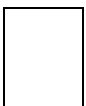


Some Side Door FAQs for kids and parents:
(please keep this for reference during the year)

- What is Side Door?** a free afterschool drop-in program for Montclair middle-school students which provides a fun alternative to "hanging out" Uptown or being home alone.
- Who can come?** any Montclair middle-school student (in grades 6 - 8)
- When is it open?** Side Door is generally open 2:15 - 5:00 pm on Fridays. Currently our schedule only covers through mid-November. We will make a determination later in the fall as to future dates (in person and/or zoom).
- Where is it?** 176 Cooper Ave. in Upper Montclair (Union Congregational Church).
- How many kids come?** it depends on the week... it can be as few as 20 or as many as 90.
- Can new kids come?** We have new kids signing up every week. We love new kids.
- What do you do there?** Right now we are focusing on outdoor activities, so we have 4-square, basketball and various lawn sports, plus board games, crafts and quiet activities, and occasional special events. We hope to expand our offerings as things become clearer regarding appropriate COVID precautions. **You should bring a mask (to wear if asked).**
- Is there food?** We always have free sandwiches, snacks and water, plus pizza for \$1/slice, bottled water, candy and snacks for sale.
- Can I leave and come back?** You can come and go as often as you wish... we just ask that you do so quietly and that you sign in and out each time.
- Are there rules?** You must: **wear a mask if asked to, sign in** each time you arrive, **sign out** each time you leave, **wear a nametag**, and **cooperate** with the adults and other volunteers. You are expected to **respect yourself, respect others, and to respect the Side Door space**. If you are unable to follow these rules, we may ask you to leave. Other than that, just have fun!
- Does it cost anything to attend?** While attendance is free, we depend on donations from families to run this program.
- What do I have to do to come?** Show up! After a few weeks we will need a completed registration form on file for each child (please complete both sides!). You can mail it to the church or bring it when you come (do NOT turn it in at school!). You can also fill out the form online on the sidedoormontclair.org website.

(more info for parents/caregivers on back)



UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
176 Cooper Ave., Montclair, NJ 07043

Side Door Highlights for parents and caregivers:

Side Door is run by Union Congregational Church, which also provides funding. We have received grants from the Montclair Fund for Women, the Montclair Foundation in the past, and the Montclair Community Intervention Alliance (Governor's Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse) continues to provide support. Supervision is provided by our staff, MSU and MHS student volunteers, and adult volunteers. **We ALWAYS welcome parents** or community members who can spend an hour or two (monitoring sign-in, etc.), so please email us or give us a call. In addition, we rely on your **monetary donations**, or **donations of snacks**. Contact us if you would like to donate snacks or drinks. Last year the program cost over \$20,000 to run.

To register your child, complete the form online (sidedoormontclair.org) or fill out the printed registration form (both sides!) and have your child hand it in when he/she comes to Side Door, or mail it directly to the church. Do NOT send it in to the school. We MUST have a completed form on file for your child to attend after the first few weeks.

Side Door attendees are expected to abide by our rules and to conduct themselves in a responsible and safe manner. They must sign in and out, and wear a nametag while on church property. (The rules are listed on the registration form.) If they are unable to abide by the rules they may be asked to leave.

If you need to reach your child during Side Door, you can try my cell phone (973 809-9581) but I can't guarantee I will hear your call (things can get pretty noisy!). It is not always possible to reach us via the church's phone number (973 744-7424).

Please note that **we close PROMPTLY at 5 pm**. If you think you might be late, please make arrangements to meet your child at an alternate pick-up site (such as the Bellevue MPL Branch or Starbucks). Your child **CANNOT** remain on church property after 5:15 pm.

If a backpack or jacket is left behind, contact the director (info below) to arrange a pick-up time. Abandoned items are hung on the hooks by our door so that you can pick them up when the building is open.

Side Door Calendar September 2021- November 2021	
September 24	
October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	
November 12	
If the Montclair Public Schools are closed, or close early due to bad weather, Side Door is CLOSED as well. Please note we are NOT open on holidays or early release days.	

Sidedoormontclair.org has an online version of our registration form, our calendar, and pdfs of all forms.

We are on Facebook -MontclairSideDoor - and emergency calendar changes are posted there.

Director: Susan Johnson sidedoor@unioncong.org, 973 809-9581 (cell)

Union Congregational Church, 176 Cooper Ave., Montclair, NJ 07043