



*“Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.”
Galatians 5:25*

“Igniting a passion to follow Jesus... through dance”

GENERAL INFORMATION 2013-2014

Our goal is that ultimately the Lord’s will would be done and that this ministry would provide another biblical avenue to glorify Jesus Christ. We want this ministry to be more than just dancing—we want to see spiritual growth in its members, spurring one another on in the faith and also to enjoy sharing fellowship and burdens with each other.

We are daughters of the King BEFORE we are dancers

~Your relationship with the Lord comes before (and along with) the dance ministry.

Reminder of Dance in the Bible

~**Psalm 149 & 150** and many other places. I’ve found it to be mainly to express JOY!

~It is to be focused on the LORD—we are not to worship ourselves! **Rev. 4:11**

~A way to offer our whole body in worship. **Romans 12:1**

To make this ministry as effective as possible:

~Your own spiritual walk comes first! Spend time with the Lord. Be connected to the King!

OUR NAME:

Our ministry is called “In Step” which comes from Galatians 5. We often tell the dancers that our aim is to first be known as lovers of Jesus Christ and second to be known as members of the dance ministry, not the other way around. Galatians 5:25 says, “Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep *in step* with the Spirit.”

HOW DO I REGISTER:

Open registration for NEW dancers (ages 5-adult) begins **JUNE 1, 2012.**

Those in Step Training and on the waiting list from last year will be able to register prior to this date.

When all spots are filled, or at the dance ministry leader's discretion, we will end registration.

To secure your spot:

1. Register Online

3. pay the annual \$50 fee per dancer (families with 3 or more dancers pay \$125 total)- Checks made to College Park Church with "Dance Ministry" in the memo)

The form and money may be sent to the address below:

Bethany Gee

10407 Mohawk Trl.

Indianapolis, IN 46234

We will not be able to save your spot unless you turn in the fee, discuss a payment plan with Andi, or request financial assistance. This is a one-time yearly fee that takes care of costuming and other needs of In Step.

AUDITIONS: All applicants ages 11 & up will need to audition (details to come). After auditioning, we will let you know if we think In Step is a good fit for you this year. If we feel more training is needed in order to fit into an age appropriate group, we may recommend Step Training classes held on Monday nights for a year or more to enhance technique. Younger dancers may be asked to be evaluated for us to view their skill level.

REGULAR DANCE MINISTRY REHEARSALS:

Regular rehearsals are on Thursday evenings.

Placement is based on several factors, including ability, past commitment, age, maturity, how many dancers we have at a certain age or level, etc. After we receive your re-commitment forms and then new registrations, we will sit down and evaluate the "steps" for the 2013-2014 season. Please know that not everyone can "move up" to a new level each year. There are only 7 levels and there are only so many spots available in each level. Please also know and explain to your daughter that a level does not mean a certain level of dance. Each year we "re-organize" the dancers based on who is participating, so we cannot concretely say that a certain step means you are a certain level dancer. One year, the step 3 dancers might be closer in ability to step 2 and other years, they might be closer in ability to step 4. Please also remind your daughter that ultimately, the dance ministry is a "team" effort to do the best we can to lead others in worship. We need leaders *and* learners in every level in order to do this! This might be your year to be on the "leading" end of your group, or it might be your year to be on the "learning" end of your group, or you might be right in the middle. We will send out the placement list in August before our first rehearsal. After seeing how the groups work together, we may switch some dancers around to different "steps" as we see the need.

*For each dance done in corporate worship, there will be 1-2 extra rehearsals, usually on a Monday night 2 weeks prior to the dance date. For the musicals (December & May), there are 3 additional Monday or Tuesday night rehearsals, as well as 2 regular Thursday rehearsals where the time is lengthened for tech and dress rehearsals. (See information under "2013-2014 Calendar")

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Since we are always learning new choreography, "cleaning-up" dances, working on spacing, or something else as equally important, it's VITALLY important that you attend class each Thursday.

