



HANNAH PRICHARD

Auburn University
B.A. Public Administration

Hometown: Dallas, Texas

Tradition: Methodist

Church: Second United Methodist Church, Knoxville, TN

Ministry Aspirations: Children, Youth, At-Risk Ministry

Why Ministry?

"I felt God leading me to pursue ministry 2 years ago... and left social work to pursue ministry.... I stand as a product of God's faithfulness.... God has been shaping my life through... people, experiences, and relationships.... through the children I serve at Emerald... [where] I am a leader and do my best to accept the responsibilities that come with shepherding. Now, I'm tasked with growing in my intellectual understanding of faith so I can lead from more than just experience."

Why Thrive Residency?

"I started working at the Emerald Youth Foundation this year... but I need [more] spiritual education and experience.... While I am thankful for my Auburn education... I want to see the world through the lens of Scripture and not my own fleeting sight.... I desire to work with Thrive because I want to grow professionally in a non profit setting and in faith. I believe the experience at Thrive will challenge and grow me into the leader... God is preparing me to be."

Favorite Verse

Ezekiel 16:6

Travel Pick

Charleston or Asheville

Favorite Sports

Basketball, Water polo

Personality

ENFJ, Type 3/2

Favorite Board Game

Everdell

What others say about Hannah...

"dedicated, easy going, relational, adaptable, hard-working, go-getter"
"joyful, enthusiastic, empathetic, committed, trustworthy, authentic"
"adventurous, honest, compassionate, servant, shepherd, consistent"

"Hannah impressed me with her love for Jesus and understanding of God's call in her life. She is a committed believer... pursuing a deeper faith in Jesus.... She is passionate about [ministry]... and I have witnessed her ability to teach young people about faith."

"Hannah leads our Bible rotation and mid-week discipleship.... She saw a need in the children that she has taken on for their spiritual growth.... Hannah is able to emotionally connect with children as well as [her] peers.... She gets along great with everyone...."

"Hannah is wonderful.... She has a serving heart. She is passionate about what she does... she gives it her all.... I have heard her speak words of wisdom into children.... We adore having her here with us. I think she would be a perfect candidate for [Thrive]."



JEREMY TAYLOR

Carolina University
B.A. Biblical Studies; M.Div. Christian Ministries

Hometown: Fayetteville, North Carolina

Tradition: Southern Baptist

Church: Grace Community Church, Marion, NC

Ministry Aspirations: Service, Teaching, At-Risk Ministry, Missions

Why Ministry?

"...I do believe that God has called me to serve Him full-time.... [I] want to remain flexible for whatever opportunities may come my way.... I would really like to work in a church where I can use my gifts to further His kingdom. But I am also very willing to serve in a non-profit Christian ministry.... I feel burdened for those people who are less fortunate and do not want to see them suffer.... I would also consider teaching positions since teaching is my spiritual gift."

Why Thrive Residency?

"I need experience in ministry.... I need more training to be able to more deeply understand God's will for my life. I specifically desire hands-on work which I believe Thrive Residency can provide. I have gained plenty of theoretical knowledge... and now I have a really strong desire to gain practical knowledge.... I am also excited to get to know other people who have passions that are similar to mine and look forward to building deep relationships with them."

Favorite Verse

Romans 12:1-2

Hobbies

Hiking, Camping

Favorite Dessert

Chocolate Eclair Cake

Next on Bucket List?

Alaska

Favorite App

Spotify

What others say about Jeremy...

"reliable, loyal, hard-working, smart, quiet, humble, disciplined"
"takes initiative, organized, positive, intelligent, spiritual, committed"
"faithful, consistent, compassionate, polite, serves with excellence, Godly"

"Jeremy has... exemplary faith, character, and spiritual maturity.... He represents Christ well in all circumstances. He's demonstrated his [ministry] call... leading the food pantry ministry... mobilizing volunteers... [and] developing his leadership skills and style."

"Jeremy is completely committed to his faith... [He] is a great man of God, exercises tremendous patience, and is a hard worker.... Jeremy always does his job to the highest expectations... [He's] a great candidate for pastoral or non-profit Christian ministry."

"Jeremy possesses a deep faith.... He leads himself and others well... and seeks to follow God's will.... Jeremy is intellectually bright.... [He] serves selflessly in our local outreach ministry... and genuinely cares about the ministry team and those receiving help."



