

CALVIN

College

Barnabas Team Application

2009-2010

Due Friday Feb 27, 2009

BARNABAS VISION

The vision of the Barnabas team is to help fellow students foster communities in which students are encouraged and empowered to ***Love God and Love others***. That means we want to see students praying, worshiping, and forming Bible studies in their living communities. It also means supporting and partnering with students encouraging their living communities to serve and love others through cultural discernment, participating in community partnerships, learning to live sustainably and unlearning patterns of racism. It's all work for the Kingdom of God.

The name Barnabas means "son of encouragement" according to Acts 4:36 and in the Barnabas program we hope to create daughters and sons of God who are encouraged to go deeper in their relationship with God, love others well, and encourage others to do the same. Encouragement necessitates community. Therefore, all that we do is done within the framework of community with the hope of moving students to embrace their living community as their field of ministry.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The ***Barnabas Team*** works to provoke whole-life transformation. Like in Isaiah 61:1-4 this starts with knowing God and moves out to engaging the world beyond. Therefore, Barnabas members are first of all responsible for organizing dorm worship, Bible studies, and prayer times within the residence halls. Secondly, the ***Barnabas Team*** partners with Residence Life staff and other student leaders to foster Christian community in the living communities and beyond. We do this by cross-pollinating with other Residence Hall leaders so that we can promote and support each other and help direct students to the activities that will most encourage their faith journeys.

Barnabas Team members will be supervised by the Associate Chaplains for Residence Life, they will work closely with and be mentored by a Seminary Intern, and will work in partnership with their Resident Director.

QUALIFICATIONS

The ***Barnabas Team*** is a volunteer position comprised of sophomore, junior and senior Calvin students who exhibit a commitment to see the Gospel of Jesus Christ lived out in down-to-earth ways. If you are a team member, we do not expect you to have your life and faith all figured out but you should long to see your community grow in its love of God and love of neighbor. To that end we are looking for students who desire to walk as Jesus walked, are committed to encouraging and equipping others to do likewise, but who know that they themselves need Christ's mercy. Students who long for vision renewal, restoration, reconciliation, healing, worship, service and prayer grow in their living communities make great ***Barnabas Team*** members.

Prophets, beggars, priests, and sinners are welcome but you should maintain a minimum 2.75GPA, have your conduct in good standing with the college, and have had at least one semester of past residency in Calvin's on-campus housing system. While serving on the Barnabas team, other extra-curricular activities and employment should be kept to a minimum.

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES

Barnabas members serve in teams alongside other residence hall leadership, and are required to live in the Residence Hall or in campus apartments. They are required to be present on-campus for the duration of 2008-2009 academic year (interim not included).

The *Barnabas Team* members are responsible for a minimum of 5 hours a week during the school year, which includes the following responsibilities:

- Working closely with RDs, the Associate Chaplains for Residence Life, other residence hall staff, and other *Barnabas Team* members to:
 - **Discern** the needs for Christian growth within their designated living community.
 - **Promote** opportunities, including those already happening on campus which address these needs
 - **Challenge and support** fellow students to address these needs as a living community

- Delivering programs and activities, the *Barnabas Team* members:
 - **Identify** potential leaders from among both on and off-campus students to lead Bible studies, small-group discussions, and larger-group worship meetings.
 - **Support** leaders in their ongoing activities.
 - **Recognize** they are part of a team. Specifically *Barnabas Team* members should regularly seek out their MAC, CD, AC, CPC and RA to explore ways to work together in living out a Kingdom vision in their living communities

- Training and continually developing their skills, the *Barnabas Team* members meet regularly with their Seminary Intern, with their team and receive teaching from the Associate Chaplains.

REWARDS

While the work is voluntary the pay comes in several currencies. First, students can expect to grow in their faith by being mentored and having regular sessions where the practical working out of theology is discussed—expect to be challenged in these sessions. Second, students can expect to grow in their knowledge of themselves through the experience of working on a team and leading others. Finally, students can expect to grow in their understanding of their place in the world. Everything we do is done in the context of living in a community that is part of the Kingdom of God. As such, students will be encouraged to see the world and others through the context that God reigns and his Spirit is present everywhere. While this may seem like old news, we believe that the implications for this simple fact take a life time to master and require all the help possible. Therefore, expect to pick up some lifelong companions towards your pursuit of God.

