

Arcola Christian Preschool Reopening Plan 2020-2020 (Updated 7/26/2020)

(Ministry of Arcola United Methodist Church, 24757 Arcola Mills Drive, Dulles, VA 20166)

Healthy Church Team – Arcola UMC

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Arcola Church is the home of Arcola Christian Preschool, a part-time preschool, typically serving children ages 2 ½ - 6 years of age. We are a ministry of the church and provide outreach to the local community. We are a religious exempt child day center and receive annual approval from the Virginia Department of Social Services. The preschool is approved to operate between the hours of 9:30am – 3:30pm.

Arcola Christian Preschool plans to welcome staff back on August 31, 2020 and a limited number of children beginning on September 9, 2020. We will follow Phase II Guidelines from DSS (although Virginia is currently in Phase III) and recommendations from the CDS and Virginia Health Department. We will follow all mandates from the Virginia government and Loudoun County authorities regarding remaining open or closing, either temporarily or long-term.

We plan to reopen with a maximum of four (4) classes for children ages 3-5 years. Each class will have a maximum of nine (9) students with two (2) teachers. Each class will meet in a classroom that is at least 400 square feet which allows for adequate social distancing. These classes will meet on Monday/Wednesday and Friday from 9:30am – 12:15pm. If these classes are successful, we may add additional small classes on Tuesday/Thursday later in the school year. [Room size 400 square feet/36 = 11 people (9 students + 2 staff)]. We do not plan to use our two smaller (300 sq. feet) classrooms at this time. The preschool has two staff members (adults) supervising each class, per our church's child protection policy.

Each class will operate as its own squad. We will not mix classes and classes will be consistent from day to day. We will spend as much time outdoors as possible. Groups will not mix on the playground, grassy areas, or our indoor play space. We have ensured our HVAC units cycle fresh air and will keep the windows open as much as possible. Water in our facility has been used by church staff and is safely operating. Drinking fountains have been closed.

Staff will be trained on all policies and procedures related to COVID-19. We will also post signs that promote everyday protective measures to stop the spread of germs (such as washing hands & wearing a face covering). We will continue our robust routine of washing hands upon arrival, before snack, after using the bathroom or blowing their nose as well as any other necessary time during the day. All surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected regularly with EPA-approved disinfectants per CDC guidance. Staff will wear cloth face coverings. Children will wear cloth face coverings during drop-off and pick-up and anytime social distancing cannot be maintained. We will have extras on site for when needed.

We will only allow use of our carline for student drop-off and pick-up. Parents and visitors will not be permitted to enter the preschool portion of our facility. Staff and children with a fever of 100.4 F or higher, cough, or shortness of breath will be excluded from our facility. The same holds true if a household member has those symptoms or is known to have COVID-19. Upon arrival each day, we will take our staff and student's temperatures and they will have to certify they have none of the symptoms listed above, have not taken medication for those symptoms, and nobody in their household has those symptoms or is known to have COVID-19. We have a separate room to isolate anyone who becomes sick during the school day until they are picked up. If there is a confirmation of a positive case of COVID-19, we will do as required by DSS and notify the local health department. We follow their recommendations regarding closing classrooms or our facility and recommending a quarantine period.

Our classrooms will be arranged to promote individual learning/play activities. Lesson plans will reflect this change. We will limit the sharing of items by assigning each child their own container for their own art supplies and equipment. We will not keep plush toys in the classrooms or use 'community' sensory bins. The preschool will provide snack for our students and children will be spaced 6 feet apart to allow for safe eating without the spread of germs.

We will do a virtual orientation for parents to educate them about our procedures and they will sign a form agreeing to these procedures. We will keep a record of who is in attendance in each room, each day. We will remind children about proper health procedures multiple times during the day. As stated above, all classrooms and bathrooms will be thoroughly cleaned each day.