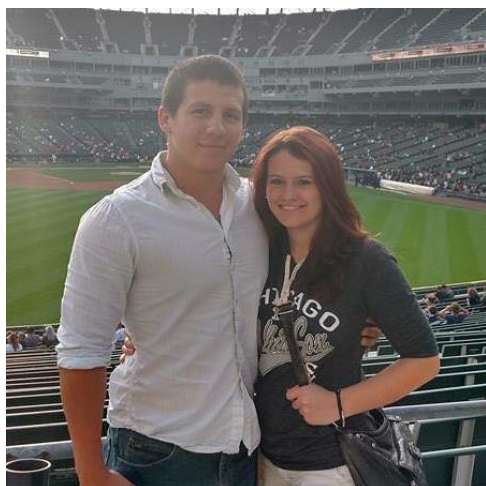
Hello, I'm 23 years old and have been on staff at Village Bible church for three years now. I enjoy playing golf, basketball, and hockey in my free time. I'll soon have my B.S. in Biblical Studies from Moody Bible Institute.

*I have been working with student ministry since 2013

Sabrina Pilkington

I have been going to Village Bible Church since I was in second grade. I am 19 years old and am currently studying to be a high school history teacher at Waubensee. I love reading, videogames, cooking, and baking. After having attended the youth group throughout middle and high school I am very excited to be serving as a leader!

*I have been working with the student ministry since the Summer of 2016.



Joshua Nilsen

Hello my name is Joshua Victor Nilsen. I have been at Village almost my whole life - about 16 years now. I was in the youth group from Jr. high to high school myself. That is where I was saved. I grew so much in the youth group that I want to be part of it now and help kids to find a deep relationship with Jesus. I work at 5B's and attended Moody Bible Institute for some time. I feel so blessed to be part of Village Bible Church. It is a great place to grow deep and wide.

*I have been working with the student ministry since 2011.

Amy Hett

I have been going to Village since I was 11 years old. I have been married to my husband, Josh, for 17 years. We have 3 kids, Clayton-16, Micah-14 and Elianna-12 (plus 2 dogs and a cat). We enjoy camping, family game night and going on bike rides. I enjoy serving in the middle school, because I just love this age group and I love serving where my own kids are.

*I have been working with the student ministry since 2011.



Lewis Gaddis

My name is Lewis Gaddis. I'm serving in the student ministry because my passion is to work with young men. My hobbies include watching movies, listening to audio books and hanging out with my wife.

*I have been working with the student ministry since the Summer of 2016.

There will be more leaders to come in the Fall. At that time we will have an updated leader packet for you to see all the adults who are working with the student ministry. That will be available at the Parent Night Wednesday in September. Thank you.

Leader Ministry Description

Summary: Help students connect with Jesus and one another

Accountable To: Middle School Director

REQUIREMENTS

- Have a growing relationship with Christ
- Be a current VBC member or in the process of becoming one
- One Year Commitment – From September through August
- Know the student ministry mission and vision (Discover, Develop, Deploy)
- Understand VBC's child protection policy and complete a background check

RESPONSIBILITIES

Before Wednesday Night:

- Pray for each one of the students in your family at least once during the week.
- Contact at least one student a week through attending one of their extra-curricular activities, texting them, calling them, Facebook, or hanging out with them outside of Wednesday nights, systematically contacting every student in your family several times during the year.
- Read student ministry emails you receive knowing that it keeps you informed and prepares you for ministry
- Prepare ahead of time to lead your family discussion if questions and notes are given to you ahead of time

During the Student Ministry Night:

- Attend weekly staff meeting – 6 PM Wednesday nights
- Facilitate discussion in your family time
- Use your binder – Take attendance, hand out flyers, pass around sign-up sheets, record prayer requests
- Help supervise students throughout the night making sure that it is a safe, respectful environment, enforcing discipline when necessary
- Divide and Conquer - Sit among the students during the worship and message time.
- Build Community on Wednesday night by connecting students with you and one another, especially looking for and encouraging your “family” to include students who are not connecting well with others.
- Encourage students to get plugged in to our disciple making groups on Sunday mornings at 9 AM
- Contact the Middle School Director ahead of time if you will be late or absent on a Wednesday night

During the Year:

- Attend student ministry events outside of Wednesday night as much as possible
- Build relationships with parents - at church on Sundays, when parents drop off and pick up students, by making phone calls, meeting parents if you take their child out, etc.

Wednesday Nights

Youth Group meets from 6:30-8:30 PM on Wednesday nights all year around.

Wednesday Night Breakdown

6:00 - 6:30	Leader Training Meeting
6:30 - 6:40	Crowd Breaker Game/Activity
6:40 - 7:00	Worship
7:00 - 7:25	Message
7:25 - 8:00	Family Time Discussions
8:00 - 8:30	Game Time
8:30 - 9:00	Over-Time

Leader Training Meeting

Every week we meet with our leaders to discuss different aspects of working with students and strive to provide training to equip them to serve your students with excellence. This may come in the form of discussing the small group times, engaging with students, building relationships, discipleship, prayer, evangelism, youth culture updates and more!

Crowd Breaker Game/Activity

One of the leaders works with a couple of high school students who will plan and organize a crowd breaker activity at the beginning of youth group in the sanctuary. Some of these involve the whole group and some require selecting a handful of students that volunteer to participate.

Worship

The worship portion of our night is completely student led. Mario Arindaeng works closely with the students as they coordinate and practice the worship music as they lead their peers.

