

LifePoint Kids Reopening Safely Plan – Weekend Services

September 2, 2020



PLAN #1: HYBRID IN-PERSON & ONLINE WEEKEND SERVICE PROGRAM

Section 1: Program Operation – Sunday Mornings 9 & 11 AM

In order to protect the children, staff, volunteers and parents, the LP|Kids weekend services program at LifePoint Church will operate differently for the indefinite future. Please note, these changes are temporary, until the time comes when they will no longer be necessary. Our mission remains the same, to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with our children, and train them to be committed followers of Christ. We will continue to prioritize the safety of the children, volunteers, staff and families, as we have in the past. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation with these new guidelines. Before a child can attend an LP|Kids Weekend service, a parent or guardian must read through these guidelines, and sign a liability waiver.

[Kindergarten - 5th Grade]

- Once children are checked in, anyone in grades K-5 will head into the fellowship hall, where they will sit down in chairs that are spaced at least six feet apart, per new school standards. Siblings can sit together.
- There will be no group game or craft time during check in so as to minimize touching and sharing of different objects. Instead, kids will be handed that day's activity by a volunteer wearing gloves when they are checked in. The activity will include crayons and an activity based on that week's message. This will allow the kids to stay occupied, while learning and having fun, during the check-in portion of the service.
- During the offering, if a child wants to make a contribution, they will be asked to walk up and place that contribution in a designated basket that is to be handled by leaders only. The leader will guide the kids to come up one at a time, and the kids will not be allowed to touch the basket.
- There will be just one worship song, to maximize limited time, and minimize the time that the kids are up moving around. While worshipping, they will need to remain socially distanced.
- After the song ends, a leader will transition the kids into the large group lesson. The lesson will run similarly to how it was in the past. The teacher will walk the kids through the lesson, and ask them questions, ask for their thoughts, etc.
- We will not be passing out Bibles to the kids, so as to reduce contact. Please remember to have your children bring their own Bibles. (Siblings can share Bibles) If your child does not have a Bible, we can recommend age appropriate Bibles for them. If you cannot afford a Bible for them, we are happy to buy one for them.
- After the large group lesson, the children will be split up into smaller groups in the fellowship hall. The dividers will be used. While in the smaller groups, the children will still be socially distant. They will remain in the small groups until they are checked out by a parent. We will not be using the classrooms in the weekend services, for children K-5th grade.
- The ping pong reward system will continue, however, only the leaders will handle the ping pong balls. Reward prizes will also be changed, in order to minimize contact and follow all CDC guidelines.

[Pre-K]

- Pre-K children will use the three classrooms on the righthand side of the children's wing.
- Under no circumstances, will there be more than 5 pre-K children in any of the classrooms at any given time. However, that number will likely be smaller, depending on how many children come on any given week, and how many leaders are available.
- Pre-K children will remain in their classroom the entire service.
- If for any reason, we cannot have 5 or less pre-K children in those classrooms, then they will join the older group in the fellowship hall.
- There will be no snacks shared with the Pre-K children for the foreseeable future.
- If a child uses any toys or other objects at any point during the service, they must be the ONLY child to use said toy or object for that entire weekend. A leader must then place that object in a designated area to be disinfected after the weekend.

[Nursery]

- At this time, there will continue to be no nursery services provided during the weekend services.

Staffing Plan:

- Adequate leaders will be required each week in order to maintain social distancing, while still having a minimum of 2 adults for every room that there are children. Connecting rooms may have one leader in each room with doors kept open, as long as there is an extra leader designated to keeping an eye on all 3 rooms. If there are not enough leaders available, the weekend service program may need to be limited to the fellowship hall.
- Leaders will be informed and trained with the proper safety protocols for the new safety guidelines for weekend services. **A leader cannot be a part of any weekend services until they are trained.**
- Leaders will be responsible for making sure that children are maintaining proper social distancing and for enforcing masks where appropriate.
- Leaders are encouraged to frequently use hand sanitizer.
- Leaders must also arrive to service at least fifteen minutes early, to allow for adequate safety preparation.
- There will be safety checklists on hand for the volunteers, to ensure they have the proper resources to implement and practice these new safety guidelines.