MACKENSIE PROSSER

Cedarville University

B.A. Worship Ministry, Minor in Bible

Hometown: Enon, Ohio

Tradition: Non-denominational Christian

Church: First Light Church, Vandalia, OH

Ministry Aspirations: Worship, Youth, Communications, Social Media

Why Ministry?

"I truly feel like over the last five years I have begun to experience a gradual and slow realization that the Lord is calling me into leadership within ministry. I'm still learning what that looks like.... It's been a bit of a puzzle that the Lord has been guiding me through by giving me the pieces day by day, and as I put it together, I see more and more what my calling in the Kingdom looks like.... I know that it's what I am being called towards in this season of my life."

Why Thrive Residency?

"I first came to know about the Thrive Residency through an acquaintance from college that is currently a Resident.... I have been able to hear about her journey... how it has impacted her.... After taking the time to look into this ministry and all of the unique opportunities for growth... I knew that I wanted to apply.... I believe that Thrive Residency will stretch me in ways that will bring me closer to the person that Christ has created me to be... [and] will take me out of my comfort zone in order to make me reflect Christ more to the world around me...."

Favorite Scripture

Matthew 5:13-16

Instruments

Acoustic Guitar

Coffee Order

Iced Caramel Latte

Hidden Talents

Painting & Drawing

Travel Pick

Amelia Island, FL

What others say about Mackensie...

"humble, servant, gracious, skilled, hard-working, creative, teachable"

"faithful, kind, collaborative, mentor, encourager, leader, Christ-like"

"Godly, authentic, faithful, learner, relational, caring, gifted, dedicated"

"Mackensie has a deep faith where she is consistently pursuing Jesus.... She continually maintains a posture of humility, service, and honor. She works with a joyful spirit.... She feels a deep burden to care for the people of God.... I believe she is called into ministry."

"Mackensie displays genuine emotional, social, & relational maturity.... [She's] level headed in emotionally charged situations... [able] to handle relational issues & adapt to new or challenging social situations.... I have seen her thrive as a disciple, musician, & leader."

"Mackensie has a strong personal connection with Christ.... [She] displays a combination of talent and hard-work.... She is humble and teachable.... People at our church speak very highly of her.... she has the spiritual maturity of a much older believer."



ZERUBABEL FITSUM

Hannibal-LaGrange University
B.A. Christian Studies (Biblical emphasis)

Hometown: Olathe, Kansas

Tradition: Non-denominational, Southern Baptist

Church: First Baptist Church, Palmyra, MO

Ministry Aspirations: Discipleship, Worship, Kids/Youth, Service

Why Ministry?

"...[I] really want to serve the local church.... The main way I [have] practiced my gifts... [is] through playing guitar and singing... Kingdom Kids discipleship nights... [and] I have preached a couple times.... [M]y sense of calling... has been confirmed amongst my church family and professors and family... [and] entails a passion for the Word of God being understood in its context as well as for the gospel being preached to edify the saints and to reconcile the world."

Why Thrive Residency?

"Thrive as an integrative, residential program seeks to develop the types of leaders that I want to be. I want to be a Christian who is able to engage the world in a variety of ways that is honoring to God and loving to my neighbors. I have also heard reports about how impactful Thrive has been for its Residents.... The heart of the leadership and the vision of the program are great in my estimation."

Favorite Scripture

Philippians 3:8-11

Enneagram

Type 2/3

Musical Talent

Guitar, Singing, Keys

Languages

Mandarin, Amharic

Travel Pick

Chicago

What others say about Zeru...

"joyful, intelligent, humble, reliable, Godly, self-controlled, loving"
"sincere, encouraging, relational, enthusiastic, thinker, willing, engaged"
"mature, self-aware, passionate, infectious personality, lover of Jesus"

"Zeru loves Christ... lives out his faith... and has a passion and commitment to Christ that is so contagious.... He's in tune with his emotions... Zeru's willing to invest the amount of relational energy necessary... to help others realize God's will for their lives."

"Zeru is a young man of deep faith.... He shows maturity in his relationships with others.... Zeru has shown a passion and commitment to Christian ministry... teaching Bible studies... [and] ministering to the practical needs of the students."

