

Sunday School Re-Opening

July 30, 2020

Hello Families:

Many of you will have seen the news announcements today regarding what the return to school in September will look like. As a church, LUMC has decided to follow the same guidelines and protocols being put in place by our local school board when we look at reopening our Sunday School.

As we prepare to relaunch Sunday School in the fall, it will look different on the surface, however, the love of God in our hearts will remain the same. This is an important message to share with our children.

Our current plan is to delay the start of Sunday School until several weeks after school has resumed. **Preparations are being made for a relaunch date of September 20th, 2020.** This relaunch date will be for both in person and online Sunday School.

We are doing this for several reasons: 1) Mental Health and Well-Being. We recognize this time of transition back to school may be difficult. Families will need time to adjust to the routine of being back in school. We want to give each of our children and parents time to breathe. 2) We want to allow our children time to familiarize themselves with wearing masks and other daily safety protocols in their schools, so that safety protocols are easier to enforce at church for our Children's Ministry volunteers.

SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Here is how Sunday School may look for September 20th, 2020:

- Each family will need to pre-register for each child who plans to attend. This will ensure a safe amount of students and volunteers in the Education Wing. While children are in Sunday School, parents will have the option of staying in a separate room in the Education Wing to watch a livestream of the church service, or alternatively, parents can RSVP to attend the service in person in the Sanctuary.
- Our maximum attendance in the beginning will be 25 children.
- Sunday School families will use the East Entrance to enter and exit the Education Wing. Children and volunteers will remain in the Education Wing for Sunday School and not travel to other areas of the church.
- We will have a sign in Attendance Log
- Hand Sanitizer upon Entry and Exit of the Sunday School wing will be required
- Masks will be required during large group time and may be required in classrooms
- Toys will be limited and cleaned weekly in the primary classrooms
- Singing may look different, however, we will find ways to keep music in our ministry
- We will not be using the gym during our relaunch for high energy activities.
- We may not be able to welcome our youngest nursery and preschool aged children back at first.

We will adjust our protocols as necessary to keep our Sunday School children safe while growing their relationship with God in our church building.

CURRICULUM

We are excited to announce that we have purchased a new Covid-Compatible curriculum from Group Publishing called ***Dig In***. Group Publishing is the company that we have used for many years for our Summer DVBS programs.

Dig In is a curriculum with energetic worship music and lesson videos that can be shared online to our church families who may not attend in-person church quite yet. Because this is a brand new format for our congregation, please be patient as we work out any challenges.

We are excited to announce that in September we will be able to offer both IN-PERSON and ONLINE Sunday School opportunities to worship God. There will be something for everyone.

KIDS CLUB

Our Tuesday Kids Club program will be put on hold until January 2021. Stay tuned for details!

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Lisa Heide at (519) 322-6612 or by email familyheide@gmail.com

We are also looking for more volunteers to join our Children's Ministry volunteer team. Our Sunday School needs you! If you feel a calling to serve our church and God in this way, please contact Lisa Heide.

Cheerfully in Christ,
Lisa Heide, Children's Ministry Leader
Ken Hildebrandt, Church Council Chair