

# Korean United Methodist Church of Koinonia 2019-2020

## YOUTH MINISTRY

### **Staff and Volunteers**

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### **Youth Ministry Support Team**

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### **Weekly Meetings**

### ***Sunday Small Groups***

After our English worship service ends, youth students go to classrooms on the second floor for group discussions led by our youth teachers from 3 pm to 3:30 pm. The discussions are based on the Sunday sermon.

### ***Kairos***

*Kairos* is our Saturday evening youth gathering that meets at church from 6 pm to 9 pm in the second-floor youth lounge. The Greek word *kairos* means “an opportune moment.” We understand that the youth group years are an especially important period in our lives. Therefore, the purpose of our *Kairos* gatherings is to provide a fun and positive environment where students can encounter God, learn about their Christian faith, develop close friendships with each other, and invite their friends to church. Generally, the first Saturday of each month is a worship night, the second and third Saturdays are teaching nights, and the final Saturday is a fellowship night.

The major theme for our *Kairos* teaching nights this year is *friendship with Jesus*. More than being preoccupied with our agendas, Jesus wants us to develop our friendship with him. The Mary and Martha story in Luke 10:38-42 is especially important this year. Martha was focused on her agenda; Mary was focused on her friendship with Jesus. We want to excel in our programs, but not at the expense of sitting at Jesus’ feet and listening to him.

At Korean United Methodist Church of Koinonia, we make a distinction between teachers and volunteers. Teachers are those who have an official (though unpaid) position in the children or youth ministries.

### **Teacher Qualifications**

- A teacher must be at least 21 years of age.
- A teacher must be at least five years older than the children or youth he/she is supervising.
- These qualifications apply for outside church events such as retreats, mission trips, etc. For example, a leader should NOT supervise a small group at a retreat if he or she is not five years older than the group.
- All leaders must undergo a background check (provided through the local church).

### **Volunteer Qualifications**

- Volunteers must be at least 16 years of age.
- Volunteers must be supervised by a leader who is present.
- Volunteers are usually those who assist in children's ministry.
- At retreats, a volunteer who is at least 21 years old can supervise a small group if there is a leader that is at least five years older than the group present.

### **“Rule of Three” Policy**

- A teacher or volunteer should not be alone with a child or youth at church.
- There must be at least three people (including the leader) present in an enclosed room at church.

### **Transportation**

- Teachers should not be alone with a child or youth of the opposite gender when giving rides. There must be at least three people (including the teacher) present in a car.
- Teachers are allowed to be alone with a youth of the same gender when giving rides. However, aim to have another person present.

### **Overnight Accommodations**

At events that require overnight accommodations:

- We strongly recommend that at least two teachers be present in every room.
- Recognizing accommodations may be restrictive in some cases, one teacher is adequate, so long as any one leader shall NOT be alone with any one child/youth.

- Teachers shall NOT sleep in the same bed with a child/youth.

### **Definitions of Abuse**

1. Verbal Abuse– Any verbal act that humiliates, degrades or threatens any child or youth.
2. Physical Abuse– Any act of omission or an act that endangers a person’s physical or mental health. In the case of child or youth physical abuse, this definition includes any intentional physical injury caused by the individual’s caretaker. Physical abuse may result from punishment that is overly punitive or inappropriate to the individual’s age or condition. In addition, physical abuse may result from purposeful acts that pose serious danger to physical health of a child or youth.
3. Sexual Abuse– Child or youth sexual abuse is the sexual exploitation or use of same for satisfaction of sexual drives. This includes, but is not limited to: 1) incest, 2) rape, 3) prostitution, 4) romantic involvement with any participant, 5) any sexual intercourse, or sexual conduct with, or fondling of an individual enrolled as a child or youth in Conference or District sponsored activities, 6) sexualized behavior that communicates sexual interest and/or content. Examples are not limited to: displaying sexually suggestive visual materials, making sexual comments or innuendo about one’s own or another person’s body, touching another person’s body, hair or clothing, touching or rubbing oneself in the presence of another person, kissing, and sexual intercourse. (#6 taken from Resolution #30 Book of Resolutions 2000).

### **Screening for Leaders, Assistant Leaders, and Childcare Providers**

Careful screening is one way to prevent the abuse of children and youth. Screening calls for a careful gathering and review of information in search of those who can provide safe and caring supervision in a safe environment.

1. Prior to employment or acceptance as a leader, assistant leader or childcare provider (paid or unpaid), the leader in charge of an event or program shall direct each prospective applicant to complete the application/consent form. By signing the form, the applicant gives permission to the local congregation to contact references and perform the necessary investigation to complete the review of the application.
2. The local congregation is responsible for conducting references and screening.
3. If the applicant (paid or unpaid) is found to have been involved in any activity in which the applicant abused or exploited children or youth, the applicant will not be approved. Any conviction of a crime against children or youth shall disqualify any applicant.
4. Results of screens shall be kept confidential.

Persons having a criminal history of any of the following types of offenses shall not be allowed to serve in any ministry with children and youth:

- Child abuse, whether physical, emotional, sexual, or neglectful
- Violent offenses, including murder, rape, assault, domestic violence, etc.
- Persons having a Criminal History of DUI or DWI conviction within the five (5) years immediately prior to application shall not be allowed to act as a driver.
- Persons having a Criminal History of a drug related conviction within the five (5) years immediately prior to application shall not be allowed to participate.

**Youth Calendar**  
**Sept 2019 - Feb 2020**

**September**

9/15	First Day of Sunday Small Groups, Parents' Orientation
9/21	Kairos
9/28	Kairos

**October**

10/5	Kairos Worship Night
10/12	Farm Trip
10/19	Kairos
10/26	Kairos Youth Outing

10/31 Hallelujah Night

### **November**

11/2 Kairos

11/9 Kairos

11/16 Kairos Service Project

11/23 No Kairos

11/30 Youth Outing TBD

### **December**

12/7 Kairos

12/14 Christmas Party

12/21 No Kairos

12/26-12/28 The Message Retreat

### **January**

1/4 Kairos

1/11 Kairos

1/18 Kairos

1/25 Ski/Snowboard Trip

### **February**

2/1 Kairos

2/8 Kairos

2/15 Special Fellowship Night

2/22 Kairos

2/23 PTA Meeting

2/29 Kairos Youth Outing