



Relaunch Guidelines

As we look to reopen our children's ministry at MBC, we want to be in compliance with the guidelines and safety measures the Saskatchewan government has laid out. We uphold and support our governing authorities in their attempt to help partner with us to let us get back to the ministry that we as a Church look to pursue.

Our plan for relaunching our Olympians Program will look quite different than before. But within all the decisions made, know that the plan we have has been compiled from working through...

The Public and Private Gatherings

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/public-health-measures/mass-gatherings>

The Child and Youth Day Camp Guidelines

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/re-open-saskatchewan-plan/guidelines/child-and-youth-day-camp-guidelines>

The Childcare Facility Guidelines and,

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/re-open-saskatchewan-plan/guidelines/child-care-facilities-guidelines>

...that the province has given. Our aim is to continue the ministry God has called us to while also following these directions within our context.

General Safety:

The safety and health of the kids, volunteers, and church as a whole is of utmost concern to us. At all times, these general safety tips need to be honored and upheld.

- Attend only when healthy (If someone in the home is sick, please do not have your child attend)
- Hand cleanliness
- Physical distancing
- Mask wearing when you are unable to physically distance
- Avoid large group of kids and use cohorts when possible
- Ministry area sanitization after each use

Timeframe & Concern:

From September 2020 – December 2020, we will look to minister in the following manner. We want to do so in all integrity and be as safe as possible. We do not want to hinder the big picture of ministry God has called us to at MBC. This ministry includes continuing to disciple the kids at MBC and we want to be faithful in that.

Provided the climate changes (for good or worse) due to COVID-19 during this time frame, we will look to adjust the procedures for ministry at Olympians. We want to be able to offer a safe environment for kids to learn more about their faith. We want to take concern for not only the physical health of each child at MBC but also their spiritual health as well. We ask that you continue to pray for us as leadership and for the Ministries at MBC.

How it Will Work:

- 1) Olympians will be held on Tuesday nights from 6:00-7:30 beginning **October 6**.
- 2) There will be a maximum capacity of 30 people at the program. This will give us **25 open spots** for children and 5 spots for leaders during an Olympians night. Families are given the option of registering and working on their Olympians activities at home and reporting weekly via email. If all the open spots for kids attending at church have been filled, any new registrations will be placed on a waiting list. They are encouraged to begin working in their Quiet Time books and reporting the work accomplished via email. Harv Bucks will be credited for all completed activities either at home or at church.
- 3) Please drop your kids off at the front doors of the church. The Olympians coordinator will be there to welcome your child and escort them down to Olympians. The front door will be propped open so your child will not have to open the door. We ask that you arrive on time as ***the door will close by 6:15 PM*** for the evening.
- 4) There are 4 age groups, Gopher Buddies for Kindergarten, Challengers for Gr.1-2, Conquerors for Gr. 3-4, and Champions for Gr. 5. We will be dividing the four groups into two groups (cohorts). Gopher Buddies and Challengers will be one cohort, Conquerors & Champions will be the other. The cohorts will meet in separate areas of the church basement and will each have 2 leaders. Cohort groups will have a maximum of 12 or 13 kids with 2 leaders.
- 5) As the kids arrive, they will go to their designated area to check-in and report to their leader the activities (Quiet Times, Christian Services, Book Reports) they completed during the week and be credited Harv Bucks. We will not be giving out the Harv Bucks but will keep a record of what they have earned.
- 6) Leaders will work directly with their own group and will not cross over to the other group, except for the Olympians coordinator who will be present in both groups at various times.
- 7) The kids will participate in physical distanced activities with their cohort in their designated area. Activities will look different from our regular games time, as our team finds creative ways to do activities without a lot of contact or equipment being passed back and forth.
- 8) During the lesson time, kids will be spaced out in an open room. We will be using tables or Hoola hoops to space the kids 6ft apart.
- 9) During the small group time, leaders will review the lesson and do an activity that reinforces the lesson. Kids will be required to have their own pens, pencils and coloring options in their Olympians bags.
- 10) Each cohort group will have their own closing session, where kids will be recognized for their accomplishments and prizes will be given out to the group with the most points.
- 11) When you come to pick up your child, we ask that you remain outside by the front doors. Please text the Olympians coordinator when you arrive, and we will bring your child to you. Please be present there to receive your child and escort them to your vehicle. This will be particularly important as the days get darker and colder. ***We do not want kids running in the parking lot by themselves.*** The front door will be propped open by a volunteer at 7:30 PM.
- 12) Families that have chosen the option of registering and working from home in their Quiet Time books or have registered and are on the waiting list to attend in-person, will be notified when a spot becomes available or restrictions for meeting together have been loosened allowing us to accommodate more kids.

Other Details:

- 1) Children should not bring extra items down to Olympians other than their Bible, book, writing/coloring pencils and bags. No toys please!
- 2) If a child shows any signs or symptoms of illness, parents will be notified immediately to come and get their child. The child will wait at the bottom of the stairwell for their parent. Handrails and surfaces will then be sanitized. Parents should text the Coordinator when they arrive and then their child will be brought out to them.

- 3) Leaders will wear a mask during check-in and whenever they cannot maintain physical distance. If you desire for your child to wear a mask, they are free to do so. There will not be any singing at Olympians at this time and therefore kids will not need to bring a mask for that.
- 4) Hand sanitizer will be available for your child, but feel free to send your child's own hand sanitizer in their bag.
- 5) Bathrooms will be available for one person at a time. The washrooms will be cleaned before the night begins and will be cleaned periodically (Every 15-min or so) throughout the night. **We ask that you remind your child to use the bathroom at home before arriving at Olympians.**
- 6) There will be no water fountain use at Olympians. If your child is going to need water, we ask that you send a water bottle with them in their Olympians bag.
- 7) As the weather gets cold, your child will be invited to bring their coat down to Olympians. There will be no coat racks provided at this time.
- 8) There will be no "open" snacks handed out at Olympians. When a treat is provided, a leader with a mask and sanitized hands will give out sealed snacks to the kids.
- 9) At the end of the night the Olympians staff will sanitize the ministry area: doorknobs, hand railings, hula hoops, tables etc. with the government recommended cleaners.
- 10) Weekly attendance will be recorded making contact tracing possible if necessary.

This season of life has been like no other. This season of the church has been unique to say the least. With the many changes that you as families have had to face this year, know that we are on your side. We understand that for many, these changes can seem hard. We are aware that some of our families will be eager to join in and some will not. We acknowledge that these changes will come easy for some of our children and for some it will be hard.

In it all, I would like to encourage us all to be gracious with one another. Let's be kind and compassionate while staying faithful to the mission God has for Olympians at MBC. If you are concerned about anything in our ministry, please come talk to me.

Prayerfully,

Pastor Aaron Dalman
Associate Pastor of Discipleship and Family Ministries
Martensville Baptist Church

** In agreement with the Olympians Coordinator.*