

We are so excited to welcome you back to Carmel United Methodist Church VBS 2021! Below are the protocols that we are following this year in light of the global pandemic. We are following the CDC Guidelines, Carmel United Methodist Church Guidelines, and Carmel Clay School Guidelines.

We have limited the number of participants to 200 kids (generally we allow 300) to ensure safe distancing.

Drop-Off & Pick-Up Procedures:

- Registration on night 1 will be done outdoors, outside of door 3 (main entrance) to prevent congregating inside.
- Participants will be dropped off in their pews in the sanctuary, just like in years past. Crews will be placed every other pew.
- Crew Leaders will perform temperature checks on participants upon arrival to their pews. Participants with temperatures above 100.4 will be unable to participate
- Masks will be required by all volunteers and participants ages Kindergarten up, following Carmel Clay Schools guidelines. Disposable masks (in both child and adult sizes) are kept on hand should they be needed.
- Participants will be asked to enter and exit through a specific door (corresponding to the track color for their crew) when entering and exiting the sanctuary. Parents will be asked to enter and exit the same doors for drop-off and pick-up.
- Parents will be asked to wait outside the building until we are ready for pick-up. Parents will not be permitted to congregate in the gathering space, narthex, or balcony.

Extended Cleaning

- Hand Sanitizer provided and can be found throughout the building. Children are encouraged to wash/sanitize hands frequently.
- Stations will be wiped down in between every rotation. Shared materials (pens, markers, etc.) will be disinfected between uses.
- Bathrooms and other high-touch areas will be wiped down frequently throughout the night.
- The Sanctuary will be sprayed down after both opening and closing every day.
- The entire church will be cleaned after VBS everyday

Snack

- Food is pre-packaged individually to limit contact and increase safety for all. Disposable, paper cups will be used for water instead of the typical plastic cups.
- Children will be required to wash or sanitize their hands before snack.
- Kitchen staff will clean and disinfect tables and chairs in between use at the snack rotation.

Non-Contact Modifications

- No high fives, no free play areas, non-contact games or games within crews only, smaller crews and rotations, and larger rooms are used to ensure there is as little contact as possible.
- We will do everything possible to have children sit at least 3 feet apart from their other crew members and at least 6 feet apart from other crews
- Drop Off/Pick Up

Safe Traffic Flow

Traffic patterns are clearly marked throughout the building to help avoid other crews and de-densify hallways as well as separate contact between age groups. Each crew will have their own “train route” corresponding to their crew color.

Contact Tracing

Attendance will be taken by Crew Leaders everyday. Parents/Guardians will be informed should a child in the same crew contract COVID-19 and the crew will be asked to quarantine.

Assumption of Risk

Despite all procedures, Carmel United Methodist Church, it's pastoral leadership, and VBS volunteers cannot guarantee that you or your child will not become infected with COVID-19. Further, attending VBS could increase your child's risk of contracting COVID-19.

By sending your child to VBS at Carmel United Methodist Church, you acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and voluntarily agree to the participation. You assume the risk that my child, myself, and other family members may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19.

You release, covenant not to sue, discharge, and hold harmless Carmel United Methodist Church, its employees, volunteers, agents, and representatives, of and from the Claims, including all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs or expenses of any kind arising out of or relating thereto. You understand and agree that this release includes any Claims based on the actions, omissions or negligence of CUMC, its employees, volunteers, agents, and representatives, whether a COVID- 19 infection occurs before, during or after participation in VBS.