

Parents & Guardians,

As we begin gathering in person this week, we wanted to clearly communicate our plan to do so as safely as possible. We've attached a document outlining our guidelines, and welcome any questions, concerns, or suggestions you may have. In addition to our guidelines, we want it to be very clear, we completely understand if you are not ready for your student to gather in person with others. While some are eager to gather, some are not – and that's okay. We recognize there are many valid reasons behind these challenging decisions. We support you, and are praying God gives each of you wisdom as you navigate what is best for your family.

Seventh & Eighth Grade Guidelines for Small Gatherings (June 2020)

- Indoor & outdoor gatherings, of 25 or less leaders & students permitted.
- Provide sanitizer before, during, and after gathering.
- Require masks to be worn indoors.
- Carefully consider how the gathering facilitates social interaction, & consider how we may need to encourage social distancing during gathering.
- Require registration and encourage students who are not able to join, because the event is full, to register for another event. We will kindly and gently, require unregistered students who show up to arrange transportation back home.
- Do not transport students in church vans or personal vehicles. Staff must also refrain from traveling in the same vehicles.
- Carefully consider whether food is essential for gathering. If it is, food must be served by someone who first washes their hands, and then wears a mask and gloves while serving. Provide hand sanitizer for students.
- Encourage those who have contact with someone who is high-risk, or especially vulnerable to consider if they should participate.
- Require all volunteers and students who attend to review the following important questions before our gathering. If the answer is yes (within the last 14 days of the date we're gathering), we kindly require your student does not participate.
 - *Have you had any of the following symptoms: Fever or chills, cough, shortness or breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea?*
 - *Have you had contact with anyone who has demonstrated any of the above-mentioned symptoms, or disclosed to you that they were diagnosed with COVID-19?*

Thank you for being on our team! We know these smaller gatherings, aren't the same as being all together. But we appreciate your willingness to register in advance. We will be all together again! But in the meantime, we will continue to pray through these guidelines, and will notify you of any changes. We appreciate your flexibility, and love for each other during this season.