



Sterling Wood Church
COVID-19 Safe Practices
for Children's Ministry
Revised

Sterling Wood Church seeks to provide a safe and secure environment for your children who participate in our programs and activities. We know that times right now are a little scary, but our goal is to provide the safest place for your child. To minimize the risk of spreading the Coronavirus, the following guidelines are to help maintain health and safety standards and social distancing while also teaching our children about Jesus!

Health Screening at Entry

Take temperatures of all volunteers and staff upon entry each Sunday morning or Wednesday evening. If they have a temperature of 100.4 degrees F or 37.8 degrees C, volunteers or staff will be asked to go home.

Social Distancing

Keep groups together throughout their time at church with the same adults if possible. Groups should not be combined. Distance between each child will remain 6-ft apart by implementing the following:

- Removal of tables in classrooms, except for our pre-school building.
- Carpet squares or tape seating (chairs can be used if they remain 6-ft apart).
- Limit sharing of items- supplies will be individually bagged with names. These supplies will be kept in cubbies (for preschool) or pizza boxes provided for each child to be kept in classrooms.
- Curriculum modified as not to share items such as food, Play-doh, etc.
- Toys will be limited to large items for easy cleaning. Toys like blocks, puzzles, small kitchen items will be stored. Please don't allow your child to bring toys from home.
- Plan activities that do not require close contact between multiple children
- Allow fans in rooms for circulation

Outside Play

Playground areas should not be used at this time. Outside play is encouraged, however, any equipment used like balls, hula-hoops, etc. should be cleaned thoroughly afterwards. Wash hands immediately after outdoor play.

Snack time

Snacks and drinks may be given if they are individually wrapped. Nothing should be shared. Snacks should only be given in the class. Avoid congregating together. Children should remain in their designated seating area at 6-ft apart. Only adults, after handwashing, should handle the snacks given.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up

Parents of elementary age children will check their child(ren) in and out through our Rocket Town Room (RTR) and retrieve their child's security tag. Your child will wait with his/her teacher and they will walk as a group (6ft a part) to their Sunday school room. You may pick up your child from the RTR after service. Please remember you must have your half of your child's tag with you. No child will be released to anyone under the age of 18. **In the case of the RTR being used for overflow from the morning service, the following will take place:**

- 1st & 2nd will dismiss from their classroom in bld. C
- 3rd & 4th will dismiss from the sidewalk by the office door
- 5th & 6th will dismiss from the welcome center

Hygiene Practices

Practice frequent hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Cover coughs or sneezes with a tissue, then throw the tissue away and clean hands afterward. Help children to avoid touching their eyes, nose, or mouth.

Face Mask

Each adult and child first grade and up are required to wear a face mask. Our Sunday school teachers may wear a face shield while teaching the lesson, 6-ft way, and will put a mask back on after the lesson is taught. Nursery and pre-school aged children will not be required to wear a face mask; however, the adult leaders will.

What to do if a child or adult develops COVID-19 or becomes sick

Staff, volunteers, or children with a fever (100.4 F or higher), cough, or shortness of breath should be excluded from class or activities. If a child or adult becomes ill, that area will be shut down for a week for deep cleaning. One Sunday/Wednesday will be skipped and will resume the following Sunday/Wednesday. Any person who has been sick should be fever-free for 48 hours without medication before going out in public. Please notify the church if you or your child test positive for COVID-19.

Sterling Wood Sickness Guidelines

In general, children with the following symptoms should NOT be dropped off:

- Fever; diarrhea or vomiting within 48 hours
- Green or yellow runny nose

- Eye or skin infections or
- Any symptoms of communicable or infectious disease.

Sterling Wood Medications Policy

It is the policy of Sterling Wood Church not to administer either prescription or non-prescription medications to the children under our care. Medications should be administered by a parent at home. Parents are reminded of our sick child policy.

Exceptions to the medications policy may be granted to parents of children with potentially life-threatening conditions (such as asthma or severe allergic reactions). Parents of such children should address their situation with the Ministry Leader of the department to develop a plan of action.

Restroom Breaks

For the protection of our children and volunteers, no adult will be allowed in the restroom with your child. If a child is sick, you will be contacted by the information you leave us from your child's security tag. Children will only be allowed to go to the restroom two at a time (depending on the restroom area and to maintain social distance).

Cleaning and Disinfecting

Our cleaning crew will come in after each event to deep clean and disinfect all areas such as bathrooms and common areas according to the CDC regulations and guidelines.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html>

First Steps to Reopening Children's Ministry

Nursery Hours

You may drop off your nursery aged child at 9:30 am and pick up is by 12:15 pm.
(ages 0-2) Office Bld.

Preschool Sunday school

By **reservation only** (until we have two services) provided for those parents in small groups at 9:30 who have preschool-aged children. (ages 3-5) Building B

Little Kid's Church

Will be for preschool-aged children at 11:00 am. (ages 3-5) Building B

Elementary Sunday School

For grades first through sixth grade at 11:00 am. (grades 1st – 6th) Building C

Rocket Town Children's Church

Children's church will not open back up at this time. The RTR will be used for overflow on Sunday morning during Sunday worship time. (grades 1st – 6th)