



SCHOOL OF MINISTERS

Revive • Refine • Reach out

Information Package

2017-2018



Information Package 2017-2018

Application Information

- Please read all of the information in this package and **fill out the entire application**. Incomplete applications *will not* be accepted.
- The **early application deadline is Friday, April 21, 2017**. All applications must be submitted online.
- **All applicants will have an interview with one of the school leaders between May 1 and May 31.**
- *School of Ministers* is for those who are **between the ages of 18 and 30**.
- If your parents have questions or concerns about your involvement in *School of Ministers*, Associate Pastor Chris Puhach or SOM Student Coordinator Dominique Kozarchuk would be more than willing to sit down with them. They can be contacted by email at either chris@mysouthland.com or dominiquek@mysouthland.com.



What Is School of Ministers?

Greetings! In 2009-2010, Southland launched the first year of *School of Ministers*, an eight-month journey of discipleship. It was a wonderful year with 24 incredible students! The following year introduced our first class of 2nd year students along with a new batch of year ones. God has continued to faithfully bring students to *School of Ministers* each year, and we have now seen 420 students graduate from year 1. We are excited to begin our ninth year of *School of Ministers* September 2017. Who will God call this time? We are excited for the work He will do!

The overall mission of the school is to ***“build incredibly strong foundations of faith in Jesus Christ through learning how to align one’s heart with His Will and allowing Him to revive us from within. This creates space to refine us to live holy lives, and propels us to intentionally reach out to advance His Kingdom in our community and beyond.”***

In 2 Timothy 2:2 Paul tells his disciple, and partner-in-Christ, *“and the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses, entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.”* What Paul is addressing in this verse is the process of “passing on” from experienced believers to young disciples who are eager and hungry for more. We believe that Jesus released us to start *School of Ministers* because we have staff and leaders in our midst who are ready to “entrust” what they have both learned and experienced. By no means is this a one-way exchange – “experts” dispensing their knowledge to “ignorant” students. NO! Instead, we believe that students within *School of Ministers* will greatly contribute to the overall work of Christ in this local body and beyond. In fact, 34 former students have found employment in part-time or full time ministry. We fully expect that our students will go beyond merely receiving – they will also be raised up by God to enhance the current ministry of the local and worldwide church. Exciting!

School of Ministers is designed to equip young disciples to not only minister within the walls of the church, but also in the marketplace, their neighborhoods, their families – really, wherever God may send them. The goal is to provide a strong foundation of “core stuff” which will be drawn upon no matter what happens with each person after they complete their year in SOM. Regularly students will be challenged with the truth that these foundations do not exist in our lives simply because we know them, but because we also act on them.

School of Ministers is not intended to cover what Bible colleges or seminaries offer. As you may already be sensing, and will discover from this application, our approach will be different – from the nature of the material covered, to the people doing the teaching/imparting, to the expectations placed on each student. Possible students must accept that while we have a core curriculum to offer, adjustments will be made as we are led by God’s Spirit, either for the entire group or for individuals.

Please note: *School of Ministers, a ministry of Southland Church, is not an accredited school. While the learning done over the year is incredibly valuable, the courses taken are not always transferable to other post-secondary education.*



