

The presence of COVID in our society has presented many challenges to each of us over the past several months. As a church body, we were sorry to be unable to offer VBS to our community last summer. We are excited to prepare for our VBS program this year, and are looking forward to serving the children and families in our neighborhood again. Although most of the mitigation orders in Pennsylvania will be lifted several weeks before VBS takes place and the CDC has published relaxed guidelines for fully vaccinated individuals, we still want to take heed to the potential danger of infecting others with the virus and outline our Covid-19 related approach to this year's program.

Happily, to a large degree, our VBS program takes place out of doors. The games, bible stories, crafts and snacks all take place outside, on our church grounds. The children are in the sanctuary during the opening and closing assemblies as well as during the time their group is singing.

To mitigate the risk of infection during times that we are in closer quarters, we ask that you please keep your child at home if he/she is exhibiting clear symptoms of the virus, such as a fever, shortness of breath (not related to a chronic condition such as asthma), new loss of sense of taste or smell or if there is a reasonable suspicion that the virus has recently infected your household.

In addition to this measure, will encourage all people on our premises to be extra diligent in the practice of good hygiene (hand washing, sanitizing, etc.). Because of the nature of our program – a large proportion of time outside combined with busy, active children – we will not be requiring masks to be worn by VBS participants. Parents are free to ask that their own children wear masks. Our staff will use their own discretion regarding the use of masks; but please know that we are not requiring them to wear masks at all times during the morning.

We would love to have your child join us for VBS this year, but if you are not comfortable with the guidelines we will apply, please check back with us next year. As we know, much can change in a few months.

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to call us: (717) 405-7293 or (717) 445-0582