

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____

Gender: Male Female

Current Address: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Email: _____

Blog or Website, if any: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Phone: _____

Do you have a means of transportation for getting to & from work? Yes NoDo you own or have access to a laptop? Yes No

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

Please list, in chronological order, the high schools, colleges and/or professional schools you have attended.

INSTITUTION	INSTITUTION	INSTITUTION	INSTITUTION
LOCATION	LOCATION	LOCATION	LOCATION
DATES OF ATTENDANCE	DATES OF ATTENDANCE	DATES OF ATTENDANCE	DATES OF ATTENDANCE

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

Date of High School Graduation: _____ Date of College Graduation: _____

High School GPA: _____ College GPA: _____ ACT Score or SAT Score: _____

Are you under any academic or disciplinary suspension, probation, or similar action at any institution?

Yes No

Major Awards or Honors: _____

CHURCH INFORMATION

Home Church: _____

Location: _____

Pastor: _____ Contact: _____

Describe your Church Involvement: _____

List and Describe any Leadership Roles you have had in a Church: _____

AREAS OF INTEREST

Please indicate your area of interest:

- Kids Ministry
- College Ministry
- Church Communications
- Church Planting/Pastoral Leadership/Multi-Site
- Discipleship/House Church
- Finance/Administration
- Videography
- Care Ministry

- Pastoral Care
- Preschool Ministry
- Physical Plant/Facilities
- Student Ministry
- Worship Ministry
- Production
- Guest Services
- Other: _____

FUTURE PLANS

What do you see yourself doing after the LEAD Apprentice Program?

Graduate School/Seminary Business-Related Job Ministry-Related Job

Other (Please Explain) _____

JOB EXPERIENCE
(Secular or church)

Place of Employment _____

Position _____

Duties/Responsibilities _____

Dates of employment _____

Place of Employment _____

Position _____

Duties/Responsibilities _____

Dates of employment _____

Place of Employment _____

Position _____

Duties/Responsibilities _____

Dates of employment _____

List any other job experience on a separate sheet if needed.

PERSONAL EVALUATION

Submit answers to the following questions on a separate document.

1. How, when, and why did you come to know Jesus as your Savior?
2. Where were you baptized?
3. Give us an idea of what your spiritual life has been like over the past few years.
4. Why are you applying to be a part of LEAD?
5. Describe your sense of God's calling on your life.
6. Where do you see yourself in 5-10 years?
7. What topics, issues, causes, etc. are you the most passionate about?
8. What motivates you like nothing else?
9. What discourages you like nothing else?
10. What is your pattern of conflict management?

NEXT STEPS

- All applications and reference forms must be turned in by **February 26, 2026**.
- Because we have a limited number of spots available, not all applications will make it past the first round. You will receive an email if your application is not selected to advance further in the process.
- If you advance to the next round of selection, you will be contacted via email or phone concerning scheduling an interview during the month of March.
- After interviews, the 2026 LEAD Class will be announced.

REFERENCES

Use the attached Reference Form for your references. One minister, one employer, and one other reference needed (please exclude family members). Each person you choose should mail or email completed forms to:

VENTURE CHURCH
LEAD APPRENTICE PROGRAM
ATTN: TRACIE LOTT
4142 LINCOLN ROAD
HATTIESBURG, MS 39402
TRACIE@VENTURECHURCH.ORG

Name: _____

Position: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name: _____

Position: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name: _____

Position: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

MISSION/PURPOSE

TO TRAIN UP THE NEXT GENERATION OF KINGDOM BUILDERS

GOALS:

- To lead participants to a more intimate relationship with Jesus Christ by increasing their knowledge of, nurturing their love for, & developing their fellowship of Jesus Christ.
- To give participants a broad working knowledge of ministry through the ministries of Venture Church.
- To provide classroom & hands-on ministry experience that will help each person determine a calling to vocational ministry.