Schedule

- The school year will run from September 6, 2017 to April 27, 2018. The last class before Christmas will be Wednesday, December 20, 2017 and classes will resume on January 3, 2018.
- Students will be required to be at Southland Church on Wednesdays and Fridays from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. There are 3 goals for this class time: 1) receiving, through teaching 2) receiving, through impartation 3) learning through practical experience. This school will be very hands-on! Students can expect a mix of the following on Wednesday and Fridays, which will contribute to the three goals just highlighted: worship, time in prayer, discussion time, ministering to one another, reception of vital knowledge which will provide each student with a solid foundation for all ministry that they currently do or will do in the future, etc.
Note 1: Wednesdays and Fridays equal *a 19 hour time commitment per week*.
Note 2: Wednesdays and Fridays will have ample time for your personal devotions. (You don't have to get up at 5 a.m. to do them!)
- Students will be required to commit to approximately *2-4 hours of ministry per week* within Southland Church. This ministry is above and beyond what is required on Wednesdays and Fridays, and may or may not be in the area that you're currently serving in. Please note that the number of hours will depend greatly on a mutual assessment of what it is that God is asking of each individual student at this time in their life. Some may serve less than 2 hours/week, some more.
- Students will be required to commit to approximately *7-9 hours of additional time per week* for completing assignments. Some weeks will be more, some weeks will be less.
- The total time commitment expected from students is about 30 hours per week. However, the student who truly wants to gain as much as possible from *School of Ministers* should be open to an even greater time commitment – especially those who may apply for Year 2. This said, we believe that *School of Ministers* provides students with the opportunity to work part-time. Please know that we believe that students should not, through laziness or a lack of discipline, become a financial burden to their parents or others. We believe that two of the greatest places to “work out” what you're learning will be your home and your workplace.
- Almost every week for 2-4 hours, students an opportunity will be given to receive direct mentorship in 1 of 5 areas: 1) Relational and Intercessory Prayer 2) Worship Ministry 3) Deeper Biblical Study 4) Evangelism 5) Cell Leading with Excellence. Such mentorship will include teaching, coaching and opportunities to implement. Each student will have to choose one of these “tracks”. There is no need to indicate which one until August, approximately 1 month prior to the start of *School of Ministers*.
- For 2017-2018 there is an exciting new development for *School of Ministers*. We are offering an optional third day (partial school day running 7:00am – 12:00pm) on Mondays. Content for this day will be building upon and expanding material covered on Wednesdays and Fridays. This additional commitment will have the same expectations of class attendance as other days of *School of Ministers* and will include a



homework component. Former students as well as other congregation members may be participating in the Monday classes as well. Sign up for this opportunity will take place in August, approximately one month prior to the start of school.

- There will be an optional post-graduation International Missions Trip that will take place in May or June. While there is much focus on reaching out to our community locally during the school year, this missions trip is designed to work in partnership with churches that we are in direct association with at Southland Church throughout the world. More information on locations and specific dates will be made in class during the fall. Cost for this trip is approximately \$2500 per person and donations can be made by others on behalf of the student. Partial payment will be expected by early December with final payment made by March.

Costs for the Student

- **Regular Tuition**

Tuition will be \$1600 if the application is handed in by the early deadline (April 30th, 2017). Applications received in May and June will increase the tuition cost to \$1700, \$1750 in July and \$1800 in August. \$1100 will be due August 14, 2017 and the balance remaining on January 3, 2018. Tuition will cover the cost of required books, a retreat at the beginning of the school year, staff time, and the considerable administrative expenses incurred in running a school. Please note that we do not make money on *School of Ministers*.

- **Optional Third Day Tuition**

In addition to the regular tuition (dependent on date of application), the optional third day will be an additional cost of \$500 for the year. This is payable in two installments on the same dates as the regular tuition (August 14, 2017 and January 3, 2017).

- **Other Costs**

Students should expect and budget for additional costs – i.e. going on Set Free retreat, Empower retreat, a few tanks of gas for ministry adventures, etc. It would be wise to anticipate extra costs of close to \$200.

Requirements

- To be completed before *or* during School of Ministers: i) Set Free Retreat, ii) Empower Ministers Retreat, and iii) baptism. These will be completed at the earliest possible date.
- Students must commit to attend all Prayer Summits.
- You may be asked to read specific books or listen to specific sermons prior to the start of the school year, provided you are accepted.
- Sign and adhere to a covenant regarding your walk with God and involvement in the school.



- You will have regular access to transportation – to get to the church or any other locations, as deemed necessary.
- Southland Church is your primary church as you attend *School of Ministers*. This is not our effort to “steal” people from other churches. Rather, we do not believe that students will be able to maximize their time in *School of Ministers* without complete exposure to what’s happening at Southland. Students attending from other locations are encouraged to continue engaging in the principles they have learned in SOM as they return home or any place God would lead them.
- Students will not miss any school activities/class time, except when permission has been received from the leadership of the school.

You must be between the ages of 18 (graduated from high school) and 30.

