

COVID19 Guidelines for Opening our Doors for Camp Epworth 2020 At Epworth UMC

Dear Parents/Guardians:

These guidelines have been developed to decrease the exposure and danger that is posed by COVID19 and are in alignment with the Cabarrus County Health Alliance and the Centers for Disease Control. These guidelines will need to be revised, as we continue to learn more about the virus and we navigate through opening for Camp Epworth 2020. A more detailed explanation of some of these guidelines can be received through the Director of Family Ministries at Epworth UMC.

1. Staff and participants in summer camp will be encouraged to take everyday preventive actions to prevent the spread of respiratory illness, including washing of hands and wearing of masks in public.
2. Sick children and staff should stay home.
3. If someone becomes sick while participating in summer camp, specific procedures will be used to ensure the safety of all other participants, including the isolation of individuals, the immediate removal from activities, and the immediate cleaning and sanitizing of any areas that may have been used by the individual who is sick. ***Cancelling of programs is a possibility if directed to do so by the Cabarrus Health Alliance or if it is appropriate to keep the children and staff safe.***
4. Careful monitoring and planning to staff Camp Epworth will occur to ensure the safety of the children and to follow the Safe Sanctuaries Policy.
5. During summer camp, there are currently no plans to have group large gatherings. In addition, visitors will not be encouraged.
6. Daily procedures to help keep children and staff safe will be put into place.
 - a. Social Distancing practices will be implemented, including keeping children in the same group and the same room each week with the same leader. In addition, groups will be no larger than 10.

It is recommended that staff members and older children wear face coverings within the church, as well as on the church bus. Cloth face coverings should NOT be put on babies and children under age two because of the danger of suffocation.

Activities will be encouraged and scheduled for outdoors to the extent possible. The more the children are outside the better.

- b. Parent drop-off and pick-up will be modified.

Two staff members will be used to greet children at the door and take them to their classroom or meeting area. Parents will not enter the building. This will limit contact between parents and staff members and adhere to social distancing recommendations. This will continue until the governor gives further directions.

Children will be dropped off and picked up at the “back door” of the church for Camp Epworth. We will also have staggered drop-off times and staggered pick-up times. If you have multiple children, please use the latest drop-off/pick-up time.

Staggered Drop Off

1 & 2 year olds – 8:45 pm
3 year olds – 8:50 pm
4/5 year olds – 8:55 pm
Elementary Children – 9:00 pm

Staggered Pick Up

1 & 2 year olds – 12:45 pm
3 year olds – 12:50 pm
4/5 year olds – 12:55 pm
Elementary Children – 1:00 pm

Parents will not need to get out of the car.

- Children will be greeted outside as they arrive.
- Each child will be screened and their temperature taken. A child with a fever of 100.4 or above or other signs of illness will not be admitted into the church.
- In addition, parents are encouraged to be alert for signs of illness in their children and to keep them home when they are sick.
- After each child is screened, he/she will be admitted to the building and go directly to a sink to wash his/her hands.
- When staff arrive, they will be screened and have their temperature taken. Any staff with a fever of 100.4 or above or other signs of illness will not be admitted into the church.

*****Special Instructions Concerning Tuition and Paperwork:** With new procedures in place to help keep your children and the staff safe, we need to change how we receive tuition and paperwork. All tuition and paperwork will be collected on Monday of each week of camp. We are asking parents to put all completed forms and a check or cash in an envelope with your child(ren)'s name on it. Then, be prepared to hand this envelope to a staff member when your child gets out of the car. This will help us get all the children “checked-in” quickly and at the same time help us in keeping the tuition and paperwork organized.

c. Cleaning and disinfecting efforts will be intensified, both throughout the day and after camp is over each day. Before children even arrive, the building will have gone through an extensive cleaning, specifically to address the new virus, COVID19. In addition, we are working closely with our contracted custodial services for guidance and help in keeping our building clean and sanitized.

d. We believe that comforting children is an essential and important to what we do as staff, as a result, when children are participating in Camp Epworth we will have physical contact with them.

e. Proper procedures will be followed when staff come into contact with bodily secretions.

- f. Healthy hand hygiene behavior is essential and will be taught throughout the day.
- g. Vulnerable/high risk groups should always consult their healthcare provider before working or participating in summer camp at Epworth UMC.

7. Safety precautions for the church bus must be taken into account and will include daily sanitizing and the wearing of masks on the bus. Parents of elementary children should note that we will not be able to take trips until the governor opens up entertainment venues and parks. However, we will provide lots of fun activities on campus at the church until we are able to travel off-campus.

All these guidelines are for the purpose of keeping staff and children safe while participating in Camp Epworth 2020. Also, it is important for you to know that many of these procedures are things that we have been doing for a long time. Please know, however, that even with these guidelines in place, there is no way for us to guarantee any staff member or family member that they will not be exposed to COVID19, or any other respiratory illness or disease. As far as the staff, we have not changed. We will continue to love your children well and provide an amazing summer experience alongside these guidelines to specifically address our current situation with COVID19! We are excited to be opening our doors and can't wait to continue the strong tradition and fun summer experience at Camp Epworth 2020!

*If you have any questions about these guidelines, please feel free to contact Teresa Gray, Director of Family Ministries at Epworth UMC @ 704-239-3811.