Section 2: Parent Communication

The goal of the parent communication plan is to keep parents and leaders informed of all protocols, guidelines, and changes, as well as to keep everyone aware of any potential illnesses amongst anyone involved. This is ESSENTIAL to making sure that everyone is safe. No information is meaningless or insignificant. The more we know about possible symptoms or exposure in your child or your child's household, the safer everyone will be.

1. *Parents MUST communicate with the LifePoint Children's Ministry Director directly (contact info on the last page), if they, one of their kids or someone else in their household has any COVID-19, cold, or flu like symptoms at any point in time. Please document when the symptoms were first discovered, and how long they lasted.*

2. *Parents MUST communicate with LifePoint Children's Ministry Director directly, if they, one of their kids, or someone in their household tests positive for COVID-19, or is exposed, or has come into contact with someone who tests positive.*
3. *Parents must be able to be reached by cell phone at any point during the weekend service. Please keep phone on vibrate in the instance where you'd need to be contacted. This allows us to have communication with you, without disrupting the service upstairs.*
4. *Parents are encouraged to communicate any concerns they have. If a parent witnesses any leader or child failing to follow proper guidelines, they must tell LifePoint Children's Ministry Director.*

Section 3: Mask Requirements

- Every leader must wear a mask, at all times when in the building, no exceptions.
- Boys and girls in grades K-5 must wear a mask when walking around the building, no exceptions. When the children are sitting six feet apart, they may take their mask off. I
- Pre-K children will NOT be required to wear a mask. (But may if the parent prefers.)
- There will be no mask breaks. If any leader, or child, absolutely needs a mask break for safety reasons, they must do so outside. If it is a child, they must be accompanied by a leader.
- Masks must completely cover both the nose and mouth.
- Each child is responsible for bringing his/her own mask. If a child forgets a mask, there will be a few on hand at the church.
- If a child is refusing to social distance, or keep his/her mask on, they will be removed from their respective classroom, and brought to a designated room. The parent will be contacted, and the child will wait in that room until the parent arrives. There will be no toys/games/TV in that room.
- Gloves will not be required, but will be available upon request for anyone that it would feel more comfortable with them.

Section 4: COVID-19 Symptoms

1. *If a child shows any symptoms, at any point in time during a weekend service, they will be accompanied by a leader and walked over to a designated classroom. The leader will make sure the parent is contacted and will supervise that child from outside of the designated area. There will be no toys/games/TV in that designated room. The parent(s) will then be responsible for communicating with the LifePoint Children's Ministry Director directly, if that child experiences any further symptoms from that point on, leading up to the following weekend.*
2. *If a leader shows any symptoms, at any point in time during a weekend service, they will immediately notify the LifePoint Children's Ministry Director and go home.*
3. *If anyone (child, leader, parent...) shows symptoms at any time they may not participate in any LifePoint Church event until they have been symptom free for 3 days or produce a negative test result.*

Section 5: In the Instance of a Positive Test...

1. *If anyone (child, leader, parent...) tests positive for COVID-19, they will not be allowed to return until they have completed a ten-day quarantine. They also must produce a negative test result, from a test that was administered after the ten days, before they are allowed to return.*

