

FIRST STUDENTS

Swerve handbook



LEADING STUDENTS TO BECOMING FULLY DEVOTED
FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST

FS

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BELONG

First Students will always be a place where students will be welcomed from different backgrounds, different ethnicities, different areas of life to be invited to find true belonging in Christ. Students will know they belong in LIFE Group, that they belong at Sunday Morning Service and that they belong in our Sunday night youth night community.

BELIEVE

We will faithfully present the Gospel to our students. The Gospel will be presented and it will be presented regularly from LIFE Groups to Youth Night.

BECOME

Discipleship of our students will be emphasized during Sunday Morning LIFE Groups. Students will not only come to know Christ as savior, but will be disciplined into becoming who God has called them to be.

OUR FOCUS

OUR CHURCH WILL BE A PLACE WHERE STUDENTS EXPERIENCE GOD, BUILD RELATIONSHIPS AND LIVE OUT THEIR PURPOSE.



WHAT IS SWERVE AND WHERE DO I FIT IN?

Swerve is the student leadership team of First Students. Swerve students are actively involved in our student ministry from Sunday mornings to Sunday nights. Our team is broken down into four areas:

CONNECT TEAM

Creating a culture in which students feel comfortable and welcome, Connect Team members will specifically connect with guests, first-timers, families, and anyone else who needs to be connected or followed-up.

CREATIVE TEAM

Using various types of social media and creative content to help students be engaged to their student ministry, church, community, and each other, the Creative Team drives a lot!

ENVIRONMENTS TEAM

Creating an environment where students can engage with and experience God through the Word, community, and various elements, the Environment Team members will serve logistically with a focus on HS and JHM set-up and leader support.

TECH TEAM

Tech team is a vital part of our youth ministry. Students will be training on use of cameras, soundboards, lighting systems and anything that involves tech from Sunday Morning to Sunday Night.

EXPECTATIONS

Being held to a higher standard means there are Biblical mandates you're expected to follow and live out. All Student Leaders will be held to these standards:

- **Attend Sunday Morning LIFE Group as a swerve team member 15-20 minutes before the LIFE Group hour that you attend.**
- **Attend Sunday Youth Night Swerve meetings at 6:15pm**
- Strives for a consistent Bible study and prayer life
- Faithful to church and actively participates in a Sunday morning Life Group
- Able to faithfully attend Student Worship services
- Able to attend weekly meeting (6:15pm during your Student Worship night)
- Reaches out to friends and peers who are not saved/unchurched
- Abstains from alcohol and situations where alcohol is present
- Maintains modesty in appearance, conduct, and speech
- Supportive of leadership
- Actively attends 75% or more of FS Events
- Actively supports and promotes FS events (social media, word of mouth, etc.)
- Able to commit to at least one school year

EXPERIENCE

Everything we do will point students to Jesus and gives them the opportunity to experience God, maybe for the first time.

COMMUNITY

Our ministry is driven by relationships. Our leaders care about investing in other students.

PURPOSE

We will help our peers understand their calling as a follower of Christ and encourage them to live it out.

BELIEFS

Understand and affirm what we believe at FBCO:

- **Put God first in your finances, pursuing the tithe (Genesis 28:20-22, Acts 2:42-47, 2 Corinthians 9:6-9), Avoid viewing pornography (Matthew 5:28)**
- **Stay away from excessive alcohol and drug use (Ephesians 5:18, Galatians 5:19-21).**
- **Use your speech to uplift and edify those around you (Matthew 15:11, Ephesians 4:29, Titus 2:7-8).**
- **Use social media responsibly (Matthew 18:6, Hebrews 13:18). Practice a biblical view of sexuality (Romans 13:13, 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, 18).**
- **Commit to sex only within marriage**
- **Avoid being active in or promoting a homosexual lifestyle**
- **Belief that biological sex determines gender**

EXPERIENCE

Everything we do will point students to Jesus and gives them the opportunity to experience God, maybe for the first time.

COMMUNITY

Our ministry is driven by relationships. Our leaders care about investing in each student.

PURPOSE

We will help students understand their calling and lead them to go and live out their faith.



CONNECT

GREETING

- Engage in conversation with all students & leaders
- High fives, fist bumps, smiles
- Hold doors open
- Connecting new students with student leaders and students with similar interests
- Parking lot greeting and First Impressions

FOLLOW-UP

- Decision encouraging/baptism conversations
- Connecting Students with Involvement opportunities (events, mission trips, etc.)
- Following up with absent and/or 1st-time students

STUDENT NEW-HERE TABLE

- Set up New Here Station
- Sign-Holders
- Make sure new here students fill out the new here card
- Take new-here students to LIFE Group Table.
- General welcoming and assistance



ENVIRONMENTS

SUNDAY MORNING LIFE GROUP SET-UP

- Pop-up banners and signage
- Table Toppers
- Pens, Notes, Promotional Materials
- Graphics Motions
- Other items as needed

YOUTH NIGHT

- Making Announcements
- Emcee
- Introductions/Transitions
- Set-Up
- Pop-Up Banners
- Clean-Up
- Hand Out Note Sheets



CREATIVE

CONTENT MANAGEMENT

- Social Media Content and Posts
- Relevant Interaction with Students via new media
- Collect catalog of images, posts and more to share
- Consult with staff for trends and best practices

CONTENT CREATION

- Take and edit photos of LIFE Group, Youth Night and Events.
- Create promotions or graphics
- Shoot and edit videos for Youth Night
- Sermon Notes "Snippets/Recaps" for social media
- Sharing the stories of First Students (photos, videos or written).



TECH TEAM

PRODUCTION

- Running slides for pro presenter
- Learning to use sound board equipment
- Use of lighting systems
- Working with the Tech team on Sunday mornings in order to gain in-depth training
- Using planning center in order to be scheduled and work with the worship team weekly





READY TO START SERVING?

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR INTEREST IN SERVING WITH THE FIRST STUDENTS SWERVE TEAM! YOUR INTEREST IS AN ANSWER TO PRAYER AND WE ARE THANKFUL TO KNOW GOD IS LEADING YOU TO SERVE WITH US!

SO YOU KNOW THE WHOLE PROCESS, FOR ANYONE WHO SERVES AT FIRST BAPTIST O'FALLON RQUIRES THE FOLLOWING STEPS:

- 1. READ OVER THE FIRST STUDENTS LEADERSHIP HANDBOOK**
- 2. COMPLETE THE SWERVE APPLICATION**
- 3. RECEIVE CONFIRMATION OF SWERVE TEAM ACCEPTANCE**
 - PLEASE NOTE THAT SWERVE TEAM MEMBERS WILL BE ACCEPTED BASED ON COMMITMENT TO OUR YOUTH GROUP, AGE, AND SPOTS AVAILABLE. STUDENTS WHO ARE NOT ON THE SWERVE TEAM WILL ALWAYS BE ENCOURAGED AND WELCOMED TO SERVE AS A VOLUNTEER.**

You can find the volunteer application and opportunities online at fbcofallon.org/student-leadership