

Mount Calvary Lutheran Church – Richfield, MN

Sunday School Covid-19 Preparedness Plan (August 2020)

To keep the children, teachers and members of Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church safe and healthy during the Covid-19 pandemic, the following precautions will be taken during the Sunday School hour. Please note that many of these guidelines follow the same preparedness plan that Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church adopted in June 2020.

We praise God for our children and want to do what we can to keep them and their families safe.

General Guidelines:

Social Distancing will be enforced. Children will sit/stand on the floor 6 feet apart from each other. Distance between each child, while sitting at the tables, will be as far apart as possible. Teachers will be asked to distance themselves from the children and other teachers/volunteers.

We strongly urge all “at risk” members, teachers and children who have an underlying condition to consider staying home from Sunday School. Arrangements can be made for children to receive Sunday School materials to work on at home, if desired.

People who have been in close contact with a household member who contracted COVID should not attend Sunday School until the quarantine period has ended.

The parent and/or guardian of Sunday School participants should conduct a self-check of their child(ren) and keep the child home if symptoms of any illness are present. Teachers will conduct self-checks before arriving to Sunday School each week and stay home if conditions are present.

Face masks, shields or other face coverings must be worn inside the school building, until the MN Mask Mandate is lifted. (MN Mask Mandate, July 25, 2020, Governor’s Executive Order 20-81). Children between the ages of 3-5 are not required to wear a mask under the Executive Order.

All people entering the classroom(s) will wash their hands with soap and water upon entering the classroom each Sunday. Hand washing and sanitizing will be strongly encouraged throughout the Sunday School hour.

Sunday School Class Sessions:

Parents/Guardians will drop their child off at the main door to the Mt. Calvary Lutheran Educational Building between 10:05am and 10:15am on Sunday Mornings. To limit the number of people inside the building, only the child will be allowed to enter, with a Sunday School Teacher/Volunteer present.

Depending on the number of children in attendance, class will be held in one or two classrooms.

Each child will receive a plastic box with school/craft supplies inside that may be needed for the Sunday School class. The box will be clearly marked with the child’s name. The box will be kept at Sunday School and properly sanitized before and after each Sunday School session. Older children may only need a Bible and writing utensil for class. They will use the same Bible and writing utensil each week. Children may consider bringing their own Bible and writing utensil each week.

Restrooms will be open as needed and only one child will be allowed in each restroom at a time. If an adult presence is needed for a younger child, that will be taken into consideration. Handwashing will occur after toilet use by both adults and children.

The consumption of food is prohibited. Water fountains are currently unavailable for use. Children and Teachers/Volunteers may bring a water bottle clearly marked with their name, if they so desire. The water bottle must always stay near the owner.

At the end of the Sunday School class session, children will be ushered by a teacher/volunteer to the main door of the Mt. Calvary Lutheran Education Building. Parents can meet their children outside of the main door at 11:15am each Sunday to pick them up from class.

Events:

All events that the Sunday School normally would host are suspended for the time being. This includes the Operation Christmas Child packing party and the Sunday School Christmas Service. Other arrangements will be made for these events and will be advertised to the congregation when necessary.

Routine Sanitation:

All tables, chairs, doorknobs, light switches and other facilities that are used during the Sunday School hour will be sanitized after each class session.

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3:15-17