2. *If anyone (child, leader, parent...) has been exposed to someone who tests positive, they will not be allowed to return until they have completed a ten-day quarantine from the last exposure to the person who tested positive or produce a negative test result.*
3. *If any child who has attended a weekend service in the prior two weeks, tests positive for COVID-19, every family who has registered for a weekend service in the last two weeks will be informed that someone else who attended one of those weekend services has tested positive. **LP|Kids Weekend Services will be postponed for a minimum of one week.** The same applies for a parent of a child or a leader who tests positive.*
4. *Again, much of this depends on proper good communication between parents, leaders, and the LifePoint Children's Ministry Director. The LifePoint Children's Ministry Director needs to be made aware of COVID-19 symptoms, COVID-19 positive tests in your household, and/or COVID-19 positive tests that a leader, child, parent, or household member has been exposed to. If the LifePoint Children's Ministry Director cannot be reached within a 24-hour window, please contact the LifePoint Family Ministries Director (contact info below).*
5. *LifePoint Church has a legal obligation to the state, to report any positive tests amongst adults and/or children who have attended any LifePoint Church function, on or off the property.*

Section 6: Privacy Concerns

In the instance that a positive test is discovered amongst someone in the LP|Kids weekend services program, or someone in their household, every registered family will be notified. However, neither the identity of the positive person nor their family will be released to other LifePoint families. Again, LifePoint Church has a legal obligation to the state, to report any positive tests amongst adults and/or children who have attended any LifePoint Church function, on or off the property.

Section 7: Restroom and Water Fountain Usage

There will be no restroom breaks. Restrooms will be used on an emergency basis only. K-5th graders will use the restroom by the fellowship hall, and pre-K will use their own restroom in the classroom. No more than one child in a restroom at a time will be allowed.

Water Fountains are OFF limits. Children must bring their own water, if needed.

Section 8: Cleaning and Sanitation

- The building is consistently disinfected and will be clean each Sunday morning, and will be cleaned in between services. This is especially true for commonly touched surfaces like doorknobs, and hand railings. In between services, every area where there were kids and leaders will be properly disinfected.
- Any chairs used for an LP|Kids weekend service, will be put in a designated area between services, so that the same chair is not being used twice before being disinfected.
- Every toy or object used by a Pre-K child will be disinfected *after* the weekend services. When a child is done with a toy or object, it must be placed in a designated basket by a leader. That basket must not be accessible for the kids. This allows us to be sure that no two children are using the same toys or objects in any given week before they are properly disinfected (after the conclusion of all weekend services).
- There will be sanitization stations throughout the building, including by the entrances and exits. There will also be sanitizer bottles in each room where there are children.
- Depending upon the number of registered kids, the only rooms that would be used during both services would be the fellowship hall, PreK classrooms, and bathrooms.

Section 9: Screening

Children will not be screened for COVID-19 symptoms upon entering the building. This is in response to studies done by area school districts that show that these screenings have a high level of inaccuracy, especially when scanning for a fever. Current screening measures are also not able to detect asymptomatic COVID-19 carriers. Again, parents are responsible for contacting the LifePoint Children's Ministry Director if a child is showing symptoms, and to keep their family home. If a child is not able to attend school during the week due to illness symptoms, he/she must not attend a service that weekend.

Section 10: Check-in / Check-out Process

This new check-in, check-out process will ensure all safety measures are being taken. Thank you for taking the extra time required to maintain a safe check in/out process for all involved.

Check in/out will happen at the appropriate doors. If there is no inclement weather, parents of children grades K-5 will not be allowed in the downstairs portion of the building, in order to prevent additional surfaces from being touched, and to allow for proper tallying upstairs. Leaders will meet the parent and child at the door, and walk the child into the appropriate area. Pre-K parents are discouraged from entering, but will be permitted, if they do not feel comfortable leaving their child with a leader at the door.

In the event of rain or snow, one parent per child will be allowed to enter the fellowship hall, and will line up against the designated wall, six feet apart, behind a divider. Children will be checked in, and dismissed starting with the parent closest to the outside door.

