

Hi parents or 4-9th graders,

We're writing to let you know the current plan for Wednesday Night Ministries for 4-9th graders. Due to Covid 19, we are going to have to hang loose this year and anything could be subject to change! **Please watch your email for updates and changes that might happen throughout the year. If you're not sure that we have your most current email address, please email it to Patti at patti@lwlcmn.org**
Thank you!

REGISTRATION FORMS NEED TO BE SENT TO THE CHURCH IN ORDER FOR YOUR CHILD TO PARTICIPATE! After reading this informational letter, you can decide if your child will participate this year or not! But if he/she will participate, we need the registration form **by no later than September 11** so that we can make sure we have enough teachers and enough space to social distance. Thanks much for your help with this!

We will be following CDC and state guidelines for Covid, which means that we'll be doing whatever the SRR schools do. We will have less students in the building than past years, and we will be cleaning and sanitizing before and after they leave. Students will be 6 feet apart, and masks will be required in the building (if this is what the schools do).

We may at some point not be able to meet in person at all. If this is the case, we've decided that we are not going to zoom lessons. Our feeling is that students (and parents) will already be "zoomed out" with school, and that we don't need to add to screen time in the evenings. If we can't meet in person, we will either email 7-9th graders lessons to do for confirmation, or just take a break. And 4-6th graders will have a break! We MAY record some fun videos and create a group chat to stay connected though!

NO pizza this year: We will not be serving pizza prior to class this year, because it would be too hard to control sanitation. For this reason, we'll start at 6:15 pm instead of 6 pm this year, in order for students to have time to eat supper before coming to church. We'll end at 7:15 pm.

We will also not be able to have "home huddles" in people's homes this year, so we will have them in the church instead, where we can sanitize before and after, and maintain social distancing.

Due to space limitations in the church, every age group will meet less often this year. 4-6th graders will meet once/month, and 7th and 8th graders will also meet once/month. (8th graders will have some assignments to do at home as well.) 9th graders will meet twice/month. Enclosed is the schedule, which is subject to change! (see first paragraph 😊)

Kids Fighting Hunger: We are restricted to groups of 20 or less, and students 7th grade and older, so only 7-9th graders will be able to participate this year. Each of those grades will meet at the KFH warehouse once this year. (see schedule)

(over)

Worship Notes for 7-9th graders: 7-9th grade confirmation students will be asked to email Pastor Denise 10 worship notes for the year. Worship will be in person at times, but also online all year, so it will be easy to get these worship notes done! Enclosed are the questions we want you to answer in your worship notes.

We want parents and students to know that if you are already stressed out about school and Covid 19 and the overall chaos in our lives these days, do NOT feel that you need to include Wednesday night class in your routine this year. If you want to take a year off and pick it up again next year, that's ok! On the other hand, the youth community at church might be a needed refuge for your child during the uncertainties of life these days. Do what's best for you and your family. God is lovingly watching over us and we will be ok! We would love to have you participate in any way that is best for you!

Stretching & Meditation Time! I'm so excited that Lori Dingmann is going to be leading the classes through some relaxation, stretching and meditation for the first 10 minutes of each class. She is going to gear it to the lesson they are learning that night, so it will help us "rest into" the learning. This is a part of Christian practice that is SO helpful in these crazy times and I'm grateful to Lori for offering it!

Curriculum for each grade: We also want to give parents a brief outline of what students are learning at each grade level, so that you know what material is being covered each year. Confirmation is for 7-9th graders, and students are confirmed the last Sunday in October of their 10th grade year.

4-6th graders – We use the Hands On Bible curriculum that applies the Bible to everyday life situations, such as violence, heroes, poverty, media, popularity, friendships, peer pressure etc.

7th graders – For Trek nights, we use Peer Ministry Leadership curriculum, which teaches students how to follow Jesus in their school, home and friend environments. This curriculum empowers students to become leaders, and to recognize that they are following Jesus every day as they listen to and care for the people around them. 7th graders won't have home huddles this year.

8th graders – This year we will be having 8th graders choose at-home learning options around the areas of faith, baptism, communion, Bible, prayer, pen pals. (see enclosed information) And they will have home huddles at the church. For home huddles, we use Bible studies and activities out of the Fellowship of Student Athletes Bible, modified to apply to all students, not just athletes.

9th graders – For Treks, Pastor Todd gives students an overall view of what it means to be a Christian, and how they can live that out in their daily lives, and going forward after confirmation. Home huddles for 9th graders are follow-up activities and discussion on the topic covered in the prior Trek, using videos, activities and discussion.

If you have any questions about curriculum or anything else for 4-8th graders, email Denise at denisemariehanson@gmail.com. If you have questions about the 9th graders, email Todd at todd@lwlcmn.org. We are here to help!