-You are allowed **two excused absences a semester.**

-You **must be present at all tech, dress and on-stage rehearsals!**

-If you are more than **15 minutes late to any rehearsal, you will be considered absent.**

*Sickness, family emergencies, and other events out of your control will be taken into consideration, but please be discerning regarding days you choose to miss for other purposes, knowing that you may get sick at some point and have to miss.

*If you miss more than 2 Thursday classes or any tech, dress or on-stage rehearsals, you may be removed from the upcoming dance event (musical, corporate worship piece), or dismissed from the dance ministry for the remainder of the semester or year.

*Please email Andi at wehoagies@sbcglobal.net or Bethany at beppamarie@hotmail.com as far in advance as possible, if you know in advance that you will not be able to attend class. In case of emergency or last minute notice of an absence, please contact:

Andi 669-2732 (H) or 407-7504 Cell (texting is best)

-Please be especially cognizant of attendance as we get close to dance event. It is always recommended to talk through a discretionary absence with us so we can let you know ahead of time if it is a good idea or not.

Attendance is important for many reasons, but especially in dance it is very difficult for the teachers and dancers to work on dances when we are spending valuable time trying to remember who is in which spot and what happens if she were to move this way when I go that way, etc. Honestly, it makes our brains hurt and we end up wasting time. Again, we understand that life happens, but thank you for doing your very best at being at rehearsal.

YEAR LONG COMMITMENT:

The commitment to the In Step dance ministry is for the entire year. **We will not be accepting new dancers at semester.**

WHAT ARE THE COSTS INVOLVED?

- **black gaucho pants** (\$8-20, often found at Kohl's). They are great to practice in and usually are used for at least one dance throughout the year. Look for and purchase them now, as they are hard to find in the winter. (Girls in step 6 & Up will need black "cropped" pants instead of gaucho pants).

- **ballet shoes** (\$15-25). We expect ballet slippers to be in good condition for *performances*. Socks and tattered ballet shoes are encouraged for rehearsal. Please buy leather, as they hold up MUCH better than canvas shoes when practicing on carpet.

- **tights** (\$2-12), usually for Christmas musical. Usually white footless tights. We will let you know when/if these are needed. Found at Walmart, Kinney Dancewear, Target, etc.

- **\$50/dancer/year, due with your registration form.** Make checks payable to College Park Church, cash in a labeled envelope with the dancer's name, please. If your family is experiencing financial hardship, please talk to Andi! Don't not participate because of this!!!!

-**BALLET CLASS- NEW** this year. We are requiring ballet for those in Steps 4 & up. This class will be the hour prior to their normal rehearsal on Thursday nights. The cost is \$25/semester/student (to be paid in August and January).

BALLET & GAUCHO EXCHANGE:

-If you have any black gaucho pants or ballet shoes that you no longer need, you can turn them in to our "Pass Down" box. Please put all shoes in a ziplock bag. Label each bag and pair of gaucho pants with masking tape or paper safety pinned with the SIZE, YOUR NAME, PRICE. If you are donating the item, just put the size. The person taking the item will be responsible for paying the person selling the item(s).

WHERE CAN I GET DANCE SUPPLIES?

-www.discountdance.com -www.dancedistributors.com

- Kinney Dancewear - (62nd & Keystone) ~ 255-8111 or 146th & Hazel Dell Parkway ~ 581-1800

WANT TO SERVE WITHOUT PUTTING ON DANCIN' SHOES?

-Sewing- sometimes we need alterations to costumes, skirts made, etc.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH:

In order for us to be ministers to others, we must be growing in our love and knowledge of Jesus! Therefore, it's expected that you are growing in the Lord through church attendance, fellowship with other believers, and interactions with your family. We expect a Christ-like attitude when at dance class, and if this becomes an issue, we will be addressing it with you and your parents if necessary.

Also, we hope that you will enjoy engaging in our Scripture memory verses and will share them with others! Throughout the year, you may be given "homework" in the form of devotions so that you we can help you connect to the song you are dancing too. It's our prayer that you will desire to partake in these devotions and will come to class prepared to share.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE:

Please remember that being a regular attendee and/or member of College Park Church is important and required to be involved in In Step. If, for any reason, this status changes during the year, please contact Andi. Thanks!

