

## Some Side Door FAQs for kids and parents:

- What is Side Door?** an after school drop-in program for Montclair middle-school students which provides a fun alternative to "hanging out" Uptown
- Who can come?** any Montclair middle-school student
- When is it open?** Fridays after school from 2:15 - 5 pm  
(there's a calendar with exact dates on the back!)
- Where is it?** 176 Cooper St. in Upper Montclair (Union Congregational Church)
- How many kids come?** it depends on the week... we generally have 40 - 50 kids, often more
- Can new kids come?** We have new kids signing up every week
- What do you do there?** Lots of stuff! We have ping-pong, foosball, pool, DDR, RockBand, movies, outdoor basketball and other sports (weather permitting), board games, crafts and quiet activities, plus special programs... **Come and check it out!**
- Is there food?** We always have free snacks and water, plus pizza for \$1/slice, soda for \$.50 and 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: **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.
- 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?** We need a completed registration form on file for each child (both sides!). You can download one at [www.unioncong.org/formation/side-door.html](http://www.unioncong.org/formation/side-door.html) Both the parent and child need to fill it out. You can mail it to the church or bring it when you come (do NOT turn it in at school!).

(info for parents/caregivers on back)



UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## Side Door Highlights for parents and caregivers:

Side Door is run by the Union Congregational Church, with generous grants from the church, Montclair Fund for Women, Montclair Foundation, Montclair Community Intervention Alliance (Governor's Council on Alcohol and Drug Addiction), Montclair Clergy Association, Mt. Hebron PTA, Central Presbyterian Church and St. John's Episcopal Church. Supervision is provided by our church staff, MSU and MHS student volunteers, and parent volunteers. **We ALWAYS need parents** who can spend an hour or two (selling sodas, monitoring sign-in, etc.), so please give us a call. In addition, we cannot exist without monetary donations, or donations of soda and/or snacks. Contact the director (info below) to schedule a donation.

To register your child, just fill out the attached 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.

Side Door attendees are expected to abide by center rules and to conduct themselves in a responsible and safe manner. They must sign in each time they arrive, sign out each time they leave, and wear a nametag while on church property.

If you need to reach your child at Side Door, please make arrangements to contact them via cell phone. While there is a phone for outgoing calls, **it is not possible to reach your child via the church's phone number.**

Please note that **we close PROMPTLY at 5 pm.** If you think you might be late, make arrangements to meet your child at an alternate pick-up site (such as Starbucks or the Bellevue Ave. library). Your child **CANNOT** remain on church property after 5 pm. If a backpack or jacket is left behind, please contact the director (info below) to arrange a pick-up time.

Side Door Schedule for 09-10		
September 25 <sup>th</sup>	January 29 <sup>th</sup>	
Oct. 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 30 <sup>th</sup>	Feb. 5 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> , 26 <sup>th</sup>	May 7 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup>
November 13 <sup>th</sup> , 20 <sup>th</sup>	March 5 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup>	June 5 <sup>th</sup>
December 11 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup>	April 9 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 30 <sup>th</sup>	

Please note we are NOT open on holidays or early release days.  
Also, we are closed for most of January and June due to the unavailability of volunteers from MSU. It would be possible to add those dates if there were parent volunteers available.

To Contact Side Door:

Director: Susan Johnson [susandjohnson@mac.com](mailto:susandjohnson@mac.com) or [sidedoor@unioncong.org](mailto:sidedoor@unioncong.org)  
phone: 973 655-0567 (home)

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