

2020 Youth Group Gatherings

Hi, friends!

As we look at potential opportunities to gather in person, we want to be sure you understand what those gatherings will look like. Please read this guide thoroughly, for the sake of all of our church family!

Guidelines for the youth gathering will err on the side of caution. **Here's why: as Christ followers, our faith teaches clearly and often that we care for the most vulnerable among us!** The goal of the below guidelines is to create a space which feels SO safe, that even our vulnerable friends can join us for in person gatherings and not feel excluded. Thank you for helping us do our reasonable best to include ALL who might wish to come.

Pastor Jessica Tidwell-Weinzierl

Before we gather

- Mark your calendar for the time and place of the youth gathering: we will ask parents to drop off at the time listed (not earlier) and to pick up on time.
- Gatherings will remain small and REQUIRE you to sign up, for the time being. If you are not signed up, please wait for the next gathering we offer.

The Day of the Event

- Take your youth's temperature and check for any symptoms within an hour of coming to the youth event.
 - This includes a fever, coughing, sneezing, etc. Please err on the side of caution! **Remember, even if a youth + family are not part of the vulnerable population, we have youth, volunteers, and family of youth who are vulnerable and rely on others to stay home if they have symptoms.**
 - If you have been COVID-19 exposed or tested and are awaiting a result, please join our virtual gatherings instead.
- Youth should bring:
 - A mask to wear for the duration of the gathering
 - A camping chair to sit outside
 - A water bottle
 - Snacks, if you want one

At the Event

- Name tags will be provided for everyone, as usual, when we check you in.
- Youth will be socially distanced and wear their masks for the event.
- There will be hand sanitizer for youth to keep their hands clean!
- A photo will be taken when everyone arrives, so we can communicate well in case of exposure!
- If a youth must use the restroom, we will have designated restrooms and cleaning supplies handy to clean after each use.
- We will pray! We will share! We will play socially distant games and challenges! We'll chat and relax! We will celebrate making space for as MANY people as possible to join us, safely, AND... we will continue to offer LOTS of online opportunities, too!

This a new normal, going forward. We're practicing and learning together! The more we can get into the new normal rhythm in smaller groups, the easier it will be to continue these vital practices when we begin gathering in larger groups. THANK YOU for helping us navigate this new method to ministry!

THANK YOU for helping us love God and love our neighbours in the most inclusive way possible.