PRE-REQUISITES OF LEAD PARTICIPANTS:

- Exhibit a desire to explore a call to ministry.
- Exhibit and possess a reputation for Christ-like character (Matthew 5:6).
- Exhibit and possess a reputation for a strong work ethic.
- Exhibit a skill set and giftedness relative to a call in ministry.
- Possess an associate's degree.
- Must agree with the mission, vision, & core values of Venture Church.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

1. Turn in completed application forms by February 26, 2026. Form can be mailed to the following address:

**Venture Church
Attn. LEAD Apprentice Program
4142 Lincoln Road
Hattiesburg, MS 39402**

Forms can also be emailed to **TRACIE@VENTURECHURCH.ORG**

2. Include a one-minute video explaining why you want to participate in the LEAD Team Apprenticeship Program.
3. Anyone interested in participating in our Worship Ministry must include three videos of themselves leading worship. Also, be prepared for a live audition.
4. Please include an up-to-date resume when you submit your LEAD Team application. You may email this to tracie@venturechurch.org.
5. Watch for interview invitations which will be issued in early March.

FAQ

1. WHAT IS THE LEAD TEAM APPRENTICE PROGRAM?

The LEAD Program is an internship/apprenticeship offered through the ministries of Venture Church. Its purpose is to train & equip the next generation of kingdom leaders.

2. HOW LONG DOES THE PROGRAM LAST?

The LEAD Program is an 11 month commitment, from June 1, 2026 – April 30, 2027.

3. IS THERE A COST?

There is no cost to apply for or participate in LEAD Team. Each participant will be responsible for their own lodging, transportation, and meals.

4. WHAT ARE THE SCHEDULE DEMANDS OF THE LEAD PROGRAM?

A typical week is around 40 hours. The schedule will consist of certain set hours (ex. classroom training each Wednesday, 9:30am - 12:00pm) and a number of flexible hours depending on the ministry area in which you participate. Some weeks may require more than 40 hours and some weeks fewer.

5. CAN I ATTEND SEMINARY WHILE PARTICIPATING IN THE LEAD PROGRAM?

We will work with and encourage individuals who desire to start the seminary process while participating in the program. Due to time constraints, it would need to be as an online student.

6. DO I GET SEMINARY CREDIT FOR THE LEAD PROGRAM?

Not at this time.

7. IS THERE COMPENSATION FOR MY PARTICIPATION IN THE LEAD PROGRAM?

Each participant will receive a stipend of \$785 bi-monthly, paid on the 15th and last day of each month.

8. CAN I APPLY IF I AM NOT A MEMBER/PARTNER OF VENTURE CHURCH?

Yes.

9. ARE THERE AGE AND/OR EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS?

All participants must have an associate's degree and be at least 21 years of age*.

*In rare cases, some exceptions can be made in regard to degree and age.

10. WILL THIS GUARANTEE ME A JOB AT VENTURE CHURCH?

No. We will, however, assist you in any way that we can through interview training, resume writing, and possible contacts.

11. DO I GET TIME OFF?

Participants get two weeks of paid vacation subject to approval.

12. CAN I PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM AND ATTEND ANOTHER CHURCH?

No. The LEAD Program will require you to be actively involved in the ministries of Venture Church.

13. OUTSIDE MY PARTICULAR AREA OF CALLING, WHAT TRAINING WILL I RECEIVE?

You will receive an overview of all ministry areas. There will also be theological, doctrinal, and philosophical training.

STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

Please read the following statement of beliefs. Sign below if you agree with these beliefs.

1. THE BIBLE: We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are God's revelation of Himself to mankind. They were written by human authors under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit, with the result that Scripture is God's Word - entirely true and without error in the original writings. They are the supreme and final authority for Christian beliefs and living. We further believe that the focus of all Scripture is the person and work of Jesus Christ. (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Psalm 119:11, 89, 105, 160; Jude 3; Romans 15:4; Titus 1:1-3)

2. GOD: We believe there is one living and true God who is the Creator, Preserver, Redeemer, and Ruler of the universe. He is infinitely perfect in every way and eternally exists as three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (in a relationship known as the Trinity). We believe these three are one God and each possesses fully the nature, attributes and perfections of deity. (Genesis 1:1; Psalm 90:2; Isaiah 6:1-3; 40:12-28; 45:5-7; Jeremiah 10:10; Matthew 28:19; Acts 17:24-25; Romans 11:33-36; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 John 3:20)

3. JESUS CHRIST: We believe Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God. He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary - a miraculous process by which he received a human body and a sinless human nature. He is fully God and fully human in one person. We believe He lived a sinless life of perfect obedience to the law of God. Through His death on the cross, He made provision for the salvation of sinful people. We believe He was raised from the dead with a glorified body, ascended into heaven where He rules over the universe and prays for His people, and will one day return visibly to earth. (Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 24:14-43; John 1:1, 14; Romans 8:34; 1 Corinthians 15:3-8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Colossians 1:15-22; 2:9; Titus 2:13-14; Hebrews 1:1-3; 7:25; 1 Peter 2:21-24)

