

Sunday Morning Schedule in New Building and Information

As we prepare for our first Sunday at our new building on October 10th, one of the most important developments will be our new schedule for Sunday morning. In the information below, you will find our new schedule along with some information about why we are doing this schedule.

New Schedule:

8:00: Fellowship Time Begins in the Commons

8:15: Sunday School (location in parenthesis)

- Adult 2 Covenant Keepers (Room A101)
- Adult 2 Hope (Room A106)
- Friendship (Room A108)
- Choices (Room A109)
- Adult 4 (Room A110)
- Scripture Searchers (Office)

9:15: Traditional Service

10:15: Sunday School (location in parenthesis)

- Adult 5 (Room A101)
- Adult 3 (Room A106)
- W.O.W. (Room A108)
- Young Marrieds (Room A109)
- Agape (Room A110)
- CSI (Room M210: Choir Room)
- Youth: 7th – 12th: (Portable Building until Youth Building is built)
- Children: Birth – 6th (Children's Wing)
- **College and Career: will move to a home group for the time being and when new leaders are found**

11:15: Contemporary Service

FAQ About Schedule

Why are we doing the schedule different from how we originally thought we were going to do our schedule? In our original plans, we had planned on having Sunday School classes meet during the same time we were having worship services. Nevertheless, as we stepped back and looked at this, we had some concerns. First, originally, we had our children's Sunday School meeting at the time of the Traditional Service. The challenge with this is that we have a number of our children's Sunday School teachers who are also choir members in the Traditional Service. We did not want to have them choose between the two. Second, if we have Sunday School classes meeting at the same time as the worship services, we were concerned about whether the music will be distracting to the classes who will share a wall with the Worship Center. Third, given our current makeup of Sunday School classes, we are

actually able to fit our classes into these times when we use as many available spaces within our facility as possible.

What are the positive reasons for this schedule? First, we believe this schedule will be less disruptive and more congruent with our current schedule as we make this change. We realize this is a big change, and we believe this schedule will be less disruptive to our church. Second, it provides more opportunities for service and fellowship. For example, people can serve in one service or Sunday School class and then attend a different service or Sunday School time if they so desire. Third, this schedule asks everyone to make some sacrifices. For example, we will begin Sunday mornings 15 minutes earlier than we currently do and will begin the Contemporary Service 15 minutes later than we currently do. These are not huge changes, but we are asking for adjustments from everyone. Fifth, this schedule allows us to stagger our parking in such ways that we do not have everyone here at the same time (i.e. allows more room for parking).

These times are pretty compressed. How we are going to have time for fellowship and teaching in the Sunday School? It is true that these times are more compressed and will be a change. Nevertheless, we believe the following information will help in preparing for this more compressed schedule. First, everything will be much closer together. In our current facilities, we are used to having to walk pretty far to get to classes. In our new facility, we will all be in the same area (i.e. much less time getting to and from classes). Second, the Commons will be a new feature for our church and a place of fellowship. In our current facilities, we do have a common gathering place. In the new building, lots of fellowship can happen in the Commons and will not be relegated primarily to the Sunday School class room. Third, there will be time before or after classes to fellowship. For example, those who attend the 8:15 Sunday School classes can arrive early and fellowship in the Commons, those who attend the 10:15 Sunday School classes but not the Traditional Service can start arriving early and fellowship in the Commons, and those who go to the Traditional Service and then the 10:15 Sunday School can fellowship after the class. Fourth, because there will be more opportunities to fellowship and a gathering place to do so, the actual class time can focus on prayer and Bible study. We realize the time will be an adjustment, but we believe we can get accomplished the purposes of Sunday School on Sunday morning with this schedule.

Will we have this schedule be forever? No. This schedule is temporary. First, the schedule may change if God brings growth. Second, as we build new education space in the next phases, we will have more space to adjust our schedule.

What can I do in preparation for this change? First, have a positive attitude. This is a change, and we realize that no schedule or plan is perfect. Nevertheless, we can “give it a shot,” see how it works, and be positive. Second, be flexible. When we came back to in-person services in 2020, we had to adjust to a new schedule. It wasn’t perfect, but our church did a fantastic job of being flexible and making it work. We hope for the same flexibility and positive attitude as we move into the new building. Thank you!