TRAINING

Barnabas Team training begins August 31, 2009 and goes through Sept 4, 2009 for the purpose of on and off-campus training and team building. All housing, training costs, and meals will be covered by the Office of Christian Formation. *Barnabas Team* members living in the Resident Halls can begin moving into their room on Friday, August 28 and must be moved in by 8am on Monday, August 31st.

Barnabas Team **2009-2010** **Application Form**

Please fill out clearly:

Name _____ Student ID # _____

Local Address _____ Phone _____

Calvin email _____ Home address _____

Date of Birth _____ Current G.P.A. _____ Gender: M ___ F ___

Major _____ Current Year at Calvin _____

Provide us with the names of those who will be completing recommendations for you.

One dorm leader (RA, RD, or current Barnabas) _____

One Faculty/Staff recommendation _____

Please attach a typed response to the following questions:

1. What is your hometown and home church?
2. What church do you currently attend?
3. What is your leadership experience?
4. Please list all extra-curricular commitments you hope to keep next year (e.g. sports, musical ensembles, internships, student teaching, work hours, etc.) *Note: Barnabas Team Leaders are advised to keep other extra-curricular activities and employment to a minimum.
5. Which areas of ministry most interest you?
6. What gifts and skills would you bring to your work as a *Barnabas Team* member?
7. Thinking about our community life here at Calvin, where do you see God's hand at work?
8. What vision do you have for Christian community/Christian formation at Calvin?
9. How might you see serving on the *Barnabas Team* fit into God's call on your life?
10. In your own words please tell what the Gospel is (in about 100 words)
11. Have you been charged with any Calvin College discipline violations? If yes, please explain.

I wish to be placed: ___ in the Residence Halls ___ in the KE apartments ___ either, no preference. (Note: the large majority of students will be placed in the Residence Halls.)

Please rank in order of preference your first five choices of Residence Hall and floor.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

We will do our best to accommodate everyone's desires but the goal is to have one Barnabas on every hall which means not everyone will be placed in their first choice.

**Please return this form and two references to The Office of Christian Formation
(Commons Annex 150).**

**Calvin College
Student Life Division
Office of Christian Formation**

Barnabas Team Recommendation

_____ has applied for a position on the *Barnabas Team* for the 2009-2010 school year. If selected, he/she will assume a leadership role, working to develop Christian community, challenge students to live together as the Body of Christ, and promote Christian growth among the Residence Halls. He or she will do this by being a servant leader of fellow students, gathering students together for activities promoting Christian community, and helping students find ways to minister to one another within that community.

Please evaluate the candidate on each of the characteristics listed below. Rate each characteristic on a 1 – 5 basis: 1=Low, 5=High. Comment if needed.

RAPPORT BUILDING: Consider the ability of this person to establish rapport with others. (poise, mannerisms, listening skills, first impression, etc.)

– 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5

Comments:

COOPERATIVENESS: Consider attitude and ability to work with others, how the candidate gets along with superiors, equals, subordinates.

– 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5

Comments:

RESPONSIBILITY: Consider the degree to which this person is dependable, prompt, accurate and conscientious.

– 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5

Comments:

COMMUNICATION: Consider his/her ability to understand questions, grasp new ideas and express his/her thoughts.

– 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5

Comments:

EMOTIONAL STABILITY: Consider this person's disposition and mood; how they handle stress and conflict; ability to confront others constructively

– 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5

Comments:

INITIATIVE: Consider this person's ability to take initiative.

– 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5

Comments:

CHRISTIAN FAITH COMMITMENT / SPIRITUAL MATURITY: Consider this person's ability to demonstrate and articulate their Christian faith.

- 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5

Comments:

TEACHABILITY: Consider this person's openness to grow and learn from others.

- 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5

Comments:

List the strengths of this candidate: _____

List possible weaknesses of this candidate: _____

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Would you

- Highly recommend
- Recommend
- Recommend with Reservation _____

Reference name _____ College Position _____

Your relationship to the candidate _____ How long have you known the candidate _____

Reference Signature _____ Date _____

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Thank you for your time and input into our selection process!

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