

Hope you are all doing well! As you may have heard, President Trump said last week that Church is essential and pushed for churches to open up. Also, over the weekend, Governor Newsom put out a statement saying churches can open up with a few regulations in place.

The first and most relevant regulation is that groups must stay under 100 people and under 25% capacity of the room (whichever comes first).

So with this in mind, Danyelle and I have decided to open up Echo Youth services on Wednesday nights to our students again.

This is obviously optional and we will still be streaming the service live at <u>southcoastchristian.com/echolive</u> but we are excited to hold in person services for students that are able to come.

We have enjoyed this time of being extra creative and holding zoom meetings as well as live streams, but are excited to see God move in the lives of your students face to face again.

With that being said, we want to be extra careful to keep everyone safe and ensure that we can continue to meet in person, so here are a few guidelines that we will have in place. It would be awesome if you and your student(s) went over these guidelines before arriving at youth on Wednesday.

Guidelines:

- Masks are optional for students but are recommended by CDC so all of our leaders will be wearing them excluding worship team and myself while preaching.
 We understand that masks are more for the safety of others than it is for the "wearer" so that's why it's optional for your students but mandatory for us. Some of us are still working and we want to create the safest place possible for students to come hang out.
- With that being said, our leadership team will also have their temperature taken before any students arrive to ensure that we are not putting anyone at risk.
- 6 feet Social Distancing will be required by leaders and students and we will maintain this during worship and the preaching.

- To ensure this, we will be meeting in the main worship center and not the youth room from here on out. This gives us a lot more space to work with and the ability to live stream our services for those who are opting to stay at home.
- We will not be playing our normal pre and post service games as they would break these rules. We will be coming up with alternative ways to have a lot of fun but also keep people safe.
- Our traditional "In-N-Out" run after service will also be postponed for the foreseeable future, so you can come to pick up your students at 8:30pm at the church.
- Service will start at 7:00pm promptly but doors will open as 6:45pm. This is to allow slow roll arrival and not a crowd of students all at once, so feel free to drop off your student anywhere within that 15 minute window.
- Students will go straight from the car into the worship center to find their space to occupy for the evening. We will have leaders directing them as well.
- There are hands free sanitation stations around the church that are free to use at any point in the night.
- We will leave all doors (outside, inside, bathrooms, etc.) open until 10 minutes into service then we will close the outdoor doors just for safety reasons. They will be unlocked though if your student is arriving late.

I want to make sure to stress that even though there are rules and regulations, we are still going to create a space where your student can have a lot of fun and experience Jesus at the same time. It'll just look a bit different.

We are also staying relatively strict with our guidelines because Governor Newsom has talked about a 21 day trial period to see if this works and we want to do all we can to ensure our students are able to have Echo Youth to look forward to every week.

A lot of our precaution is also not out of fear for ourselves but out of love for the elderly or otherwise compromised friends and family that we all might come in contact with.

Thank you for your support and love through all this, and we look forward to seeing you and you student(s) very soon!

Remember if you are not comfortable sending your student back to youth yet, that is ok. We will still be online at <u>southcoastchristian.com/echolive</u>

Blessings, Brett and Danyelle Westerfield