



LIBERTI

COLLINGSWOOD

Hi Liberti Kid Parents,

Greetings from your Liberti Kids Director! As we're now barreling into spring, I'm checking in here about some modifications related to summer.

I wanted to give you plenty of heads up for the summer season, that in consultation with Jim, we've decided that Liberti Kids on Sunday mornings will be taking a break. This means there will not be Infant Nursery, Toddler Nursery, or Primary classes from June 1st through August 31st.

In the earlier days of Liberti Collingswood, LK would take summers off and then ramp back up for the fall, but it's been a while since we've done things this way. Let me explain why we're going back to that older model again this year. There are a few reasons for this:

- Volunteers:
 - Many of our families travel throughout the summer. This has a couple of effects on LK. For one, staffing our LK classrooms is very difficult, with the results that our volunteers who travel less during the summer end up serving in LK more than other seasons. (Or, for families that travel more, chances are higher than normal that they won't be in worship due to LK obligations.) In addition, it's typical that our LK classrooms will have relatively few kids in them—hence the dilemma that summer becomes the LK season that's both most lightly attended and most difficult to populate with volunteers.
- Kids:
 - The children at Liberti Collingswood LOVE kids' church, but I'd like them to also LOVE "big church". If all goes according to plan, they will be in corporate worship from the age of 10ish to 100ish. Having kids participate in "big church" will allow them the opportunity to experience what the adults do and give parents time to guide their children through the various parts of the service.
 - This summer, I want our kids to experience the beauty of corporate worship. I want them to sing songs about Jesus, to watch grown ups confess wrongdoing and in turn learn to do so themselves. I want our kids to pass the peace to one another and I want them to hear the Bible read and then listen to its being expounded. I want them to recite the Apostles' Creed in a room full of Christians and pray with the body for our church, our community, and our world. I want our kids to see how that leads into a time of fellowship with Jesus through communion. I want them to see the beautiful story of grace told through liturgy.
- Families worshipping together:

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- Instead of rushing off to drop-off/pick up kids from Liberti Kids, families can enjoy the service in its entirety. Parents everywhere will get to pass the peace and say hi to their pew mates!

During this time, we don't want our parents to feel that we're leaving you to sink or swim. We'll have resources available to families during this time:

- Cry room: Children/families needing to step out of the service will be welcomed in what's typically our Infant Nursery. There you'll find an iPad that will livestream the service.
- Tips and tricks handout: I will be sending out a pamphlet to LK families with tips and tricks for how to keep their child(ren) engaged in the service. The aim of the handout will be to provide suggestions on what to do to help fidgety kids keep quiet and calm, while participating in the service. (That said, your kids will make noise as they are trained to participate in worship. It's a beautiful sound, and our musicians and preachers are highly trained not to be distracted by such peeps and squeaks.)
- Note Taking supplies: Every week, LK will provide clipboards with a coloring/activity sheet and crayons/pencils. Ideally these will correlate to the sermon passage for each week.

I get that there may be some bumps along the way this summer as we adjust to a new routine, but hang in there! I'm excited to see the Lord meet us with grace as we jump into this summer together.

I'm here for your thoughts and feedback! Let me know if you'd like to chat. Thank you for letting me lead a ministry to which you've entrusted your dear ones!

-Taylor



