

VBS FAQs

1. How can my children who are younger than 3 participate?

Volunteers who have children under 3 years of age are welcome to bring these kiddos to VBS! We have a limited number of spots available in our Toddler (12 – 24 months) room and in the Nursery (under 12 months). Please register your children for the sessions during which you will be serving. These children should be registered for whatever sessions you will be serving.⁵⁶

2. What happens to my children who are out of elementary school?

Children entering 6th grade are encouraged to sign-up to be LITs for VBS if they have a desire to serve. It is required, however, that these students attend the LIT Training on June 27th from 12:30pm – 3:30pm. If your older children do not want to participate as LITs, they may still join your family during the sessions, but they will not be considered Islanders.

3. If I am not able to attend VBS, will my children still be able to participate?

You may have noticed the parent/guardian sign-up location on the VBS registration form. Our desire is for VBS to put practical knowledge and tools into the hands of you (the primary disciple-makers of these children) so that you can continue engaging in your child's faith at home. We are asking parents to join us for this year because we believe that it will be of great spiritual impact for the children. If you are a volunteer, please see the related question below. As we receive registrations that do not have accompanying parent registrations, we will reach out to better understand the needs and determine how best we can serve your family and children.

4. Will I/my child be asked to wear a mask?

We will follow the most up to date guidelines from the Snohomish County Health district. However, if children are still required to wear masks, we will be asking our volunteers to wear masks (even if they are vaccinated) out of compassion for the children.

5. What does “family style VBS” mean?

Parents will attend VBS with their children to participate in their spiritual growth as the week progresses. The family will travel as a unit, children will not be divided by age or grade as we have done for the last couple of years. The only exception for this will be for families whose parents/guardians are serving in a non-group leader/assistant position. Children from these families will enjoy VBS under the guidance of another volunteer. Parents/guardians who are acting as Group Guides will be able to have their children join their group for one of the hour and a half VBS sessions.

6. (General) I am a volunteer. What will my children do while I am serving?

We are encouraging volunteers to serve for both the 5:30pm and 7pm sessions. For some, we recognize that serving for only one of the sessions may be the better options and we are willing to work with those who need this! A trusted adult can also come pick up your children after they have experienced VBS if you would prefer for them to go home. Let us know what will work best for your family and we will do our best to accommodate.

While you are serving, your children will be able to join VBS as Islanders (they will be in your group if you are serving as an Island Guide) for one session and will be Expert Islanders for the other session (if they stay on campus). As Expert Islanders, your children will spend the hour and a half they are not at VBS playing with other Expert Islanders on the playground, enjoying a refreshing snack, and watching a movie.

7. I am a Group Leader/ Island Guide. Do I have the option to serve for only one session?

Yes, you may serve for only one session. While we would prefer for volunteers to serve through the entirety of the night, we understand that you also need to do what is best for your family. Let us know what you can do and we will make it work!