



Encounter Youth Students and Parents,

We trust you all are doing well and abiding in the unshakeable peace, comfort, and confidence in Jesus. It was refreshing and invigorating to see some of you for the first time in a couple months as we regathered this past weekend. Once again, congratulations to all of our high school graduates—we honor you!

The following communication contains details for the plan to regather Encounter Youth in a safe and effective manner. We recognize the great need for students to be connected relationally and experience face-to-face interaction. With that in mind, we are excited to regather our 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students in a modified fashion starting **Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>**.

**7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students: Here's what you need to know!**

We will be regathering on June 7<sup>th</sup> at Ephrata Community Church from 6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. We will meet in the old auditorium at 6pm and possibly transition outside for part of the night if the weather cooperates. Oliver will be leading this time along with our small group leaders.

Our value for devoting ourselves to Jesus, the teaching of the Word, connecting in small groups, and praying for one another still remains intact. Students, come expectant to hear from God and be spurred on in faith!

We will not be serving any food throughout our time together. Note, this is a temporary accommodation as we recognize the significance of “breaking bread” together as followers of Jesus. We hope to reengage this component of our gathering in the near future.

We desire to cultivate an environment where all are welcome, and all levels of interaction are respected. As we regather, we choose to imitate Jesus by laying down our own preferences and entitlements to be mindful of those around us. It's not about us; for we have already died to ourselves when we chose to follow Jesus.

**9<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> grade students: Here's what you need to know!**

We will be regathering on June 7<sup>th</sup> in two host homes. Students, we grant you the liberty to choose which host home to attend. The two options are listed below:

Chris and Emily Weber's home – 190 Yummerdall Road, Lititz, PA 17543

Clair and Gale Weaver's home – 610 Water Street Ephrata, PA 17522

Note, both host homes have swimming pools for students to enjoy. Please bring a modest swim suit and towel if you desire to take a splash in the pool!

**Time:** 6:00pm – 8:00pm

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To stay current with all Encounter Youth updates, we encourage we to subscribe to our text group by texting "ENCOUNTER" to the number "97000." This will opt you in to all Encounter Youth updates as we navigate this season. Additionally, the student ministry calendar on the ECC website will stay current with all necessary information and details.

Thank you again for your understanding and patience as we took time to pray through the best course of action during this time. We still believe the current season we find ourselves in presents a prime opportunity for the gospel to go forth in power and love. May God grant us clear minds, greater boldness, and a heart overflowing with love and obedience as we interact with the world around us.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to Chris or Oliver. We are excited to gather back together to connect with one another and encounter God!

Peace and Blessings,

Chris Weber & Oliver Denlinger