

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT RE-GATHERING PLAN

The Children's Department will be implementing a phased re-gathering plan in an effort to bring our children back together safely. We will be following the guidelines of the IDPH - Restore Illinois Plan and the guidelines outlined by the Illinois State Board of Education for the re-opening of public and non-public schools.

THE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT WILL BE RE-GATHERING IN PHASES

Phase 1: Children's Church for ages 4 years-old through 6th grade

Phase 2: Children's Church for ages 4 years-old through 6th grade & Sunday School (PreK/K, Primary, and Middler)

Phase 3: Children's Church, Sunday School, and Nursery

RE-GATHERING DATES

Phase 1: July 19

Phase 2: (Tentatively) August 23

Phase 3: Will likely not happen until we reach Phase 5 of Restore Illinois

QUICK SNAPSHOT

1. *NO ONE* will be allowed into the Children's Department without a face covering. The only exceptions to this would be if the child is under 2 years of age, or if the person is physically not able to wear a mask. Disposable masks will be available for those who come unprepared.
2. Anyone with any signs of illness (Covid-19 or otherwise) will not be allowed entrance.
3. Classrooms will be rearranged to promote proper social distancing.
4. Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures will be different. Please see attached instructions.
5. There will be no breakfast or snacks served for the time being.

While I know that it is exciting to be back in church, things will be a little bit different for the children. Your child's health, safety, and spiritual growth are my top priorities. I will do everything in my power to make this a fun experience for your child while also keeping them safe. That being said, if you are still uncomfortable with your child participating in their classes, I understand. They are always welcome to attend the worship service with you or participate at home with online lessons and services. No one will judge you for not returning right away.

Erin Copling—Children's Ministries Director

DROP-OFF PROCEDURES

1. Please enter from the front door from E 5th St. No one will be allowed to enter through the back door.
2. *NO ONE will be allowed into the Children's Department without a face covering.* The only exceptions to this would be if the child is under 2 years of age, or if the person is physically not able to wear a mask. Disposable masks will be available for those who come unprepared.
3. Check-Ins will still be done on the computer; however, a volunteer will be the only person touching the computer/keyboard/printer and will hand you your tags.
4. A volunteer will ask if your children have had any symptoms of illness within the last 48 hours. If the answer is yes, your child will not be allowed in the Children's Department.
5. No children will be allowed to enter the Children's Department until 9:50am, please wait either upstairs or outside until this time.
6. Parents will not be allowed into the hallway at drop-off. Children will be met at the double glass doors by a volunteer and walked to their classroom.

PICK-UP PROCEDURES

1. Families will need to enter through the main foyer staircase, double glass doors from the direction of E 5th St. Please do not enter from the back of the sanctuary.
2. *NO ONE will be allowed in the Children's Department without a face covering.* The only exceptions to this would be if the child is under 2 years of age, or if the person is physically not able to wear a mask. If you refuse to wear a face covering a volunteer will bring your children to you after all other children are dismissed. You may wait in the Check-In area.
3. *Families will be allowed to send one representative to the classroom to pick up children.* Please maintain a 6ft distance while waiting in the hallway. A volunteer will meet the family representative at the double glass doors and direct you where to go.
4. Please have your claim tag ready. You will be asked to show the claim tag, but do not hand it to the volunteer. You may drop it into a trash can on the way out or outside the doorway.
5. Families will need to exit the building using the backdoor leading to the Hatton Center. Please do not double-back through the Children's Department hallway.

HEALTH & SAFETY

- *NO ONE will be allowed in the Children's Department without a face covering.* Disposable masks will be available for those who come unprepared. The only exceptions to this would be if the child is under 2 years of age, or if the person is physically not able to wear a mask.
- When children and volunteers are settled into their classrooms, socially distanced from each other, children will be allowed to remove their masks only if they stay in their seats. There will be plastic buckets in each area to place the masks safely.
- If a child is showing any signs of illness, or has shown signs within the last 48 hours, they will not be allowed to enter the Children's Department. Parents will be asked to verify to a check in volunteer that their child has had no symptoms.
- A designated quarantine area will be set up in the Teacher's Lounge in case a child becomes ill or begins to show signs of illness while in our care. Parents will be notified immediately. *NO ONE* will be allowed to stay if they are ill.
- Volunteers will be disinfecting classrooms frequently. These cleaning times will be recorded on a dry erase board located outside the classrooms.
- The drinking fountain and water cooler will be off limits. Small disposable water bottles (with names written on them by volunteers) will be given to children.
- Classrooms will be rearranged to maintain a 6ft distance - siblings will sit together.
- Only volunteers who are on duty and children will be allowed in classrooms. *NO* parents, grandparents, or anyone not volunteering will be allowed to enter any classrooms unless there is an emergency.
- Please do not allow your children to bring anything with them that is unnecessary. All personal items will be left in the children's cubbies (even coats).
- There will be no shared items in the classrooms (toys, craft items, games, etc.).
- Hand sanitizer and Kleenex will be readily available in each classroom that is being used.
- *Neither breakfast nor snacks will be served in Phase 1 of the Children's Department Re-Gathering Plan.* In Phase 2 snacks will be given out between Children's Church and Sunday School but they will be pre-packaged.
- We will not be singing worship songs for the time being. Any worship music played will have motions and the children will be able to follow along that way.