Potential Content

We provide this list of potential content so that prospective students are aware of what may be covered in *School of Ministers*. Of course, we reserve the right to make adjustments – add, delete or adapt specific “courses”. Further, the student must remember that the structure of *School of Ministers* includes far more than the traditional lecture style of post-secondary education. Potential courses and topics to be covered:

A. Studying and Understanding the Scriptures

Whether called to full-time ministry or not, *every* serious follower of Christ needs to be passionate and knowledgeable about the Scriptures. Why then are we often so weak in our pursuit of knowledge and a hunger for God’s Word? Two of the primary factors include being intimidated by what, at times, seems to be confusing or boring and second is a lack of motivation. It is our hope that what students cover in this course will challenge these factors AND so much more. Specific areas worked through are: 1) A Survey of the Old Testament 2) How do we interpret the Word? 3) What is the purpose of the Scriptures? 4) Why is the Bible reliable?

B. Being A Disciple of Jesus

There are specific “treasures” of discipleship and leadership that, when embraced, can move us all to a place of greater fruitfulness. These sessions can seem “random” but they often result in some of the most significant moments for students. The goal is far more than learning or passing on knowledge. Instead, we will aim for impartation, seeking to live these principles (with the help of the Holy Spirit) in everyday life.

C. End Times and Eternity



The Scriptures are FULL of teaching and declarations about the end times and eternity. Through this course, not only will students end up with a better understanding of their Bibles, but they will learn to better prepare themselves for the days ahead. They will also gain confidence in discussing the end times with others.

D. Glory of God

The word “glory” is a word in the Scriptures that is often used to sum up who God is (i.e. worship Him in His glory). He is glorious! In this course, we will consistently declare the importance of both knowing about God *and* knowing Him. Also, we will seek to understand, meditate on and experience His attributes – His Mercy, His Love, His Sovereignty, His Goodness, etc. Guaranteed, if we fully enter into this, it will change us forever.

E. Defending Our Faith

Many approach “apologetics” or defending our faith with either fear or boredom, and decide that it’s only for really smart people and deep thinkers! Through this course, we’ll look at a few challenging questions that both believers & unbelievers wrestle with regularly. The goal: to understand the value of apologetics, and to grow confidence in our own faith.

F. Developing A Life Of Prayer and Prophecy

This course will focus in on laying a strong foundation in our lives through sessions on Thriving on our Devotions, Hearing God and Prophecy. Emphasis will be placed on encouraging each student to pursue a vibrant two-way relationship with Jesus that *will spill over into the lives of others*.

G. Jesus’ Plan and Passion For The Church

In this course we will talk about the vital importance of the local church in the life of individual believers, in the expansion of God’s kingdom and for society. We will also very carefully consider the “ancient paths” that God uses in and through the church – i.e. repentance and emotional wholeness – currently and in church history. Jesus is building His church and this course will be a call for students to rise up and play their part.

H. Celebration of Discipline

Spiritual disciplines such as prayer, fasting, solitude, worship, etc. are necessary for anyone who desires to be a growing follower of Jesus. In this book study, we will start where students are at and seek to move forward together, keeping the ultimate goal in mind – to better love God and love others!



I. Kingdom of God and Evangelism

We are a kingdom of priests! A core part of the Lord’s Prayer is – “your kingdom come, your will be done...” In this course, we will talk about what all this “kingdom” stuff is about, and what our blessings and responsibilities are as kingdom children. These teachings will be a springboard into both outreach and service opportunities and further teaching on evangelism.



Covenant

This covenant should be taken very seriously by students. Please read and sign it in a spirit of prayer.

As a potential student in Southland Church's *School of Ministers*:

