

PREACHING AND MUSIC AMBASSADORS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the ambassador program?

The program exists to give students practical experience preaching or leading worship in front of a congregation. We work with students to prepare them for ministry, then send them to churches for a one-time visit to lead worship or deliver a sermon.

Do we need to compensate the student(s)?

You are not required to pay the students; however, if your church would like to take an offering or provide a stipend, you can make checks payable to Olivet Nazarene University and we will distribute money to the students.

Do we need to house the student(s)?

If your church is more than 90 miles from Olivet, we prefer for the church to provide housing, either in a host home or a hotel. If you are less than 90 miles from campus, the student will come on Sunday morning and does not need housing.

Are we responsible for providing meals?

We'd love for you to provide some meals, but the amount will depend on how long they're with you. Possibly dinner on Saturday, breakfast on Sunday and/or lunch on Sunday.

Can the ambassador preach a sermon that correlates with a series?

Each ambassador has a limited amount of approved sermons they can choose from, so they likely will not be able to preach a message that goes with your sermon series.

Should I select the music for the music ambassador?

You will connect with the music ambassador to discuss the style and amount of music your congregation prefers. He or she will send you a set list and you can finalize that together. The ambassador will typically accompany themselves on piano or guitar.

How will I communicate with the student?

We will email you with the date of their visit, as well as contact information for the student(s) coming. You can connect with the student(s) via phone, email or text to discuss the logistics of their visit. Most communication happens 2-3 weeks before a visit.

MORE FAQs

What will the student(s) need at our church?

Students will need to connect with a media person for lyric or sermon slides. They will also need a table where they can set up information about Olivet, and they would love to connect with any teens in your congregation to talk about Olivet.

Is there any follow up?

Our office will send out a link to a survey for you to fill out after the visit. We love to pass along feedback to our students on ways they can improve their ministry skills.

Are these all ministry majors?

The majority of the students in our program are ministry majors, but several are students with ministry giftings who are not planning to go into vocational ministry but want to develop their abilities while at Olivet.

Will the students handle other service elements?

Given enough notice, our students usually are comfortable handling the prayer time, praying for the offering, etc. But typically they only preach or lead worship.

Can we mail a check after their visit?

Please make checks payable to Olivet Nazarene University and mail to: ONU, c/o Anne Whalen, Alumni Center, One University Ave., Bourbonnais, IL 60914. Please mark "PAMA" in the memo line.

Where do the mailed funds go?

You can designate where the funds go. We can split it evenly between the students who visited your church, or we can give a portion to the program to help fund future students and visits.

What if I have additional questions?

Please email pama@olivet.edu with additional questions or for clarification about the program. We are happy to assist you!