

Arcola Church Nut Policy
(revised August 2016)

We strive to create and maintain a safe environment for worshipping and learning within our church. Some members and visitors to our church may have severe allergies to products containing nuts. Therefore, those products containing peanuts or tree nuts are not to be served or consumed in our Worship Center or Chapel. Peanut and tree nut allergies, both ingested and airborne, can be very harmful, and in some severe cases, fatal to both children and adults. Since we are a public setting, we cannot guarantee absolute compliance with this policy; therefore, we expect and encourage everyone, including parents of children with nut allergies, to take all necessary and appropriate precautions while attending church functions. Some groups, such as Arcola Christian Preschool and our children and youth ministries, have stricter allergy guidelines so please check with the ministry leader of that program for more specifics. Thank you for your help in building a community that is safe, nurturing and vital for all at Arcola Church.

Youth policy:

*We have several youth with severe allergies so in addition to following the church's nut free policy, all foods served at youth activities (at the church or in homes) must be nut free. We cannot serve items that have been processed or packaged in a facility that also processes, manufactures, or packages nut products. Food must either be store bought with labels we can read or, if homemade, we need to have the ingredient list. When eating out, we strive to go a restaurant sensitive to allergies. **Due to their unique nature, we do not fully follow this policy on Misson Trips. However, we do encourage parents to discuss with the Trip Leaders and/or the Pastor to determine ways in which all can be included.** If you have concerns, please talk with the leader of the mission trip. Thank you for your help in building a community that is safe, nurturing and vital for all at Arcola Church.*

Sunday School Policy:

We have several children with severe allergies in our Sunday school programs; therefore, we will serve no food in our Sunday school programs for Preschool – 5th grade. Our infant and toddler nurseries can serve Cheerios only. If you have concerns, please talk with Anne Moriak, our coordinator of Children's Ministries.

Event Care Policy:

We have several children with severe allergies who participate in event care programs at our church; therefore, we will only serve goldfish and water. If event care is during an adult dinner at the church, the only nut free foods we will serve are: Domino's pizza, goldfish, applesauce, and Oreos. If you have questions or concerns before the date of the event, please talk with Gina Latorre, our Event Care Coordinator.

VBS Policy:

We have several children with allergies who participate in Vacation Bible School; therefore, all foods served at VBS must be nut free. We cannot serve items that have been processed or packaged in a facility that also processes, manufactures, or packages nut products. Food must either be store bought with labels we can read or, if homemade, we need to have the ingredient list. Thank you for your help in building a community that is safe, nurturing and vital for all at Arcola Church.