



Dear M4C Church Family,

For several months the Elders of M4C along with our Children's Ministry Team leaders, have been praying and discussing teaching/training components of our M4C ministries.

Though we are a fairly traditional church, we do not want to be stuck in traditions if the Holy Spirit leads another direction, nor do we want to imitate society, but rather desire to follow the Word of God and the direction of His Spirit.

During the chaos and revised schedules of the past several months there have been several comments and suggestions about likes and dislikes of the forced changes and schedules. Like everyone else, our Church leaders have had to learn a great deal in a short period of time and we are grateful for your love, support, patience and prayers!

We have been listening to and praying over your thoughts and insights as we continued to plan with our teachers and leaders to develop and grow the Children's ministries to help best meet the needs of our families moving forward.

Since regathering at the beginning of May 2020, M4C has desired to promote safety and best practices while more information and measures became available. Until more was known, Worship Services and Youth Activities resumed with some changes. During this time we did not offer physical Sunday School, although there have been digital/email lessons offered during this time and multiple resources offered to encourage our families to continue to grow and nurture all ages in our love of God and His Word.

In July, Kids 4 Christ and Nursery/Preschool were once again available as an option for families and their children, with a few new safety procedures in place and groups and special events started to be offered again. **Life Groups** began meeting in August and September with a variety of studies and subjects, and another group or two is still in process of starting up.

Another tool offered to our M4C family this fall is membership to **Right Now Media**, with thousands of study opportunities from well-known Christian Authors and Speakers, including a wide variety of family friendly resources.

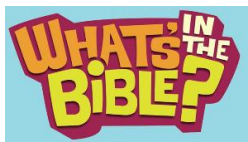


Sunday, October 4th we plan to regather for classes during the Sunday School hour, but with a few changes from earlier in the year.

Adult and Youth (Jr. and Sr. High) classes will be comparable to last March. However, there will be a few changes noticed for our Nursery/Preschool/Elementary Sunday School time. These changes were being discussed prior to the March/April lockdown and it was important to take some time to listen and pray before final decisions were made and implement finally made. Here is the team's thought processes behind the changes.

Reflecting on the past 18-20 months at M4C, participation in these age groups has leaned heavily toward the Kids 4 Christ/Children's Church during the Worship hour, rather than the Sunday School time. Accordingly, our volunteer resources and energy has grown significantly in these areas.

There are now several teams of leaders working with these ages to lead and guide our children during Kid's 4 Christ. The team-leaders recently adopted a new curriculum for Elementary students, "What's In the Bible" that gives an overview of the major themes of the Old and New Testaments.



"What's In the Bible" has been used for nearly three months and teachers and students seem to be encouraged and learning well and it will continue for an entire year. One added benefit is families can review the lessons on Right Now Media which offers the videos in their Children/Family section.

With the transition and emphasis on Children's education during the 10:30 K4C time, the Sunday School for Nursery/Pre-School and Elementary ages will include fellowship, music, snacks and a Bible lesson during the 9:30-10:15 time in a more relaxed environment than previously. Of course, the team will monitor and adjust in the coming months as needed to best meet the needs of our M4C Children and Families.

Thank you for your patience and prayers as the various teams, leaders and Elders worked to make adjustments during these interesting times, as well as adding to existing ministries and implementing new ideas and resources. Please continue to pray with and for us all as we do our best to be flexible and retool as need arises so that the M4C Family might bring praise to our Lord, continuing to worship, pray, learn and serve together as faithful followers of Jesus!

The Elders and Leaders of

