

Calvin  **1876**
UNIVERSITY
Barnabas Job Description

BARNABAS VISION

The vision of the Barnabas team is to help fellow students foster communities in which students are encouraged and empowered to ***know and encourage in the name of Jesus***. 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 that students embrace their floors and halls as part of their ministry.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The *Barnabas Team* works to provoke whole-life transformation. This starts with knowing God and moves out to engaging the world beyond. Therefore, ***Barnabas create and facilitate healthy rhythms for faith formation in their own lives and in their residence halls through Bible study, worship, prayer, service, and community***. It’s all work for the Kingdom of God.

The *Barnabas Team* also partners with other student leaders in their dorm to foster Christian community in the residence halls and beyond. They do this by collaborating with other hall leaders in order to 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 Sarah VerMerris and Becky Wieggers, Seminary Interns; they will work closely with and will be mentored by a Discipleship Assistant (DA).

QUALIFICATIONS

The ***Barnabas Team*** is a volunteer position comprised of (usually) sophomore Calvin students who exhibit a commitment to see the Gospel of Jesus Christ lived out in down-to-earth ways and who desire to see their community grow in its love of God and love of neighbor. If you are a team member, we do not expect you to have your life and faith all figured out. We are simply looking for students who desire to walk as Jesus walked, are committed to encouraging and equipping others to do likewise, and who know that they themselves need Christ’s mercy and grace.

All are welcome to apply but we ask that you maintain a minimum 2.75 GPA, have your conduct in good standing with the university, and have had at least one semester of past residency in

Calvin's on-campus housing system. It would be wise that, while serving on the Barnabas team, other extra-curricular activities and employment not dominate your life outside of school.

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES

Barnabas members serve in teams alongside other residence hall leadership, and are required to live in the Residence Halls. They are required to be present on-campus for the duration of the academic year.

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

In collaboration with other dorm leaders, **Barnabas Team** members:

- **Discern** the needs for Christian growth within their residence hall
- **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

In order to continually grow and develop in their ministry gifts and roles, **Barnabas Team** members meet regularly with their DA and team, and also receive ongoing training from the Seminary Interns.

Each Barnabas Team is responsible for:

- 1 Bible Study per week for the dorm
- 1 worship offering per month
- 1 prayer offering per month
- 1 service opportunity per month
- 1 community event per month

This helps to provide a more holistic offering of faith formation practices for residents.

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 conversations about faith formation practices. 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 and find ways that they can participate in the Kingdom of God.

TRAINING

Barnabas Team training takes place the week before classes begin. All housing, food, and training costs and meals will be covered by Campus Ministries. **Barnabas Team** members can begin moving into their room the weekend before training. Official dates TBD.