"Zeru is a solid pursuer of righteousness. He loves people & Jesus well... Jesus is always on his lips. Zeru is reliable and in tune to others needs. I know he is called to ministry. He has a passion for bringing about the kingdom on earth."



DANA JONES

Colorado Christian University
B.A. Psychology (Biblical Studies emphasis)
Minor in Youth Ministry

Hometown: Rapid City, South Dakota

Tradition: Non-denominational Christian

Church: Lighthouse Church, Denver, CO

Ministry Aspirations: Children's Ministry, At-Risk Kids/Youth

Why Ministry?

"I currently work in a juvenile detention center... and I have actively been involved in serving in the kids ministry for the past 2.5 years.... My current role is Director of Kid's ministry... [where] I have gotten to practice my spiritual gifts of compassion, leadership, planning/organizing.... I feel in my heart a pull towards vocational ministry.... I would love to be in a ministry role with at-risk kids/youth."

Why Thrive Residency?

"I believe we should all have people mentoring and discipling us... [which] keeps us humble, challenges us, and pushes us to know God deeper.... [It's] really exciting for me to live in community with other believers working toward the same goal.... I love the idea of... being placed in an environment where I can practice my gifts and learn more about where God may want me."

Favorite Scripture

Genesis 1-3

Coffee Shop Order

Lavender Steamer

Enneagram

Type 4

Hidden Talent

Floral Design

Sport / Hobby

Volleyball, Snowboarding

What others say about Dana...

"compassionate, consistent, encouraging, determined, mature, leader"
"attentive, diligent, loyal, passionate, lively, joyful, dependable, Spirit-led"
"exuberant, teachable, trustworthy, honest, hilarious, loves Jesus"

"Dana loves and serves Jesus in all that she does... she's filled to the brim with the fruit of the Spirit....

She is constantly sharing the Gospel with underserved youth.... Ministry is in her bones.... God has been equipping Dana... and I am confident that she is ready...."

"Dana has a strong faith in Jesus....

She is a woman of integrity... always seeking to grow in the Lord.... Emotionally she is wise beyond her years.... I do believe Dana is called to ministry.... She absolutely loves sharing Jesus with the younger generations."

"Dana is one of my favorite people.... Dana has a radical faith. She is persistent & self-aware. She is humble, sincere & teachable.... She has a strong sense of identity. Dana is a very capable woman. She can conquer any obstacle... and always goes the extra mile."



CALEB TURNER

Carson-Newman University
B.A. Religion (Theology, Youth & Children)

Hometown: Mount Juliet, Tennessee

Tradition: Baptist, Non-denominational

Church: Victory Baptist Church, Mount Juliet, TN

Ministry Aspirations: Youth, Discipleship, Pastoral, Teaching

Why Ministry?

"I've felt a strong passion and longing to serve the church since deciding to follow Christ.... Christ has been moving in me and leading me, through education and opportunity, toward pastoral ministry. I believe that God has equipped me and led me to serve the church in a leadership role and I am eager to follow that calling.... My passion is teenagers and helping them to understand how to follow Christ and be His hands and feet to their community."

Why Thrive Residency?

"I love the city of Knoxville and its people, so I would love to come serve the people and local church of that area. I am excited to find a new community of believers and get some graduate level training while doing it.... I love reading and expressing my thoughts in writing, so I would love that aspect of the program.... I believe that this is a great opportunity and I look forward to serving with Thrive."

Favorite Scripture

Mark 5:1-10; John 21:1-14

Musical Talent

Drums

Favorite Food

Buffalo Chicken

Personality

INFP

Live Anywhere?

Fjord in Finland

What others say about Caleb...

"compassionate, trustworthy, reflective, authentic, humble, dependable"
"driven, calm, hard-working, willing, talented, learner"
"called, gifted, passionate, intelligent, studious, dedicated, loyal"

"Caleb allows God's Word to shape his heart and mind.... Caleb has integrity and is humble.... He has endurance and strength.... I saw his drive to lead students towards Jesus... his passion to teach the Word to students.... I do believe he is called to... Christian ministry."

"I believe Caleb has shown a true call to full-time ministry.... I know his heart is committed to the Lord.... He shows spiritual maturity... solid character.... Caleb has led our youth ministry planning, teaching & preaching.... [He's] growing in his faith journey.... I believe in Caleb."