Message

We normally have three men regularly on the teaching rotation for Wednesday nights: Mario Arindaeng, Jeremy Anderson, and David Wood. Occasionally we will add another leader into the rotation if they express interest in teaching and show a level of capability in doing so. We will also occasionally work with one of the high school student leaders who have proven upstanding character and a desire for teaching to give a message. Any time a non-staff leader or student is sharing a message, we take great care to work with them leading up to that Wednesday as they prepare their messages.

Family Time Discussions

After the message we split everyone into small groups that we call families. During this time the leaders will guide a discussion based on the message for the evening. Each week as part of the message preparations, whoever is sharing the message that Wednesday will prepare a list of 5-10 questions for follow-up discussion based on the passage. It is during this time that we hope to see the power of Scripture come alive in the student's life. We have each student participate in these family times for a few reasons: 1) Fellowship with other Christians; 2) Personal contemplation and application of the message; and 3) It allows the leaders to have an opportunity to shepherd each of the students every week.

The middle school family times are broken up by gender. We currently have two male and two female groups led by our volunteer leaders of the same gender. High school groups are co-ed and led by both male and female leaders.

Game Time

Most Wednesdays we give the last bit of time as free time to the students. We do this to give them the opportunity to spend time with their friends and continue to build friendships with each other. During this time you will find students playing anything from 9-Square-in-the-air to basketball, soccer, volleyball and hanging out upstairs. There is always a place for any student to get plugged in. This year we also began selling concessions upstairs in the loft room. All proceeds from these concessions go toward scholarships for student trips.

Over-Time

There are always a bunch of kids that will hang out until around 9:00 PM. Even though the night officially ends at 8:30, it is more than fine for them to hang out until around 9:00. During this time we just extend Game Time as described above.

Fifth Wednesdays

What do we even mean by Fifth Wednesdays? Good question!

Every few months we will come across a Fifth Wednesday. Any time there are five Wednesdays in a month we will do something special for the fifth one. For middle school we typically do game nights. Since the average Wednesday night does not have organized group games we like to incorporate those on Fifth Wednesdays. After all, what's youth group without some organized games?

We still meet from 6:30 – 8:30 PM on these special weeks, but the night is far more focused on building community amongst the students. Your student(s) will want to come prepared to move, so they will want to wear comfortable clothes and shoes to run in.

Remaining Fifth Wednesdays in 2016:

June 29

August 10 (Six Flags trip – no youth group)

November 23 (Thanksgiving – no youth group)

Weekly Announcements

We want to do our part in keeping you “in the know” as to what is going on in the student ministry. One thing we do to accomplish this is sending out weekly announcement emails to parents. In these emails you will find all the important announcements and information for that week and any upcoming events.

We also include a short announcement about what we will be discussing in the message each week for youth group. You will find a short coaching video for parents that briefly discusses the topic for that week along with an attached document that contains the family time discussion questions. We do this in order to come along side you, as parents, as you disciple your kids. We hope that you will be equipped to continue the conversation at home by knowing what was taught and how it was discussed with their peers.

DM Groups

“DM Group” stands for “Disciple-Making Groups.” These meet Sunday mornings during the first service at Sugar Grove. During this time we split the students into small groups by gender with 1-2 adult disciple-makers. Ideally we try to keep the groups at a 10-1 ratio of students to adults.

We encourage the DM Leaders to take about 1/3 of the time on Sunday mornings building relationships with the students and getting to know about their lives outside of church. The groups then work through a curriculum called “Building Blocks” from Youth Ministry 360, unless a leader has a different study they feel their group needs to work through and has it approved by Jeremy or Mario.

The purpose of these groups is to make disciples who make disciples. Our hope is that as your student grows in their walk with the Lord, they would take time to show others what it looks like for them to be walking with the Lord as well. Thus, making disciples who make disciples.

Generations Class

Who: Middle School and High School Students

What: A teaching and equipping class for students to have the tools to address multiple different topics related to their faith. Last year we looked at the Christian Worldview and studied theology from Wayne Grudem's *Systematic Theology* book. We work hard to make the class informative and educational while still being fun and engaging. We understand and believe that our faith is not a chore, nor should it be. That is what motivates us to teach in a way that is engaging for the students so that they will understand. This is a time for equipping and training, not entertainment. While we want to teach in an engaging and stimulating way, our purpose is not simply entertainment. This is one of our more serious times with the students.

When: Sunday nights during the school year from 5:45 – 7:15 PM

Where: Upstairs at the Sugar Grove Campus

Why: To teach and equip students to stand firm in their faith in the midst of the worldly pressures surrounding them on a daily basis. We know that students are constantly learning, whether they realize it or not. If the Church neglects to speak into some of the issues at hand, we can be sure that the world will not miss that opportunity. That is why we strive to teach what the Bible says about some of the relevant issues of the day.

Middle School Mania

This past year we started doing Middle School Manias on the first Saturday of each month from 6:00-8:00 PM at the Sugar Grove Campus, unless otherwise communicated. These are fun, social nights for your middle school student to come out to the church and hang out with some of their friends. We typically will plan some organized games and other activities for these nights with the goal of cultivating relationships and connecting newer students to the youth group.

We always encourage students to bring their friends to Mania nights as it is a more relaxed feel and just a great opportunity for them to get to know some of the leaders and other students at the church. We have had a handful of students get plugged into the youth group this year who first started coming to Mania nights.

It could also be a great place for you to start as a parent! It's so important for you to be involved with your student through these years as we seek to come along side of what you are doing to disciple your kids at home. Maybe you aren't ready to commit to being a regular Wednesday night or Sunday morning DM leader yet but you *could* spend a couple hours once a month investing in the lives of these young people!

