



GUIDELINES

Blue Valley Baptist Church MOPS • 8925 W 151st St. • Overland Park, KS 66221 • (913) 897-9669
www.bluevalleybaptist.org/mops Facebook Group: Blue Valley Baptist Church MOPS

Welcome

We welcome our new MOPS friends and those returning to our MOPS group! Our meeting time is filled with great conversations, informative and relevant speakers, wonderful things to eat and the joy of Christ.

We are eagerly awaiting the start of our year and getting to know each of you better. We hope to provide you with a loving group of friends that can discuss the challenges and joys of the preschool years and give guidance and support to you through this season of life. If you have any needs, questions, suggestions or would like to help in any way, we welcome your input.

Looking forward to a great year!

What is MOPS all about?

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers), is a dynamic program designed to encourage, support, and nurture mothers with children from birth through kindergarten. These women come from different backgrounds and lifestyles; yet have similar needs and a shared desire to be the best mothers they can be! MOPS recognizes that the years from birth through kindergarten are foundational in a mother-child relationship and are filled with unique needs.

MOPS is about:

- Celebrating motherhood
- Meeting your needs
- Making connections
- Experiencing God's love through trusted resources and relationships

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What does it do?

- Offers support for those experiencing the same things
- Provides a chance to meet new friends
- Gives an opportunity to discover and cultivate leadership skills

We all know that mothering changes everything. Our MOPS group is a great place to come for encouragement, inspiration, socializing, learning, and fun as we develop relationships with other mothers of preschoolers and discover how do be the best moms we can be. New friendships and smart approaches to tackling the challenges of motherhood are waiting for you!

Registration and Fees

Thank you for filling out a registration form for MOPS! Your \$50.00 per semester fee enrolls you in MOPS international which will provide you with applicable ideas and encouragement through a one year subscription of the bi-monthly *MOMSense* Magazine, weekly Mom e-mails, and a variety of MOPS Publications. The \$50.00 per semester fee also helps cover our childcare needs through the MOPPETS program and meeting costs such as craft supplies, gifts, and speaker fees. We do have full and partial scholarships available for those needing assistance. Please speak with our Finance Coordinator, and be assured that all needs are kept confidential.



International Membership is included.

The first semester dues are due by our second MOPS meeting in September.

To make our meetings run more smoothly...

- Blue Valley Baptist Church (BVBC) MOPS will meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month with check-in and drop-off of children beginning at 9:00 a.m. Our meetings will begin promptly at 9:15 a.m. Please allow plenty of time to drop off your children so our meetings can begin on time. Children need to be picked up NO LATER than 11:25 a.m. to relieve our childcare workers.
- BVBC MOPS will be cancelled when Blue Valley schools are either delayed or cancelled due to inclement weather.
- Only your own children are allowed at MOPS. We do not have the staffing to allow you to bring children you are babysitting. You must also be present at the MOPS meeting while your children are in the Moppets program.
- To preserve the integrity of MOPS, we ask that MOPS membership listings are used for MOPS purposes only. If you have a home business, a table will be available to display goods, business cards or pamphlets in the MOPS meeting area. You may also advertise in our monthly newsletter by giving information to the newsletter editor.
- No mother of preschoolers will be excluded from a MOPS meeting because of race, background, marital status or financial need.

Please be on time, mommy...

Our meetings will begin promptly at 9:15am.



Hospitality

Who better to help us out during this stage of motherhood than other moms? Here are two ways to give and receive throughout the year through the area of hospitality.

Prayer and Care

One of the goals this year is to develop a strong “prayer and care” ministry. So, we need to know your prayer needs! You can do this by placing requests in the prayer box or by letting your care group leader or a member of the steering team know your request(s). We want to pray for all the things on your hearts and minds... big, small, joyous or critical and everything in between... we believe in the power of prayer and hope to see it at work this year for our MOPS group!

We are so thankful for a group of prayer warriors at Blue Valley Baptist who will set aside a team each week to pray for our MOPS moms.



A simple meal is a blessing for a new mom and her family.

Meals for mom

Isn't it a great relief to receive a meal for your family in a time of need? This year, we will be taking meals to moms with new babies and moms with special circumstances. If you are willing to contribute a dish sometime throughout the year, please let our “care group leader” know.

We also coordinate service projects with area charities such as the Ronald McDonald House.



Refreshment Guidelines for the meetings

At the first MOPS meeting, you will be assigned to a discussion group table, where you will spend your morning with a small group of other MOPS moms. Discussion group/table leaders are in charge of the discussion group, making reminder phone calls, and caring for the moms at the table.

Each meeting a brunch will be served. The discussion group tables will take turns being responsible for providing food and cleaning up the meeting room after MOPS. Each group will bring food every 3rd/4th meeting, with the steering committee bringing goodies the first meeting. Your discussion group leader will have a sign up sheet of what to bring (main dish, fruit, bread and something fun). Drinks and paper goods are provided each meeting. When your table is

assigned to bring refreshments, it is extra important to arrive on time so that everyone will be able to enjoy your goodies.

The table will be set up buffet style. Please bring enough food to share with all moms. We are expecting 25–30 moms this year. Please mark your own dishes (serving utensils will be provided). If you will not be able to attend the MOPS meeting for which you are scheduled to bring refreshments, please try to make arrangements for your goodies to arrive via your table group.

If you have a gift of service and would like to help out with set-up or clean-up, we would love to include you on our hospitality team. Please contact the MOPS coordinator with your availability.

MOPPETS

MOPS is for moms, while MOPPETS is for kids. Children enjoy a safe, clean and stimulating environment while moms enjoy the company of other mothers. MOPPETS caregivers are fully screened by Blue Valley Baptist Church and have a love for children. An attentive coordinator is organizing the MOPPETS program for our children, birth through kindergarten. Every effort is made to provide quality childcare and teaching. Children are separated by age to better meet their needs. Children ages 2 and older will be taught a Bible-based curriculum with games, crafts, snacks and stories. Each class is taught by two paid childcare workers.

Please check in children between 9:00–9:10 a.m. You will be given a security card with your child's name and must return that card to the teacher at pick-up. Children should be picked up no later than 11:25.

All personal belongings such as diaper bags, sippy cups, and coats should be labeled. Any special instructions such as food allergies, nap schedule, etc. should be left with your child's teacher.

Your child will remain in the same class throughout the entire MOPS year, regardless of when their birthday falls (i.e. if they start in the 2 year old class, they will remain there throughout the year, even if they turn 3 in January) unless the MOPPETS Coordinator requests a change to better accommodate the child or the classroom environment.



Children ages two and older will be taught a Bible-based curriculum with games, crafts, snacks, and stories.

Listed below is the Illness Policy:

For the safety of all children, we can NOT accept children with the following symptoms or illnesses:

- fever of greater than 99.9 – even when teething
- runny nose with yellow or green drainage
- questionable rashes
- excessive coughing
- diarrhea or vomiting
- impetigo–until sores are scabbed over
- chicken pox–until sores are scabbed over and fever free for 24 hours
- measles, mumps or rubella
- conjunctivitis(pink eye) until drainage is clear and redness and matting are gone.

After being ill, children need to be fever and symptom free for 24 hours before entering care. When on antibiotics for any illness, child must have been taking antibiotics for a 24 hour period before entering care.

Please utilize the MOPPETS program for your little ones. We want to keep the meetings as a “break-away” from children. Nursing mothers and mothers of infants are an exception.

All of your child's personal belongings should be labeled each day.