"[Caleb's] coming to Christ... was deliberate, authentic, and life-changing.... [He's] compassionate, empathetic... & trustworthy.... He is one who has a heart for ministry and who is willing to do what needs to be done.... [He's] easy to like, easy to get along with, a 'still water runs deep,' kind of guy."



HANNAH EDDINS

Berry College

B.A. Spanish; Minor in Psychology

Minor in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL)

Hometown: Rome, Georgia

Traditions: Non-denominational, Presbyterian

Church: Seven Hills Fellowship, Rome, GA

Ministry Aspirations: Youth/Kids, Foster Care, Refugees, Teen Moms

Why Ministry?

"I definitely know that my call is to serve and love people, especially those who are hurting and/or marginalized.... I hope to get my master's in counseling and potentially work in the foster care system, refugee camps, abroad in orphanages, or somewhere similar. I definitely want to reach the lost and hurting, but am not sure if that will be through a Christian non-profit, a government organization, or something in between!"

Why Thrive Residency?

"[I'd] love to be a part of such an incredible organization that has the same heart as I do as well as get to experience ten months of community, mentorship, and intentional time of prayer and rest to hear the Lord about what is next for me!.... I have felt the Lord's call and peace to pursue this program.... I love the idea of living in the community we will be serving.... Thrive Residency truly seems too good to be true!"

Favorite Scripture

John 11:17-44

Next on Bucket List

Skydive!

Sport

Soccer

Enneagram

Type 2/3

Hidden Talent

Singing the ZYX's
(ABC's backwards!)

What others say about Hannah...

"friendly, outgoing, kind, good listener, dependable, loyal"
"joyful, committed, trustworthy, self-aware, resilient, leader, delightful"
"earnest, driven, mature, servant, candid, humble, capable, confidant"

"...[Hannah's] diligent in being in the Word and living a life that exemplifies walking with the Lord.... Her character has been steadily consistent with Scripture... calm and engaging... highly intelligent.... [She's] an asset to every entity she's been a part of."

"...[Hannah] dove into hard places, with children and teens at YMCA... engaging with the residents in drug-ridden neighborhoods.... [She's] pursued ministry and missions opportunities around the globe.... I am excited to see what the Lord does in her life."

"Hannah is a minister... it is part of who she is.... [She's] in the top 5% of students regarding character and spiritual maturity.... a gifted soccer player and a sharp, successful college student.... Hannah is a gift and would richly benefit from a program like this."



JESSE MERKEL

Multnomah University

B.A. Biblical & Theological Studies and Youth Ministry

Hometown: Ouray, Colorado

Tradition: Non-denominational Christian

Church: Pulpit Rock Church, Colorado Springs, CO

Ministry Aspirations: Student Ministry, Discipleship, Teaching

Why Ministry?

"I felt called to ministry at 16 years old.... It was on a mission trip in high school that I felt the call from God.... I really want to be a youth pastor.... I love mentoring students and discipling them. In years past, I discipled the student worship team at my church in Portland. In Las Vegas, I cultivated and led a high school intern program... leading students to Scripture and just doing activities with them.... I'm open to anything as long as I'm working with students."

Why Thrive Residency?

"I want to enroll in Thrive Residency because I recognize that I have a lot of education, but I still have a lot to learn. When I have applied for full-time youth ministry positions, the feedback I get is that I don't have enough experience. I am looking to grow in my leadership abilities, grow in ministry experience, and be mentored by others. I want... prayer for guidance and direction on God's will for my life."

Favorite Verse

John 10:10

Enneagram

Type 6

Favorite Musician

John Mayer

Sport / Hobby

Baseball, Running

Favorite Games

Yahtzee, Quelf

What others say about Jesse...

"sincere, compassionate, faithful, teachable, relationally mature"
 "genuine, courageous, passionate, outgoing, thoughtful, responsible"
 "smart, determined, strong, friendly, humorous, grace-filled, devoted"

"Jesse is passionate & dedicated to walking with Jesus.... Ministry is what makes Jesse feel alive... [and] he has served effectively and faithfully.... He's mature emotionally and relationally.... Jesse is sharp, a quick learner, and dedicated to growth."

"Jesse loves the Lord and he loves people.... He is relationally mature.... Jesse enjoys people and connects well with others.... He loves reading God's word and seeking to do His will... he presses on toward that goal."