1. I commit to the schedule and requirements listed in the application package.
2. I commit to volunteering weekly in the church while in school. As a representative of *School of Ministers* I will be diligent in being on time and communicating with my leaders in my volunteer area if I am unable to be there in a given week.
3. I commit to regular church attendance and financial giving.
4. I commit to attending monthly Prayer Summits.
5. I commit to a "no gossip" policy regarding any perceived negative attitudes or actions of anyone or anything in the *School of Ministers* or in this church. If I encounter problems with anyone, I will go directly to the person with whom I have a problem and attempt reconciliation. If this fails, I will go to other trusted leaders for guidance on steps of reconciliation.
6. If someone confesses something to me, I commit to hold any confession of their failure in confidence. If I do speak to another, then I need to be willing to tell it to the one who confessed their sin to me.
7. I commit to refuse to participate in conversations that promote or joke about immorality.
8. If I repeatedly stumble in immorality of any form (including pornography or sexual contact with someone other than my spouse), I will show the fruit of repentance by going to confess to one of the leaders of *School of Ministers*. Likewise, I commit to share with the leadership of the *School of Ministers* if my friend repeatedly stumbles in immorality, or if I feel that they have done something of such severity that the leadership needs to know immediately. I will first tell my friend before sharing with a leader to convince him to go with me. This action is done with the desire to see the best for my friend and their walk with God.
9. I commit to talk to one of the *School of Ministers* leaders if I am planning to start dating while in school and hold purity to the highest standard.
10. I commit to view *School of Ministers* as a serious pledge to Jesus.

I understand that failure to live up to this covenant justifies my potential removal from *School of Ministers*.



Southland Church's Statement of Beliefs

God

There is only one God, creator and ruler of the universe. He exists eternally as three distinct persons - Father, Son and Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God.

Genesis 1:1, 26, 27, 3:22; Psalm 90:2; Matthew 28:19; 1 Peter 1:2; 2 Corinthians 13:14

People

We believe that, without exception, every human being is a valuable person created by God in His image and thus possesses inherent dignity, and we are called to love and treat every person with genuine respect. Although every person has tremendous potential for good, all are marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called "sin". This attitude separates people from God and causes many problems in life.

Genesis 1:26-27; Psalm 8:3-6; Isaiah 53:6a; Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:1-2

Salvation

Because of sin, all people deserve the judgment of God. However, God freely offers salvation and eternal life to anyone who trusts in Jesus Christ and in His sacrifice on his or her behalf. Salvation cannot be earned through personal goodness or human effort. It is a gift that must be received by humble repentance and faith in Christ and His finished work on the cross.

Romans 5:1, 6:23; Ephesians 2:8,9; John 14:6, 1:12; Titus 3:5; Galatians 3:26

Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ, second Person of the Trinity, was born of the Virgin Mary, lived a sinless human life, willingly took upon Himself all of our sins, died and rose again bodily, and is at the right hand of the Father as our advocate and mediator. Some day He will return to earth to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords.

Matthew 1:22, 23; Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1-5; 14:10-30; Hebrews 4:14,15; 1 Corinthians 15:3,4; Romans 1:3,4; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Timothy 6:14,15; Titus 2:13

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit, third Person of the Trinity, convicts the world of sin and draws people to Christ. He also indwells all believers. He is available to empower them to lead Christ-like lives, to understand spiritual truth, and to give them guidance in their daily lives. He gives all believers spiritual gifts with which to serve the church and reach out to a lost world.

2 Corinthians 3:17; John 16:7-13, 14:16,17; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 2:12, 3:16; Ephesians 1:13; Galatians 5:25; Ephesians 5:18



Eternity

People were created to exist forever. At the final judgment, we will either exist eternally separated from God by sin, or eternally with God through forgiveness and salvation. To be eternally separated from God is Hell. To be eternally in union with Him is eternal life. Heaven and Hell are real places of eternal existence.

John 3:16; John 14:17; Romans 6:23; Romans 8:17-18; Revelation 20:15; 1 Corinthians 2:7-9

The Church

The Universal Church: All believers are members of the body of Christ, the one true church universal. Spiritual unity is to be expressed among Christians by acceptance and love of one another across ethnic, cultural, socio-economic, national, generational, gender, and denominational lines.

Matthew 16:18; Acts 2; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17; Ephesians 2:14-22; 4:4-6; 1 Corinthians 12:12-30

The Local Church: The local church is a congregation of believers who gather for worship, prayer, instruction, encouragement, mutual accountability, and community with each other. Through it, believers invest time, energy, and resources to fulfill the Great Commission - reaching lost people and growing them into fully devoted followers of Christ.