4. THE HUMAN CONDITION AND SALVATION: We believe that God created mankind in His own image and for His glory as the crowning work of His creation. However, man sinned against God and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God. This spiritual death has been transmitted to the entire human race (except for Christ) with the result that every person is born into the world with a sinful nature that rebels against God and is under His condemnation. (Genesis 1:26-28; 3; Psalm 8:3-8; 14:1-3; 51:5; Isaiah 59:2; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 3:23; 5:12, 19; 6:23; Galatians 3:22; Ephesians 2:1-3)

We also believe the incredibly good news found in the Bible that those who turn from their sin and trust in Jesus Christ as their Savior become spiritually new people who are declared "not guilty" for their sin and receive the gift of eternal life. This salvation is acquired through faith alone, apart from any good or religious works, and is based entirely on the death of Jesus Christ on the cross as a sacrifice for sin. We believe that Christ's resurrection demonstrated God's full acceptance of His death as payment for sin and foreshadows the final resurrection of all believers. (John 3:16, 18, 36; 14:6; Romans 4:25; 5:1, 6-9; 6:23; 8:1; 2 Corinthians 5:17, 21; Galatians 3:26; Ephesians 2:8-9; Colossians 1:13-14; Titus 3:5)

STATEMENT OF BELIEFS (CONTINUED)

We believe that the Holy Spirit comes to live in those who are “reborn” as God’s children. As Christians live in obedience to God, the Holy Spirit empowers them to gradually overcome the power of sin and become more like Christ. We believe that those who are truly born again will be protected by God’s power and steadfastly continue in their Christian life until the end. (John 10:28-29; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 1:8; 2:12; 3:16; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 5:16; Ephesians 1:13-14; 5:18; 1 Thessalonians 3:13; 5:23-24; Jude 24)

5. THE CHURCH: We believe in the one, universal Church made up of all who have trusted Christ, who is Head of the Church, which is His body. We also believe in the local church, which is an autonomous, geographically-local congregation of baptized believers who gather for worship, spiritual growth, service, fellowship, and observance of the ordinances of baptism and the Lord’s Supper. The local church operates under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and is governed by pastors/elders who are assisted by deacons. It grows as each member serves the body using the spiritual gifts given to them by the Holy Spirit, resulting in maturity, unity, and glory to God. Christ has commissioned The Church and its individual members to spread the Gospel throughout the world. (Matthew 16:16-19; 28:18-20; Acts 2:41-47; 20:28; 12; Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:19-22; 3:20-21; 4:11-16; Colossians 3:12-17; 1 Timothy 3)

We believe that the Lord Jesus has given the local church two ordinances: baptism and the Lord’s Supper. All who have received Christ as Savior should be baptized by immersion as a symbolic testimony to their participation in the death and resurrection of Christ. Likewise, believers should regularly partake in the Lord’s Supper as a symbolic remembrance of Christ’s death and as a testimony of our fellowship with Him and our unity as the body of Christ. (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 2:41-42; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

6. MARRIAGE & SEXUALITY : Those who follow Jesus submit their lives to the authority of God by obeying His commands designed for humankind’s good and God’s glory. These commands include honoring God with our bodies. The Bible instructs that sex was created by God for the purpose of marriage. The Bible defines marriage as the uniting of one man and one woman in a covenant relationship for a lifetime. We believe the pursuit of sexual fidelity is an act of faithfulness to Jesus, and sexual activity outside of the Biblical covenant of marriage is an act of disobedience to God. Since the fall of humankind, all struggle with temptation and sin. Regardless of personal sin struggles, we believe the ground is level at the foot of the cross for all repentant hearts. There is no problem or struggle greater than the power of Jesus Christ to redeem and restore. Our desire is to be a church where people who want to know, love, and follow Jesus Christ find that grace collides with God’s infallible and absolute truth. (1 Corinthians 6:18-20)

7. THE LAST DAYS: We believe that at God’s appointed time, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly to the earth and establish His kingdom. We believe in the bodily resurrection of believers and unbelievers. At the final judgment, unbelievers will be separated forever from God in a place of everlasting punishment because of their rejection of Jesus Christ. Believers, in their resurrected bodies, will live in God’s glorious presence as they worship and serve Him forever. (Matthew 25:31-46; John 14:3; Acts 1:6-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-26; Philippians 3:20-21; 2 Thessalonians 1:5-10; Hebrews 9:27-28; 2 Peter 3:7-13; Revelation 20-22)

SIGNATURE: _____

LEAD TEAM APPLICATION FORM - MINISTER

_____ is applying for enrollment in the **LEAD APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM** at Venture Church. Please answer the following questions to the best of your knowledge and mail or email this back via the contact information below.