ATTIRE FOR REHEARSALS:

Also as part of your commitment to In Step, you are expected to come prepared to dance.

-PANTS:

-Please don't wear jeans, shorts or skirts of any kind to class.

-We would like for you to wear modest pants (gaucho or Capri/cropped pants are best so we can see your feet).

-SHIRTS:

Be sure we can't see your stomach if you raise your arms!

Please do not wear tank tops.

Shirts should not be tight fitting.

-SHOES:

-We expect ballet slippers to be in good condition for performances.

-Socks or old ballet shoes are RECOMMENDED for regular Thursday rehearsals in order to save our ballet shoes from the wear and tear from dancing on carpet.

-HAIR:

Please wear your hair pulled back for class. We want to see your beautiful faces!

COSTUME CARE:

Please continue to stress the importance of great care with the dance costumes to your daughters. Many of the shirts cannot be replaced (they were a certain style from a certain store) and the ones that can be replaced are expensive. Please, please stress good stewardship to your daughter in this area.

DANCE CALENDAR:

Typically in the past, In Step has participated in Missions Conference in October (not all dancers), Christmas (all dancers), Palm Sunday (steps 1 & 2), Easter (all remaining dancers). In addition, we are sometimes asked to dance during a regular Sunday corporate worship time, but this would only be certain "steps" or groups of dancers.

In the past, we have held 1-2 mandatory on stage rehearsals prior to each dance event (such as Missions Conference in October or any other regular Sunday we dance), usually on Mondays. For major events (Christmas and Easter), there has also been a Tuesday rehearsal and 1-2 of the Thursday rehearsals are usually extended in length. In addition, for Easter, there is usually a rehearsal during the day on Saturday (the day before Easter).

We will send out a calendar at the start of the dance season in August.

PLEASE! PLEASE! PLEASE!

Overall, try to remember the Three C's that we believe help make the dance ministry work well.

CHRIST: Growing in our love for Jesus helps the overflow of our hearts to naturally show on our faces and in our dancing.

COMMUNICATION: Please be faithful in checking email, as this is our primary source of communication

-check your email frequently! Do we have your email address?

-If you DO NOT have email, it is your responsibility to find someone in the dance ministry who will call you with information as it arrives.

COMMITMENT: Great attendance helps us be as productive as possible.

-be at rehearsal & be on time- tell your teacher of conflicts in advance, come watch if you aren't contagious.

- Please turn in money and forms in a timely manner

-make sure your dancer has used the restroom prior to coming in to dance class.

-take GREAT care of your costumes, return them promptly, & leave our rehearsal space spotless!

ABOUT THE TEACHERS:

***Andi Hogan** was saved her first semester at college. She began dancing at The Dance Academy in Fishers at age 12, after quitting competitive gymnastics. During high school, she danced in various community theater productions and went on to train at Ball State University. She was married to Jack Hogan in 1999 and taught dance at G. Scotten Talent Center in Fishers. Jack and Andi have been blessed with seven children: Jackie, Jillian, Jenna, Joey, Jeremiah, Jane and Jude.*

***Bethany Gee** was saved her freshman year of college. She began dancing at age three at the YWCA, eventually studying at the Lafayette Ballet School and performing in various full-length productions with the Lafayette Ballet Company from 1989 until 1996. She graduated from Butler University with a degree in education and then spent two years overseas serving as a missionary in East Asia before returning to the States to teach middle school math. Bethany married Bill Gee in 2006, and God has graciously blessed them with Emma Claire and Grayson.*

***Hope England** was saved at age 4 – just a year after she started dancing. She attended North Carolina School of the Arts as a ballet major during her senior year of high school. She went on to dance at Butler University, graduating with a degree in Dance & Arts Administration. Hope then went on to attend graduate school at Miami University where she earned her masters in Student Affairs in Higher Education. She is now back at Butler, working as a Residence Life Coordinator in the freshman women's hall.*

Thank you taking the time to read about In Step. We look forward to meeting you!

Andi Hogan, Bethany Gee & Hope England