Acts 2:41-47; 12:5; 20:7; 1 Corinthians 14:26-33; Galatians 2:2; 1 Timothy 5:16; Hebrews 10:25



Questions and Answers

Here are our answers to some of the questions that you may have:

What if my work schedule occasionally conflicts with the School of Ministers schedule?

If a student is working while in *School of Ministers*, we ask that they make it clear to their employer that they are not available on Wednesdays or Fridays until 5:00 p.m. If one's job requires evening work, and a student may have to leave slightly early, allowances *may* be made by the leadership of the school. Such allowances should NOT be assumed – rather, permission should be sought.

What if my parents would rather have me go to university or college?

First, we believe that you MUST treat your parents with respect and honor. Second, this is a matter for prayer – is this an indication that the Lord is not calling you to *School of Ministers*? Third, if you feel that you are called to the school, help your parents understand that this does not stop you from going to university or college in future years. In fact we strongly believe that a year in *School of Ministers* will actually enhance any further education one receives by: 1) developing a strong work ethic 2) preparing you to not only get an education, but also to handle challenges to your faith 3) preparing you to minister to those you will go to school with in the future! If your parents have concerns, please ensure that they know that Chris Puhach or Dominique Kozarchuk would be willing to meet with them.

Can I take courses at another institution (university, college, etc.) while I'm in the School of Ministers?

It is rare for permission to be granted for this or that this would be wise... The key: it is very important that each student be extremely focused during their time in *School of Ministers*. That said, rare exceptions may be made. One can always ask!

Will there be homework to do?

Yes, as well as one test. As highlighted in the section above, titled "Schedule", each student will be required to commit to approximately 7-9 hours/week of additional time working on assignments. Such assignments will be heavily weighted towards reflections on Scripture and core books.

Will there be grades?

This will look different than normal school grading. Assignments are assessed on effort and the level of "heart connection" that we see. Students should seek to see their homework as an offering of praise and worship to God.

How does one get into the 2nd year of School of Ministers?

There are three primary requirements: 1) applicants in Year 1 must have exhibited excellent work ethic and a high level of self-motivation 2) they must have an area of ministry within which they can partner with a specific staff member. This "partnership" is not initiated by the prospective 2nd year student, but by the director of the *School of Ministers* and Southland staff 3) they will actively discipling others.

Who will the teachers and leaders be in School of Ministers?

Chris Puhach, one of the Associate Pastors at Southland, will be the director of the school. Dominique Kozarchuk, the SOM Student Coordinator works along side Chris to assist in the running of the school and help facilitate the



pastoral care of the students. The teachers and leaders will consist primarily of staff from Southland, although guest speakers and specific volunteers may also contribute. Moreover, some students may be asked to teach or lead specific components if the director and Southland leadership feels that they are capable of doing so. At times, students will be teamed up with specific staff members for learning purposes, accountability and special projects.

Will the school allow me to focus on a unique calling that I have – i.e. missions, prayer?

There will be *some* room to zero in on a specific calling you may have from the Lord. At the same time, we believe that it is important to get broad exposure, through teaching, impartation and experience, to a *wide* variety of areas. Why? First, even if the Lord requires you to focus over the long-term, such broad exposure will allow you to appreciate the callings that others have. Second, it is vital that we have certain foundational factors in place (i.e. the ability to hear the Lord accurately) if we are to fully realize our potential in Christ. Overall, we look forward to observing how the Lord will uniquely shape and use each student through *School of Ministers*.

What if I'm new to the church? How do I get involved in serving?

We have a number of serving opportunities at Southland. As you go through the application and interview process we will give you the options that are available. Ministry involvement is a key part of being a *School of Ministers* student and as such, getting connected into an area to serve will be a step that happens early in the school year.

Looking at the schedule in this package, Wednesdays and Fridays seem like long days. Will there be breaks?

There will be breaks for meals, etc. on Wednesdays and Fridays. Further, we believe that the variety contained in each day will energize, rather than exhaust. Finally, we will spend time seeking the Lord – He will be our strength. This too we need to learn, as life can be full of long days!

Who should I contact if I have questions about the school?

You may contact Dominique Kozarchuk: 326-9020 (ex. 245), dominiquek@mysouthland.com; or Chris Puhach: 326-9020 (ex. 231), chris@mysouthland.com.