

Mount Carmel Children's Ministry

Start Date – Sunday, October 4

Schedule:

8:45 a.m. – First service

10:00-10:45 – Bible Fellowship (Sunday School)

11:00 – Second Service

Through a lot of prayer and planning, we have a restart date for the Children's Ministry at Mount Carmel. It will look different from what you are used to, so I wanted to send a note outlining the plan. If you have ever been around a large group of children, you know it is unrealistic to think that they will practice social distancing and even more so when they are all in a large room with no tables or chairs. Because of this, we have moved the location of our Sunday morning children's church to the Fellowship Hall so we will be able to use the tables and chairs. The precautions we have planned for a safe restart are as follows:

- Sunday morning Children's Church will be moving to the Fellowship Hall through the end of the year. We will **not** be dismissing from the church service but instead the kids will enter through the foyer and come downstairs when they get to church.
- There will be a check-in table at the bottom of the stairs where we will be doing temperature checks as an extra precaution since we are also heading into flu season. I have spoken with Dr. Hatch and the threshold for what we will consider a "fever" is anything 100.5 or greater. In all of my years in Children's Ministry, I cannot recall one year that we haven't had a child in the Sunday morning service just to find out that they tested positive for the flu on the next day. I think we all want to try and avoid that this year. Our prayer is that this will just be a temporary precaution through the end of the year.
- Pre-k thru 5th grade will all be meeting together for the time being.
- The downstairs glass double doors will remain locked to ensure that there isn't any walkthrough traffic before or during class. We will, however, be exiting through those doors after the church service is over to keep from having a traffic jam in the stairwell.
- Kids will only be sitting at every other table and only with their siblings. Because of the distancing, we will not make masks mandatory but if they feel more comfortable wearing one, they are welcome to.
- Each child will have their own pencil box with supplies that will only be used by them.
- All surfaces and bathrooms will be sanitized between services

We will be having Sunday School in between churches services from 10:00-10:45 a.m. Our Pre-k through 2nd grade students will be meeting in the gym. 3rd – 5th grade will meet in their regular Sunday School room at the end of the Children's Ministry hallway.

We will be using our VBS Concrete and Cranes curriculum for the first 5 weeks. We are so excited to get started. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Christi @ 423-505-6449.