

Jam Rules and Tips...

Rule # 1 – Have FUN... enjoy the music and make some new friends!

So maybe this is your first time doing more than jamming in your living room with your high school buddy. What can you expect and what should you keep in mind...

- The idea behind a jam is to make some music, maybe learn a new song or two and maybe check out some cool gear (our amp backline is shaping up nicely!). Jammers come from all skill levels (the guy just learning to play who has never taken his guitar outside of his living room to the seasoned pro musician) so please be respectful of your fellow jammers' abilities and skill levels.
- Song selections will come in a variety of musical styles and arrangements (blues, rock, country, etc.). We usually play a lot of blues since these are often easy chord progressions that any player can follow along, regardless of their skill level.
- There will be name tags at the front door so you can list your name, the online forum you're a member of (a lot of us only know each other by our screen names) and where you are from (city). This way we can get to know each other and maybe make some new local connections for future jamming, etc. So please wear your name tag (at least for a while until we get to know each other).
- There will be some song books available (with chords and lyrics for a variety of blues and classic rock songs). But feel free to bring your own (label them please). We will have a few music stands there as well. This way people can follow along even if they don't know a song.
- Not everybody will play all the time! First, that would get way too loud and crazy. And it also doesn't give you a chance to just listen, network with other jammers, check out some cool gear, etc. So we will have a sign-up sheet where you can list any special song(s) you'd like to play on and/or any other specific jammers you'd like to jam with. The music sets are fluid and subject to change but we want to give everyone who wants to play a chance to play at least a few songs. And yes, we often repeat some songs at these jams so don't worry if you don't get to play the first time "your song" gets played.
- There will be folding chairs to sit on while watching your fellow jammers. However, there may not be table space available if you plan to bring some items to sell (pedals, etc.) so you may want to bring a card table if you feel the need.
- You may want to bring a cooler with drinks (non-alcoholic) or food. There are several nearby fast food places available as well (and we can always order in some pizza!). Please clean up after yourself.
- Please try to keep jam levels to a reasonable volume. This not only helps everyone enjoy the music but it also helps keep the peace with anybody else who may be on church campus that day. That being said, you may want to bring ear protection if you feel the need.
- Since this is primarily a jam (vs. an amp demo like the Clearwater ToneFest, etc.) there will not be separate rooms available for testing amps, etc. Therefore, we will take some breaks in the music jams so that we can listen/try out some of the amps and pedals people are planning to bring. So please don't ruin a great jam by suddenly cranking up that Plexi along the back wall to 11 just so you can play your favorite blues lick thru it to hear how it sounds (LOL).
- And don't forget Rule #1 above!!!!

Here are a few rules and tips that should be common sense but we figured we'd better point them out just in case anyone forgets (so please read them carefully)...

- **By attending the jam you agree to all rules outline below.**
- **The jam is free to attend.** However, if you'd like to make a donation to help offset the organization expenses, etc., you may do so via PayPal (PayPal ID mmcquain@mcquain.com) or in person the day of the jam (please see Mike McQuain, jam host).
- **The jam host, Generations Christian Church (the location) and your fellow jammers are not responsible for accidents or lost (YOU are responsible).** Therefore, we recommend you label everything you bring (amps, guitar cases, cables, pedals, etc.). Those little address labels you always seem to get in the mail when they ask you for a donation make a great way to label everything (and of course there are Sharpie markers). If you plan to bring gear to sell or trade, please be extra careful to keep an eye on it.
- **If you break something please contact the owner immediately** – if it is equipment belonging to another jammer then talk to them. **If it is something on church property then contact the jam host (Mike McQuain) immediately.** The church has been nice enough to allow us to hold the jam here, let's make sure they let us do it again some time... thanks!
- **Please stay within the jam area (Fellowship Hall – Building B) during the jam.** There may be other people and events on the church campus during jam hours and we want to be good neighbors.
- **If you smoke then please only do so out in the parking lot and then properly dispose of all butts and trash.** Again, we are guests on the church's property so please be respectful.
- **No Alcoholic Beverages** allowed on Church Property.
- **If you plan to bring extra gear (amps, etc.) please RSVP to mmcquain@mcquain.com by July 1, 2009** if possible. This way he can coordinate who is bringing what and we will ensure the widest selection of different amps, etc. in our jam backline. This will also prevent you from bringing more gear than you need to (nobody likes to just lug extra amps around because we need to work our back muscles).
- **Anyone not following the above rules will be asked to leave immediately.**

Jam Date & Time
Friday, July 10, 2009
7pm – 11pm
Saturday, July 11, 2009
10 am – 5 pm

Jam Location
Generations Christian Church
Fellowship Hall (Building B)
2795 Keystone Road
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

Jam Host
Mike McQuain
Cell # 813-300-3985
mmcquain@mcquain.com