



midlandevangelicalfreechurch
Worship Dance Ministry

2017-18 Policies

Attendance

Each dance class will take part in leading Sunday morning worship at least once this year. Each dancer is given the grace of missing a maximum of FIVE (5) rehearsals each year. If a sixth rehearsal is missed, the dancer may be asked to forfeit their place in the Worship Dance Ministry, including an end of the year program.

Dancers are allowed to miss up to TWO (2) rehearsals of the Eight (8) regular rehearsals just prior to their leading the congregation in Worship on the Dance Ministry calendar. If more than 2 practices per routine are missed, the dancer will be expected to remove themselves from that particular dance.

All dress rehearsals, which will usually be the Thursday prior to leading in worship, are mandatory.

Scheduled worship dates will be given to dancers by the second dance practice. Dancers and parents will need to review the dates to determine if the dancer is available to participate in scheduled worship services, dress rehearsals, practices, and the concert of dance. Contact your instructor as soon as you are aware of a conflict.

Drop-off / Pick-up Policy

In accordance with the Midland Evangelical Free Church Children's Policies, all dancers fifth grade and under need to be dropped off and picked up by a parent in the appropriate dance class. This will ensure that the dancers are not left unsupervised. Also, all dancers fifth grade and under need to have a signed Safety 4Kids form giving permission for them to leave the Children's Ministry area, with a dance instructor, the Sundays they dance.

Discipline Policy

Dancers are expected to give instructors full attention during time of instruction, prayer, devotion, etc. Dancers who are disruptive will first have a conversation with the instructor – the instructor will inform the dancer of wrongdoing and explain what is acceptable. After the second offense or disruption, the dancer will have a conversation with the dance instructor and dance coordinator. After the third time, the dancer, instructor, dance coordinator, and a parent will meet to discuss if continuing in Worship Dance is in the best interest of this particular dancer and the ministry.



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Attentiveness and Preparedness

Being a team ministry, it is important that the dancers are prepared and remain focused during practice times. Dancers are asked to bring water bottles and appropriate footwear for practices. We also expect dancer cell phones to be turned off and put away. Several leaders will have cell phones and those numbers will be made available in the event of an emergency. We need dancers to be on time and ready to go. Also be aware that if a dancer is chronically tardy or leaving early, resulting in missing significant practice time, it may need to be approached as an attendance policy issue.

Appearance

We want to keep our dancers in modest clothing. While we understand that stretch and form-fitting attire is the norm for dance rehearsals, keep in mind our reason for dancing: to show honor and glory to our King. Remember to wear modest attire when attending all rehearsals. Please DO NOT wear mini shorts, spandex shorts, tight fitting yoga pants, tight fitting leggings, spaghetti straps, sleeveless leotards, or anything that would show the midriff. Also, if a leotard is worn, please cover up the bottom half with a skirt or shorts.

When leading in worship, the dancers should be enhancing the worship experience for others rather than being a distraction. With this in mind, the instructors may ask that hair be worn in a specific style, or other requests to help create a unity of the worship team. We also ask that the dancers not accessorize with hair decorations, brightly colored nail polish, or excessive jewelry. Keep in mind, our intent is not to entertain, but to encourage and enhance passionate worship.

Attitude

Worship Dance Ministry encourages a “servant heart.” It is not dance lessons or a performance class of any sort. If that type of dance is desired, it should be pursued through other outlets. We want to honor God in everything we do, including the learning and rehearsal process.

Our instructors are volunteers that have a passion for dance ministry, and we expect that they be treated with respect of their time and their vision. Songs and choreography are prayerfully considered before being shared with the dancers. There are no unimportant parts of the body, and there are no unimportant roles in worship dance.

We also expect the dancers to treat each other with Christ’s unselfish love. If a dancer sees another dancer struggling, she should reach out to help and encourage her. This is another great opportunity to shape the servant heart, and grow beyond our selfish natures.