

**More Than Moms
at Katy's First**

2018-19
Handbook

Simplify.
Simplify.
Simplify.



Dear MTM Mom,

Welcome to More Than Moms at Katy's First!! We are so excited to share this year with you!

Much prayer and planning has gone into this 2018-2019 year, and we are all looking forward to sharing a wonderful time with you. We wanted to provide you with some valuable information before you arrive for our first meeting, so we created this handbook. Please, read it carefully and contact us with any questions or concerns you might have.

It is our heartfelt prayer that you will be blessed and nurtured as a woman, mom, wife, daughter, sister, aunt, and friend. We welcome your input, your prayers, and your help to make this the best moms of preschoolers group we can be.

May God richly bless us throughout our time together this year.

Your More Than Moms at Katy's First Steering Team

Mission Statement

To encourage and equip moms of preschoolers through fellowship and faith to nurture, develop, and mature their complete identity: woman, wife, mom, and most importantly - child of the King. *During this season of life, we don't want to forget we are all More Than Moms!*

"Simplify" Theme Verse

Hebrews 12:1-2: "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith."

Theme Overview

As busy moms and wives, there are so many things competing for our time and attention, and at the end of the day, we are just tired! What if we made an effort to intentionally simplify our lives, in big ways and in small, and make time for things that matter the most...our family, our friends, and most importantly, our **Lord and Savior, Jesus.**

General Information

What Happens in MTM Stays in MTM; basically, this is a safe place to talk with friends for guidance and support.

Times

9:00 Arrive and drop off your brunch item and children.

9:15 All brunch items should be dropped off

9:30 Meeting Begins (promptly)

11:45 Meeting Ends

Parking

We park in the parking lot at the back of the church. If you are bringing brunch items (or just a bunch of junk), please drop off your stuff, BEFORE you park, with one of our great hospitality team members. They will be located in the back parking lot near the entrance.

Attendance/Absence

If your child(ren) are unable to make a meeting, please call or email Trish Murrell (tmurrell@katysfirst.org or 281-574-2012) by the Wednesday before the meeting, for staffing requirements. If you or your child get sick or some other event comes up after that Wednesday, please still let Ms. Trish know ASAP. Please also let your GGL know if you won't be at a meeting.

If you will not be at a MTM meeting, you are not permitted to bring your child to m&m's or send them with another MTM mom. You must be at the church if your child is going to be there during a MTM meeting.

Guest Policy

***Currently, we are unable to accommodate visitors or any additional members who require childcare due to limited space in m&m's. ***

- If your guest does NOT have children requiring our childcare during the meeting, please contact your care group leader to ask if there is room for your friend.
- We will be unable to accommodate guests at the first and last meetings of each semester.
- In order to honor the financial commitment of our members and to allow as many visitors as possible, we have a strict policy of 1 visit per guest per year.

Meeting Etiquette

Our goal is to make each meeting similar to a mini mommy-retreat for everyone. To facilitate this goal, we have a few guidelines to discourage distractions.

- Please, keep all cell phones on silent/vibrate.
- Please, exit the room to answer or return any call.
- Please keep talking to a minimum during announcements and speakers so that all moms can hear.
- We welcome you to bring your newborn to our meetings and to feed them freely (nursing or bottle).
- If you need to leave the meeting to nurse, you are welcome to bring your child into the meeting to nurse or use the nursing room located in the preschool area next to the indoor playroom.
- At 12 weeks, please take your child to m&m's.
- For the health of our pregnant moms and small babies, please do not bring sick babies or children of ANY age into the studio.

Checks and Payments

Occasionally, you will want to pay for something via check. ALWAYS make checks payable to Katy's First Baptist Church. Unfortunately, if you pay for an event but are unable to attend, we are unable to issue refunds unless the event is cancelled by MTM. This is true of childcare expenses as well.

Meal Train Calendar

When one of our moms is in need of a little additional help during a pivotal time (birth of a child, hospitalization, loss of a loved one, etc), we like to show our love for her by preparing a meal for her family, helping with childcare, or running much needed errands. To coordinate this effort, we use the website www.mealtrain.com

The mom's Care Group Leader (GGL) will set up the calendar per the mom's preferences. The GGL will then e-mail us the link needed to access the calendar. We can then go to the link and log in, or create a log in with the email you received the link with. Sign up for the days when we can provide assistance. Once set up, you can share the Meal Train with anyone the mom knows (family, friends, Sunday School class, etc.) By Forwarding the link or just adding email addresses to the Calendar.

If you know of a mom who might benefit from a Meal Train Calendar, please contact her Care Group Leader.

