

Anchor's Policies and Statement of Faith

Who are we?

We are a group of Christian homeschool families who take seriously the instructions to teach and disciple our children, conducting all activities from a Biblical Worldview. (Psalms 78, Deut. 6). We seek like-minded families for fellowship, encouragement, and learning.

What is our mission?

- To support private Christian homeschooling
- To give families opportunities to learn in a group setting
- To offer a Christian worldview education
- To provide outlets for individuals' giftings and callings to blossom and grow
- To create a culture of people that walk alongside one another in prayer, encouragement, and support
- To build a community of families that work side-by-side to accomplish our mission

When do we meet?

We meet weekly on Fridays at Mid Valley Community Church in Durham (September-May) with fall and spring semesters. We take regular classes off the first Friday of each month to offer an organized fellowship event. We also have occasional social events such as field trips, mom time, workshops, teen events, and park days.

Who can participate?

Classes are available for grades K-12. You can take as many classes as you'd like. A parent/guardian or designated adult is required to stay on campus for grades 7 and under; drop offs are allowed for grades 8 and up. Younger siblings are welcome to use our staffed nursery, or attend class (non-registered) with their older sibling under parent/guardian supervision; as long as they aren't a distraction. Please precheck with the teacher before signing up your student whose age falls outside the class recommendation.

How do I participate?

In keeping with the spirit of a cooperative, everyone's help & participation is necessary. We require all families to sign up for at least 1-2 clean-up days, and at least one of the following areas each semester:

- Classroom Helper: assist teachers with individual class needs and/or clean the last few minutes/after class
- *Clean-up Coordinator: ensure the day is staffed with family volunteers, remind & oversee families signed up to clean
- *Event Team Coordinator: oversee planning of fellowship day events and event team
- Event Team Helper: help plan and implement fellowship days
- Lunch Monitor: oversee lunch safety in the gym & main building
- *Nursery Coordinator: oversee nursery needs and hour is staffed with nursery volunteers
- Nursery Helper: help with infant/toddler care
- *Security Coordinator: oversee lunch monitors, the hour is staffed with security volunteers, and an emergency plan

(continued)

- Security Helper: extra eyes around the facility
- *Snack-Shack Coordinator: oversee snack/meals/drinks/money/volunteers during lunch
- Snack-Shack Helper: set up food, take orders, give change, serve food
- Study Hall: oversee study hall and offer study help if needed
- *Teacher/Co-teacher: plan and teach classes
- *Teacher Support: oversee communication & support for individual teacher needs; check-in, encourage, problem solve

**teacher registration priority & privileges*

Teachers determine class subjects based on their interests. Class size is based on teacher preference or room size. It is up to the teacher to arrange a substitute for their class for a scheduled absence or illness. Teachers are responsible for communicating clear expectations to students & parents and notifying parents of behavioral issues. We ask parents notify the teacher if their child will be absent. After several absents or unresolved behavior the teacher may ask the student to leave. Teacher/co-teacher and volunteer commitments are per semester. All new teachers and classes are screened by the leaders.

It is our desire to honor God in our speech, actions, and dress; communicating respect and love to one another and in our community. We expect students to arrive on time, come prepared for class, and meet their individual class expectations. During class students should ask permission to leave the room, stay engaged in the activity until dismissed, remain with their class until the end of the class hour, and have a positive, encouraging attitude. Parents are encouraged to participate with their child and are responsible for their children between classes & at lunch. Dress for all members should be modest, respectful, and appropriate for the activity in a family environment.

Lunch/snacks may be brought from home to eat during the lunch break or purchased at our snack-shack. During lunch students should be outside or in the gym; no unsupervised students in the main building. The 'Anchor' room is a free curriculum and resource library open to our families. Teachers may store class bins along the left walls labeled 'Anchor Teachers'. The blue and brown bookshelves are labeled by subject for members to take and/or donate to. The blue cubbies down the hall are available to store your belongings in during class. 'Lost & Found' is located at the bottom-right most cubby. In case of a minor injury first-aid kits are available in the Anchor room or the gym kitchen.

Is there a cost?

There is a \$11 non-refundable member fee per family per year to cover the website hosting. Every primary adult attending must have a one-time \$20 background check. Each class has its own cost determined and paid directly to the teacher. Class registration cost is per semester. Payment installments can be discussed with the individual teacher. In case of withdrawal from a class contact the teacher for a prorated refund minus any costs incurred. We take up a 'Thanksgiving Offering' one time each semester for Mid Valley in appreciation for hosting us. All Snack-shack donations go towards co-op operating expenses (food, class materials, events, cleaning, facility improvement ect). Anchor Co-op is a non-profit all volunteer ministry, and all monies received are donations that go back into co-op operations.

How do I register?

Registration for classes and volunteer positions will take place on our website in June and December. Families will be notified of their registration date/time. Registration is per semester. To register log in to your account then go to 'Class Info', then 'Class Registration'. To cancel a class go to 'Class Registration' then 'Manage Registrations'. Classes fill up quickly and will be done in three registration priorities: 1. Teachers, 2. Current Members, 3. New Members.

Facility Use?

We are a ministry under Mid Valley Community Church. As an Anchor member you agree to not advance or advocate beliefs or practices that conflict with the church's faith or moral teachings, which are summarized in the church's constitution and bylaws. We are to leave the facility better than we found it by helping our children clean-up after class and lunch, and making sure to protect/clean tables and floors. On rainy days please use only the main front doors, and help young children stay on the sidewalk out of the mud. Please keep food/drinks to the Fellowship halls, outside, and/or the gym.

Communication?

Communication will be made to the group at our front entry tables, over text, e-mail, and our website. We will also hold at least 1 in-person mid semester meeting. Our weekly events email will go out every Monday morning. Each teacher will be responsible for communicating with their individual class.

Statement of Faith

Anchor Co-op is a religious organization representing Jesus Christ throughout the local community.

- There is one living and true God who reveals Himself to us in three parts: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- God reveals Himself and His truth to us through the Bible. We hold God's word, the whole Bible, as infallible and instructional; the basis of how we should live out our lives.
- God created the heavens and the earth and everything in them. Human beings were created male and female in the image of God. God created marriage between one man and one woman.
- Everyone has sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, separating us from relationship with God. However, we can enjoy an eternal relationship with Him, "if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with your heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved." (Romans 10:9-10)
- We believe Jesus is eternal, fully God, was born fully man of a virgin, lived a sinless life, died for the payment of our sins, was resurrected, ascended into heaven to sit at the right hand of God the Father, and will return one day to rule as King of Kings.
- Every believer in Jesus receives the Holy Spirit as a teacher and guide until Christ returns.
- Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Anchor's Statement of Faith expects families to maintain a lifestyle based on biblical standards of moral conduct.

What if I have a question?

Any questions or problems can be brought to one of our leadership team members below:

- Andrea Patton: (970)590-9834 – Executive Director/Treasurer
- Melissa Smith: (925)321-2343 – Director/Event Coordinator
- Bailey Curtis: (530)354-7118 – Director
- Elizabeth Dake (530)415-1356 – Director

We encourage members to address issues directly and privately whenever possible. (Matthew 18:15-17)

1. Small Circle: address the matter directly with the person involved. Most conflicts are resolved at this level.
2. Confidentially: keep the issue between those directly involved. No gossiping or sowing discord.
3. Honesty: be straightforward and address the heart of the issue.
4. Forgiveness: once resolved, forgive and restore the relationship.

If mediation is needed, Anchor leadership is available.