**Hi, North Shore Bible Church Family!**

**We are excited to begin implementing Children’s Church at Essex again on Sunday, August 16th!** For the time being, there is still **no Sunday School or** **Nursery**. As we begin meeting for Children’s ministry, we will be keeping in mind our previous letter that we sent out concerning our approach to regathering. In light of that, here are some notes to keep in mind as we start up again:

**WHAT TO EXPECT AS WE BEGIN CHILDREN’S CHURCH:**

1. We will only be offering Children’s church during the **11am** Church Service.
2. Parents should plan to have their children attend the service with their family and be dismissed part way through per our usual custom.
3. The Children’s Church room will be set up to accommodate distancing measures.
4. Crafts/ Coloring items… will be individually supplied as opposed to having a communal supply.
5. The upstairs bathroom will be sanitized between each use.
6. Parents (or designated/ parent approved adult) should pick up children upstairs after the service.

We know that the way we’re gathering right now continues to be different, and feel different, but we rejoice that the gospel continues to go forth & God’s people continue to worship! In all of this, we want to continue to figure out together how to exercise thoughtfulness, care, and grace.

**We continue to seek to balance several biblical priorities**

**as we work through this, some of which exist in tension:**

* We follow God’s command to not develop a habit of forsaking the gathering ([Hebrews 10:25](https://biblia.com/bible/niv/Heb%2010.25)).
* We submit to our governing authorities unless doing so would mean disobeying God. ([Romans 13:1](https://biblia.com/bible/niv/Rom%2013.1), [5](https://biblia.com/bible/niv/Romans%2013.5); Acts 4:18-20; 5:25-29).
* We love our fellow believers whose health is compromised ([John 13:34](https://biblia.com/bible/niv/John%2013.34),[35](https://biblia.com/bible/niv/John%2013.35)).
* We seek to discern what is pleasing to the Lord in everything (Ephesians 5:10, 15; Romans 12:2; 1 Corinthians 10:31)
* We seek to conduct ourselves with wisdom toward our community, and let our speech always be with grace so that we know how to respond to each person. (Colossians 4:5-6)
* We aim to only speak fitting words with one another that give grace according to the need of the moment. (Ephesians 4:29)