

Parent



Handbook

Welcome to **Raising Salt**. As the leadership team we would like to personally welcome you to the group! We're excited that you are here and look forward to getting to know you and your family better. Here is some information you should know about us.

WHO ARE WE?

Raising Salt is a ministry of Montclair Community Church that provides the space for us to come together as a community to form elective style classes to enrich the educational programs of homeschool families in our area. We work together to assist each other in exploring electives for our children. We each use our strengths to provide classes, experiences, and socialization our children need to enrich their education.

WHAT GRADES/AGES WILL BE ACCEPTED?

At this time we are concentrating on pre-k through grade 6 with the intention of expanding in the future. We also have a nursery for younger siblings to play during instruction time.

IS THERE A DROP OFF OPTION?

No. We are a community where everyone pitches in to help. Parents are expected to stay and serve in any way they can.

Volunteers will be utilized in the following ways : set up, clean up, lead a class if there is an area you are gifted in, teachers assistant, bathroom monitor, in the nursery or any other various jobs. The students are our highest priority so we depend on you to make the students experience fantastic.

WHERE AND WHEN?

We meet in the fellowship hall of
Montclair Community Church

143 Watching Ave Upper Montclair, NJ 07043

Tuesdays from 9:30am-2:30pm September-May.

We also try to schedule play dates for Thursdays or Fridays at different playgrounds around the area weather pending.

WHAT IS THE COST?

Most Co-Ops have a yearly membership fee to cover the cost of renting a space, insurance etc. Montclair Community Church has graciously allowed us to utilize this space FREE of charge as a ministry to homeschooling families.

We recognize and appreciate the sacrifice you have to make by choosing to homeschool your children. Most homeschooling families are struggling to survive on one income and our area makes it very difficult to do so.

There will be out of pocket expenses as we all pitch in to buy supplies, throw holiday parties etc., but no large yearly membership fees.

IS FOOD SUPPLIED?

Due to dietary restrictions and allergies, we ask that you provide snacks and lunch for your own family each week.

WALK IN REGISTRATION?

We do not allow walk in registration. Please contact
RaisingSalt2023@gmail.com to inquire about registration.

WAITING LIST?

If during the course of registration you find our Co-op full you may choose to be placed on the waiting list by contacting RaisingSalt2023@gmail.com

GUIDELINES FOR BEHAVIOR

Discipline issues can take a fun class and turn it into a real headache. Our goal is for our students to have fun with their friends and learn in a safe and thriving environment. Our co-op is composed of many ages in one small setting. It is important for all of our students to understand the importance and value of one another. Our setting allows us to be good friends towards one another and to be good examples to our younger peers.

We understand that sometimes a student is not trying to be disruptive, naughty and deceptive, but rather being goofy, full of energy, and maybe a bit excited, but know that we still need to maintain an orderly and functional classroom. There is a balance between holding up the rules and standards, while at the same time showing grace, patience and understanding.

Our purpose is not to expect perfection, but rather to see growth, maturity, and the Fruits of the Spirit blossoming forth from each and every child who walks through our doors. In the end, the academics are not the ultimate goal here; our goal is to capture the hearts of these children for the love of learning.

Please go over the rules and procedures with your children at home so they know what we expect from them. Our job is easier when parents can all be on the same page.

Here is the list of rules that we have for our co-op:

1. Be respectful towards your teachers and fellow students
2. Listen quietly while others are speaking
3. Be considerate of other people's belongings and of the church
4. Walk quietly through the hallways and keep your hands to yourself
5. Accept responsibility for your behavior
6. Keep your area clean after each class
7. Use words that are honoring to the Lord and those around you

Prohibited Offenses

The following behaviors are prohibited at Raising Salt and co-op related activities:

- Disrespecting or disobeying Co-op staff and/or persons in authority.
- Engaging in harassing, or bullying conduct.
- Engaging in threatening behavior toward another student
- Persistent tardiness or no show
- Unruly, disruptive, or abusive behavior that interferes with the teacher's ability to communicate effectively with students.

WHAT DOES RAISING SALT MEAN?

In one of the most famous passages in the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said to His disciples (and, by extension, to His followers today), “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.” (Matthew 5:13; He followed this by saying that we were the light of the world.)

Jesus’ followers are the saving element of the human race. They have a power of preservation which counteracts corruption and decay. As salt prevents food from spoiling, so the disciples are to prevent the corruption of morals. Amid our fallen world, Jesus asks us to do our parts to preserve humanity from receding into godless immorality.

To be clear, God’s final Kingdom plans will happen, as prophesied in Revelation. His goodness triumphs over evil in the end.

But, in the meantime, we are still asked by our Father to be the salt of the earth. We do this by trying to uphold His timeless biblical values out of our love for Him.

At times, this may mean us doing what is right in God’s eyes – not ours. Even if it’s an unpopular cultural opinion or trend. We are committed to raising our children to be a moral disinfectant in a world where moral standards are low, constantly changing, or non-existent.

RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY

I understand, by submitting this Raising Salt Co-op membership form, that our family is participating in co-op activities at our own risk, and therefore we release Raising Salt Homeschool Co-op, the Raising Salt Homeschool Co-op Leadership Team, and Montclair Community Church from all liability. I also understand that being a member of Raising Salt Homeschool Co-op involves responsibility. I have read the Parent Handbook and will adhere to the guidelines set forth within it. I also understand and give permission for Raising Salt Homeschool Co-op and/or Montclair Community Church to use pictures/images of my family members or myself in its newsletter(s), website(s), and for all promotional materials. I understand that these pictures/images help to tell the story of Homeschooling and I release and hold harmless Montclair Community Church, Raising Salt Homeschool Co-op, and their photographers, agents, licensees, members, and employees from any and all claims and demands associated with this release, including all claims for libel. I also waive any claim for damages and any right to compensation that I may have for the foregoing.

INTERESTED IN TEACHING?

We are often looking for teachers to add to our lineup. If you have a heart to teach, a topic of interest, or a special skill that you would like to share with our students at co-op, please contact us at RaisingSalt2023@gmail.com and we will be happy to talk with you about what is required of our teachers and how the process works.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Your leadership team -

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Montclair Community Church

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