



Sundays
Starting Jan. 7, 2018



4:30 - 6:30 pm

4:00 - 6:00 pm

What if I have a middle schooler and a high schooler? Could there be one pick up/drop off time for both? Yes, we've made accommodations for you. Middle schoolers may arrive at 4 with their high school sibling. We'll have a homework and hang out space dedicated for them with one of our tremendous team members. The rest of our 6-8th graders will arrive at 4:30. For your high schooler, they can simply join in the informal hang out time that happens after HSM Group. A significant portion of high schoolers linger after dinner so this is totally normal. There are a couple key reasons why the time frames don't match exactly. First, we want to distinguish MSM from HSM so students understand they are different and built for their age group. Second, we have space limitations in the building where key rooms can only be utilized by one group at a time.

My son/daughter is concerned that they'll be mixing with students who are older or younger. Are the groups combining their meetings? No, each group meeting is distinct and age appropriate. Because of the staggered start time, high schoolers arrive first and their use of the building will not have them bumping into the middle school group. Overall, it's a good thing that people of all ages interact with each other at our church but we don't want it to be a stumbling block to participation. On the rare occasion when there is a compelling reason for the groups to be together then we will consider it.

What if high schoolers want to minister to middle schoolers? Is there still a way for that to happen? Yes, we've identified a number of ways they can be involved so we invite students and parents to talk with us about the right fit for them. Some possibilities include our special events team, O2 Movements, and other discipleship meetings. We're excited to continue giving older students opportunities to express their faith and mentor younger students like we already do in Kids' Church.

What about Next Step Workshops? When will those happen? There are two answers to that question. First, for the remainder of the 2017-18 school year, the Lord's Prayer and Apostles' Creed workshops will continue to happen in the evening time frame (6:30-8 pm). Second, in subsequent school years, we are planning a new pattern. We'll be sharing more and are happy to hear from you before we actually start. Here are the basics. One workshop will be offered per year during MSM Group on a three-year rotation. For example, in 2018-19 we will offer the Apostles' Creed to all 6-8th graders. In 2019-20 we will do the Lord's Prayer and in 2020-21 we will do 10 Commandments. We will also offer a video-based option so families can access any of the workshops at their convenience in case they need to make one up. This is another step to wisely streamline efforts and bring our ministry teams into the workshop environment. Stated another way, 5 weeks a year MSM Group will incorporate the workshop content without losing its overall weekly feel. Parents will still attend like they do now at workshops. We're confident these times will be enriched by more mentors, fun, and break out times for adults and students.