

Dear Green Lake Families,

Our update on the summer has arrived...and I want you to know that **ministry is NOT canceled**, it's just going to be a different kind of season.

Our goal is that all families are invited and equipped to grow this summer. The Children, Youth and Family ministry at Bethany Community Church desires to partner through the summer with families in unique and creative ways. We believe parents have a special voice in the spiritual growth of their kids and we want to continue to give you tools and experiences to grow your family's faith. Due to safety guidelines, ministry this summer will look different, but is set up to be flexible for participation in ways that break down barriers for anyone who wants to participate. Because of this, we plan to give clear outlines and expectations for our summer ministries.

You can expect to hear ministry updates from us regarding events on a bi-weekly basis. Whether your family is able to be physically present or is maintaining social distancing, we are creating pathways for all to be a part of ministry. This also pertains to any financial barriers.

What about Family Ministries?

- We will continue to offer **weekly at home devotionals** and content to support all ages.
- **Camp Attitude** has made the difficult decision to suspend ministry for the summer. We are actively pursuing ways to support their ministry. (Stay tuned for more!).
- We are also prayerfully considering some sort of "**Family Refuel**" experience to bless our families of kids with special needs the first week of August. (More info to come about these Belong Ministries.)
- We are still planning on our **Family Camping Trip** at Larrabee State Park from Fri., Aug. 28 - Sun., Aug. 30. This is co-hosted with Bethany's Wilderness Ministry and spaces are still available.

What about Children's Ministry?

- Our summer **KSA (Kids Summer Adventure)** is transitioning to a mix of on demand videos, live Zoom crew times for kids, and socially-distanced park gatherings. We hope this "hybrid" approach of adding and mixing flexible opportunities for connection will still create a fun and impactful experience for your children!
- **Tween Camp** will become a local day event for connection. (Watch for info about a Sat., July 11 gathering.)
- We're also preparing to launch a Sunday morning live **Zoom Room Kids Connect** on Father's Day, June 21st at 9am.

What about Youth Ministry?

- All **overnight summer camps** are changing format based on safety guidelines. Although this means our original camping plans are not happening, we still aim to offer opportunities for fun and engagement the weeks that the camp was planned.

- We love youth and want them to feel a part of our church this summer. It is our hope that we will be able to gather in **smaller groups and discipleship groups** both online and in person following guidelines for safety.
- **High School Discipleship Retreat** (Thurs., July 9 - Sat., July 11 - tentative) and **Middle School Camp** (Thurs., Aug. 20 - Sat., Aug. 22 - tentative) options will happen locally.

If you have previously registered for any of these events, expect unique communication coming your way in the next two weeks. Registration details and updated payment info will also be shared in this timeframe. As always, we don't want finances to prevent anyone from participating, so please contact me (chrisl@churchbcc.org) about help needed with this. **Due to the change in event format, our event costs will be much lower than normal.**

We would love for you to mark your calendars and join us for a **Family Ministry Summer Info Meeting (on Zoom)** on Sunday, June 14 at 12:30pm. Our summer calendar details will be available at that time, as well as some opportunities to ask questions of staff. (Here's the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84709797313?pwd=OXhuRE5ERU51K2dRU2JTdkJsRWRPQT09>)

We've often used this phrase at Camp Attitude: "Be flexible. Be happy. Be flexible." This present season has pushed my ability to live this phrase to its fullest, but I'm trying! Haha!

Scripture says that there's a time for everything (weeping, laughing, mourning, dancing, etc.) - and then clearly declares, "God has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end." (Ecclesiastes 3:11) May we trust in this season that God is indeed making beautiful things happen! Please reach out to let us know if we can serve you and your family in any way.

Peace,
Chris Lyons and the Green Lake Family Ministry Team