



GCI *Buzz*

What is an **Avenue** **Champion?**

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Cham·pi·on

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VERB

Definition: support the cause of; defend.

Example: “pastors who championed human rights”

NOUN

Definition: a person who fights or argues for a cause or on behalf of someone else.

Example: “a champion of women’s rights”

AVENUE CHAMPIONS:

When we talk about an **Avenue champion**, we are talking about someone who supports the church by leading the ministry team in the Hope, Faith, or Love Avenue.

Responsibilities of an Avenue champion: create and empower a team, develop and equip ministry workers, coordinate with other Avenue champions. As teams are established champions continue to encourage team members by providing support and challenge, as well as engage new team members to participate within the Avenue ministries.

In each of the Avenues, these responsibilities become nuanced based on the purpose of each Avenue.

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Hope Avenue Champion:

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- **PLANS** and intentionally prepares the flow of worship, aligned with the seasons of the GCI Worship Calendar
- **CREATES** an inclusive, weekly gathering where all generations, guests, and members can actively participate in the Sunday gathering.
- **EQUIPS** leaders and empowers a team that crafts an inspirational worship service with Christ-centered preaching and entry points for guest and member participation.

Characteristics of a Hope Avenue champion: a worshiper of Christ, who has an understanding of Incarnational Trinitarian Theology and thinks and plans in a structured and systematic manner.

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Faith Avenue Champion:

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- **IDENTIFIES** and creates spaces for people to grow in discipleship and relationship with each other.
- **EQUIPS** new leaders and empowers the teams that lead connect groups and church life events.
- **LOOKS** for ways to connect with the Hope and Love Avenues in their congregation.

Characteristics of a Faith Avenue champion: a disciple who makes disciples, is relational and a strong administrator.

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Love Avenue Champion:

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- **IDENTIFIES** and creates spaces for the congregation/fellowship group to engage and share the love of Christ with their focus neighborhood.
- **EQUIPS** new leaders.
- **LOOKS** for ways to connect with the Hope and Faith Avenues in their congregation.
- **EMPOWERS** the team that coordinates your neighborhood engagement events.

Characteristics of a Love Avenue champion: a committed Christ follower, who is organized and has a love for people and a heart for evangelism.

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Summary:

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Avenue champions are an essential part of Healthy Church. We need all three Avenues to collaborate to be the church. We're healthiest when we are attending worship services, building faith and relationships in connect groups, and letting the love of Jesus flow out into our neighborhood.

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