



Our Vision is to: Uplift Mentor Advocate and Pray

Our Mission: Equipping Early Childhood Education programs to provide quality Christian learning environments.

March 18, 2020

Dear UMAP Family,

UMAP recognizes that these are trying times for everyone and maybe even more so for childcare centers. As a childcare director, you have the delicate task of balancing healthy students and school environments while meeting the needs of the families you serve; many of whom rely on us for care while they go to jobs as doctors, nurses, First Responders and other important positions in our communities. Since each center has their own demographic, differing schedules, and unique challenges, UMAP cannot recommend that a center close or remain open. If you choose to remain open, every effort should be made to insure you are practicing the very best sanitation and crowd size recommendations of the CDC.

Currently, the United Methodist Association of Preschools recommends that all preschools within our State follow the guidelines of the Center for Disease Control (CDC) regarding closing of a center and precautionary guidelines. All centers should revert to local leadership, such as the Early Learning Coalition and Department of Children & Families, regarding appropriate guidance for your specific county. Current guidelines can be found at www.CDC.gov/coronavirus.

In addition, we pray for your local church leadership, as it is our recommendation that they make the final decisions regarding closures and the safety of its families. Church leadership should offer guidance regarding staff and salary issues.

Join us in prayer.

Most gracious and loving Father,

We are in uncharted waters and are pleading for your protection and guidance, not just for our own families, but for the families of those we serve daily. We ask you to guide the hands, the hearts, the minds of the doctors and nurses who are working tirelessly to combat this pandemic and protect them from harm as well.

We ask for prayers for our families. For those who are struggling day to day, and now have the additional burden of caring for their children while trying to still work. We pray for those children where the home environment may not be loving and caring. Where food security is an issue. Where abuse is an issue. Where fear and panic overtake logic and peace. Be with them, Father. Protect them. Watch over them. Love them.

We ask you to guide us in our decisions for each of our childcare centers and fill us with peace and strength once a decision is made. May we be open to new ways of teaching and reaching the children and families we serve and continuing to serve as you have called us to do. May our lights shine brightly with your love and compassion for others and the families we serve.

Amen

Uplifting each of you with prayer,

Linda McGlashan

Linda McGlashan
UMAP Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. Mercy Nyman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dr. Mercy Nyman
UMAP President

PO BOX 07506 Ft. Myers, Fl 33919

execdirumapfl@gmail.com

Phone: 1-850-888-(UMAP) 8627