"Jesse is solid in his walk with Christ, intentional about continuing to grow in his faith, and truly remarkable in his character.... I think God has a story He wants to share through Jesse... and I can't wait for him to find it."



LORNA TREFFERT

University of Tennessee, Knoxville
M.S., B.S. Industrial & Systems Engineering

Hometown: Knoxville, Tennessee

Tradition: Non-denominational

Church: City Church, Knoxville, TN

Ministry Aspirations: Teaching, Youth, Education, Curriculum/Assessment

Why Ministry?

"[God's] set me on the path of non-profit ministry.... I have realized my passion for teaching, student outreach, and... improv[ing] our education system.... I have been learning how students learn, what motivates them, how their identity can be affected by certain experiences, and what challenges students from minority groups face.... I want to apply both my engineering and education expertise to encourage as many students as I can...."

Why Thrive Residency?

"Every step I have taken in these last years has felt right, like I have been walking with God towards something good.... I want to devote my entire life to His service, because in the end that's all that really matters. I believe the Thrive Residency program will allow me to do that.... I no longer want my faith to be a small part of my life, largely separate from every other part.... I am confident that I am ready to give my all to this program."

Favorite Scripture

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Personality

ENFP, Type 9

Hidden Talent

Jeopardy

Live Anywhere

Pacific Northwest

Favorite Music

Musicals!

What others say about Lorna...

"intelligent, kind, outgoing, personable, patient, hopeful, consistent"
"enthusiastic, welcoming, passionate, fun, hospitable, faithful"
"creative, compassionate, loyal, trustworthy, fearless, servant, joyful"

"Lorna has grown immensely in spiritual maturity.... She is brilliant. She loves to learn.... She is an active [church] participant... prays for the people in her community... and helps in setting culture and giving Biblical wisdom and encouragement."

"Lorna has sought God's direction in her life at every turn.... To watch her connect science with education and ministry feels God ordained.... Her entire face lights up... about the possibility of helping young people in under educated communities."

"Lorna has grown a lot in her faith... seeking the Lord in how she can leverage her gifting and passions with His kingdom purposes.... Lorna thrives in social settings. She is truly able to connect with people and make them feel welcome...."



CHRISTINE ELLIOTT

Lancaster Bible College

B.A. Biblical Studies; B.S. Intercultural Studies

Hometown: Eastern Shore, Virginia

Traditions: Grace Brethren, Non-denominational, Baptist

Church: Grace Church at Willow Valley, Lancaster, PA

Ministry Aspirations: Youth, Young Adults, Missions, Teaching, Admin

Why Ministry?

"...I haven't heard a voice from the heavens telling me this is what I'm meant to do, but I have a passion to do it and have my church as well as many professors, friends, and colleagues who would back my call. Furthermore, I can't really see myself doing anything else long-term. My gifts and passions are all centered around helping people know God and make him known."

Why Thrive Residency?

"To experience the growth, challenges, and community provided through the combination of church work and graduate study in order to better equip myself to make God's name known through ministry. I have been seeking both to pursue a master's degree and gain experience in ministry since graduating from Lancaster Bible College last year, however, I am not currently in a position to afford seminary and most churches I've looked into want a MA and/or 3-5 years of experience.... Thrive Residency offers both aspects at an affordable price."

Favorite Verse

Prov. 16:9; Matt. 6:34

Sport / Hobby

Volleyball & Hiking

Travel Pick

Spain

Personality

Type 2 - ENFJ

Favorite Game

Exploding Kittens

What others say about Christine...

"passionate, reliable, hard working, intelligent, servant, faithful"
 "driven, responsible, trustworthy, industrious, giving, intentional, fun"
 "Gospel-centered, disciple, leader, determined, thorough, growing"

"Christine has a deep desire to serve and follow Jesus. She has shown great endurance and perseverance.... She has served in our student ministry for years now and loves discipling the teen girls!... I think she definitely has the gifts to serve in ministry!"

"Christine has a high value for biblical truth and sharing it with others.... She respects others and holds herself to a high standard.... She has been extremely involved in youth group and meeting with her mentors.... ministry is the best fit for her gifts and passions."

"Christine is a devoted follower of Christ.... She loves theology.... She is very intelligent, a reader who is always seeking to learn.... I believe TR is a perfect fit for her call, her hard-working pioneer spirit, and her administrative and discipling gifts."