How long have you known the applicant? _____

In what capacity? _____

Depth of relationship: **ONE-ON-ONE** **SMALL GROUP** **MEDIUM GROUP** **LARGE GROUP**

To the best of your knowledge, has the applicant ever been expelled or suspended from school or employment or charged with, arrested for, or convicted of any offense or violation of any statute or law?

YES **NO**

Please evaluate the applicant's character on a scale of 1 to 10:

	BELOW AVG	AVERAGE	ABOVE AVG
•Teachability/Intelligence	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Diligence/Perseverance	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Emotional Stability	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Integrity	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Maturity	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Works Well with Others	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Leadership Ability	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Reputation	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Temper Control	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Social Skills	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Completes Tasks	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Sense of Humor	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Please describe the applicant in one sentence:

I expect this applicant's performance to be: **POOR** **AVERAGE** **GOOD** **SUPERIOR**

I would: **RECOMMEND** **RECOMMEND WITH RESERVATION** **NOT RECOMMEND HIM/HER**

Printed Name: _____

Position: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

LEAD TEAM APPLICATION FORM - EMPLOYER

_____ is applying for enrollment in the **LEAD APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM** at Venture Church. Please answer the following questions to the best of your knowledge and mail or email this back via the contact information below.

How long have you known the applicant? _____

In what capacity? _____

Depth of relationship: **ONE-ON-ONE** **SMALL GROUP** **MEDIUM GROUP** **LARGE GROUP**

To the best of your knowledge, has the applicant ever been expelled or suspended from school or employment or charged with, arrested for, or convicted of any offense or violation of any statute or law?

YES **NO**

Please evaluate the applicant's character on a scale of 1 to 10:

	BELOW AVG	AVERAGE	ABOVE AVG
•Teachability/Intelligence	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Diligence/Perseverance	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Emotional Stability	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Integrity	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Maturity	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Works Well with Others	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Leadership Ability	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Reputation	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Temper Control	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Social Skills	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Completes Tasks	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
•Sense of Humor	1	2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Please describe the applicant in one sentence:

I expect this applicant's performance to be: **POOR** **AVERAGE** **GOOD** **SUPERIOR**

I would: **RECOMMEND** **RECOMMEND WITH RESERVATION** **NOT RECOMMEND HIM/HER**

Printed Name: _____

Position: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

LEAD TEAM APPLICATION FORM - OTHER
(EXCLUDING FAMILY MEMBERS)

_____ is applying for enrollment in the **LEAD APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM** at Venture Church. Please answer the following questions to the best of your knowledge and mail or email this back via the contact information below.

How long have you known the applicant? _____

In what capacity? _____

Depth of relationship: **ONE-ON-ONE** **SMALL GROUP** **MEDIUM GROUP** **LARGE GROUP**

To the best of your knowledge, has the applicant ever been expelled or suspended from school or employment or charged with, arrested for, or convicted of any offense or violation of any statute or law?

YES **NO**

Please evaluate the applicant's character on a scale of 1 to 10:

	BELOW AVG	AVERAGE	ABOVE AVG
•Teachability/Intelligence	1	2	3
•Diligence/Perseverance	4	5	6
•Emotional Stability	7	8	9
•Integrity	10	10	10
•Maturity	10	10	10
•Works Well with Others	10	10	10
•Leadership Ability	10	10	10
•Reputation	10	10	10
•Temper Control	10	10	10
•Social Skills	10	10	10
•Completes Tasks	10	10	10
•Sense of Humor	10	10	10

Please describe the applicant in one sentence:

I expect this applicant's performance to be: **POOR** **AVERAGE** **GOOD** **SUPERIOR**

I would: **RECOMMEND** **RECOMMEND WITH RESERVATION** **NOT RECOMMEND HIM/HER**

Printed Name: _____

Position: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____