Check In/Out:

- 1. All children will check in with the assistance of a leader, outside the back doors that lead into the hallway. Because we do not want people touching the same surface, there will be no self check in. If there is inclement weather, check in will be inside by the door to the kitchen. Only one parent will be allowed in with the child for indoor check in. Regardless of whether check in is inside or outside, please leave six feet of space between you and the next family.*
- 2. Each child must use the hand sanitizer at the check-in desk before entering.*
- 3. After checking your child in, you will need to walk around the building to enter the adult service. The same will be true for when you come to pick up your child. Please exit the foyer doors, walk around the building and pick up your child in the back. The stairwell in the church will be closed to everyone except staff (or otherwise used for emergencies only) to avoid unnecessary shared spaces. The only exception will be for severe weather. If weather is inclement, parents will be allowed to use the stairwell to the foyer.*
- 4. Check out will be in the same place that check in was that day. (Remember, check in location is weather dependent). There will be signs to assist you.*
- 5. Please let the leader know what child(ren) you are checking out, and a leader will escort your child(ren) to you. If you are a Pre-K parent, you may enter to pick-up your child if you feel that is needed.*
- 6. Again, please follow the markers on the ground and practice safe social distancing when checking out your child.*
- 7. You may only check out a child(ren) that you also checked in, including any guests. The only exceptions will be for any prior arrangements made with another LifePoint family. However, those prior arrangements must be confirmed by BOTH families with the LifePoint Children's Ministry Director, BEFORE the weekend service.*

Section 11: Registration and Timeline

*Please **pre-register** any children anytime you bring them to a weekend service. We will be limited to the amount of children that we can accommodate, in order to keep everyone safe, and practice the guidelines stated above. Due to space restrictions, the weekend service program will be capped at 25 kids, per service. **Please note if your***

child(ren) are not pre-registered for a weekend service, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to accommodate them.

At this moment, we do not have a set date for the reopening of the LP|Kids weekend service program. Our goal is to begin sometime in October. However, it could be sooner, or later. This will allow you and your children a few weeks to become adjusted with social distancing and mask protocols being taken in school, should they be attending school in person. That way when they arrive to a weekend service, the adjustment to safety protocols will be minimum. This will also allow time for staff and leaders to be trained on the safety measures we are putting in place. Thirdly, it allows us time to see if there is another COVID-19 outbreak in our community as fall begins.

Summary:

The LP|Kids Weekend Services program, along with all other ministries at LifePoint Church, takes the COVID-19 pandemic seriously. The safety of the children, families, leaders, and everyone who uses the LifePoint Church facility is a top priority for us. We hope that as we strictly follow all of the state guidelines, as well as adopt a few of our own, you feel comfortable with the measures being taken to keep everyone safe. We understand if you are not yet comfortable bringing your child back to a weekend service. Again, if there are any concerns you have, please make them known. Our desire is to continue, in a safe way, sharing the life-saving Gospel of Jesus Christ with your children. Please know that as the state continues to adjust guidelines, our safety protocols can change at any time. We will make you aware of any changes. Thank you for continuing to lead your family spiritually. We are here to help you anyway we can.

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All of the LP|Kids services that have been provided for children and families during the pandemic will continue to be offered. This includes, but is not limited to: online worship services for kids K-5 and pre-K, engaging discussion questions to go along with that lesson, an archive of those lessons, sermon notes for parents to print for their kids if they watch the adult service online with an adult, parent resources, fun activities for the kids and more. By continuing to provide these services, even after the LP|Kids ministry begins meeting in person again, it allows us to easily go back to online only services, should we need to do so. It also gives families who may not feel comfortable bringing their children back at any point in time the opportunity to keep their kids engaged with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and the ministry of LP|Kids. Should a child ever miss a weekend service for any reason, this also allows them the ability to still worship online and make Jesus the top priority in their life.

Contact Information:

LifePoint Children's Ministry Director - Billy Peterson – Email: billy.peterson@lifepoint.online Cell: 508-441-2046
LifePoint Family Ministries Director - Jason Vann – Email: Jason.vann@lifepoint.online Cell: 863-221-6172