MTM Media

Our MTM group has our own website, Private Facebook Group, and a Remind text alert group. It is our hope that through these avenues you will be able to easily access any information you may need as well as keep in touch with the other moms from MTM.

Over the years we have found that group emails do not work well with everyone, so you can expect occasional e-mails from Lindsay Spearman (lindsay.spearman@hotmail.com) or Ashley Vogt (ashrvogt@gmail.com). Most contact will be directly from your GGL. If you do not receive emails, please e-mail Ashley or Lindsay.

The Facebook Group is “Closed”, meaning it is only viewable by those who are members of the group, and only current MTM moms are in the group. The group is great for posting impromptu playdates/outings, selling stuff, posting pictures, asking questions, prayer requests, or just about anything! If you have a small business, feel free to post on the first Tuesday of the month. To join the group, please search for “More Than Moms at Katy’s First” on Facebook and request to join.

We also send text reminders through Remind. Please take a moment to join. To receive messages via text, text @mtmkfbc to 81010. You can opt- out of messages at anytime by replying, 'unsubscribe @mtmkfbc'. If you have trouble joining please text Lindsay Spearman at 806.418.1662. Please note that standard text message rates apply.

Registration Policy

Each semester registration will open first to church members and current MTM moms. Following the final meeting of each semester, registration will be open to everyone. Please note, church members and regular attenders will be given priority in the event of a waiting list situation.

m&m’s Information

m&m’s Coordinator: Trish Murrell tmurrell@katysfirst.org 281-574-2012

GLASSES

Your child will be placed in an age-appropriate class. As a rule, children will remain in the same class for the whole year. On rare occasion, a need arises

and we will move a child based on the best interest of that child. When you arrive, you will sign-in your child at their assigned classroom.

FOOD

- Please, do NOT bring any food that contains peanut products.
- Snacks should be finger-food style, and should not require a utensil or require heating.
- Please, LABEL all cups/bottles with your child's name.
- m&m's will provide a snack for your child in the toddler and older classes. The snack menu will be provided ahead of each meeting. If you would rather your child eat a different snack, please bring that with you to the meeting, with their name clearly labeled on the snack. Their snack will be served mid-morning.
- Please, make sure that your child has eaten breakfast before coming to m&m's. We have a specific lesson plan for each m&m's class day, and time only permits for serving their small, finger-food snack. (Exception: We will feed all babies their bottles and finger-food snacks. Unfortunately, we are not able to feed them anything requiring HEATING or SPOON-FEEDING.)

ILLNESS AND MEDICATION

To protect your child, other children, as well as pregnant moms, we do not allow sick children or infants upstairs; this means:

- NO GREEN RUNNY NOSES
- NO PERSISTENT COUGHING
- NO TEMPERATURE, VOMITING, OR DIARRHEA WITHIN THE LAST 24 HOURS
- NO RASHES, PINK EYE, OPEN SORES, ETC.

Teachers are NOT PERMITTED to give medication to any child

Should your child contract a childhood disease following an m&m's session, please contact the m&m's Coordinator (Trish Murrell), so that other parents may be notified.

FIRE ALARM PROTOCOL

Should the fire alarm sound your child(ren) will be escorted out of the building by his/her teacher as quickly as possible. If your child(ren) are not walking please come down to assist if possible.

THINGS TO BRING TO m&m's

Please provide an adequate supply of diapers, wipes, and an extra change of clothes for infants, toddlers, and older children. Infants and Toddlers should bring LABELED, premixed bottles (plastic only) or LABELED cups with lids.

All personal items (bottles, cups, diaper bags, pacifiers, jackets, etc.) should be LABELED with your child's name. You may bring a special "security" item if needed. PLEASE LEAVE OTHER TOYS AT HOME. Thank you!

Fall 2018 MTM Meeting & Event Calendar

September 7 Welcome Play Date
September 21 MTM Meeting
September 25 Moms night out
October 5 MTM Meeting
October 19 MTM Meeting
October 23 Craft Night
October 27 Trunk or Treat at Katy's First
November 2 More Than a Date Night
November 9 MTM Meeting
November 30 MTM Meeting
December 2 Tree Lighting at Katy's First
December 7 Christmas Play Date
December 14 MTM Meeting

Spring 2019 MTM Meeting & Event Calendar

January 18 MTM Meeting
January 29 Mom's night out
February 8 MTM Meeting
February 21 Craft Night
February 22 MTM Meeting
March 1 More Than a Date Night
March 2 Daughter's of the King Tea at Katy's First
March 8 MTM Meeting
March 22 MTM Meeting
April 12 Easter Play Date
April 26 MTM Meeting
April 30 Mom's Night Out
May 10 MTM meeting