

KIDS FEST 2023

A-Z Guide

Activities & Art – These are two of the electives that we offer your kids. Activities includes fun games through active play and art lets kids explore their creative side. Activities can get physical (e.g., dodge ball, tag, relay races, etc.) and could include water. Please plan accordingly!

Bible - The stories that the kids will hear each day all come from the Bible. We strive to share God's word in a way that is appropriate for each age group, making it easy to understand, and engaging and exciting to learn.

Clearances – All Kids Fest staff that are 18 and older have their clearances. This is a Pennsylvania law that we abide by. You can view our child protection policy [here](#).

Electronics – Please leave all electronic devices at home. All adults have cell phones and can be contacted should the need arise.

Friday Fair – Every year we host a fair on Friday evening. Students and families arrive at 5:45pm at the Kids Fest pavilions (Pavilion 1 Codorus State Park Hanover, PA 17331). This is a chance to see a little bit of what your kids have been doing all week as they will perform a concert at 6pm. Please bring a lawn chair and/or blanket when you come. Following the concert, dinner will be provided alongside a number of fair games (fun games – with candy prizes). The fair will conclude at dusk when the park closes.

Giving – You do not need to give us anything. This is a free event. We believe one of the best ways to care for families is to care for their most precious gifts, their children. It is our desire to serve you and your kids so please let us know if you have any questions.

Hanover Valley Presbyterian Church – is the church that is conducting Kids Fest. The church is located in Hanover at 133 Carlisle Street (next to Royal Farms) and Kids Fest is just one ministry of the church. The crazy guy at the front of Kids Fest running around and being loud...yes that is the pastor, Drew Derreth. If that didn't give him away just look for the guy with a fully colored tie-dyed shirt. If you have more questions about the church you can ask us or explore the website on your own at www.hanovervalley.org.

Information – The fastest and easiest way to get information regarding Kids Fest is through our website and social media pages. We are on Twitter ([@hanovervalley](#)), Facebook ([Hanover Valley Presbyterian Church](#)), Instagram ([@hanovervalley](#)), and YouTube ([HanoverValley](#)). You can also follow the hashtag #HVKidsFest to follow along throughout the week.

Jesus – The kids will hear about Him and some of the things He did. It is our belief that if people encounter the real Jesus, they will be captivated by Him and transformed in the hearts and lives. With that being said, we invite all to explore at their own pace. Believers, seekers, and skeptics are all welcome to join us.

Leaving – Pick up is at 11:30 am each day. We ask parents or designated pick-up persons to come to their kids at the color area. We will instruct the students to remain on their color until their pick-up person comes to get them. We do this for safety purposes. We don't want any kids to run towards the parking lot as many vehicles are coming and going.

Music – We begin each day at Kids Fest with a time for the students to come together to sing, dance, and be silly. The opening time lets them get loud and excited for the rest of the day. The songs that they sing during this time will be practice for the concert on Friday evening. You might even notice some of the songs are pretty catchy and will get stuck in your own head!

Nurses – We hope there are not emergencies, but we do prepare for medical situations that could arise. The first way we do this is by taking note of information you give us during registration. Our registration team lists important notes on each kid's name tag to keep us vigilant. Secondly, we have a dedicated medical team (EMT/RN) that will respond to emergencies as they respond.

Outdoors – Kids Fest is an exclusively outdoor event. Please plan accordingly! We also enjoy a number of physical activities (e.g., races, dodgeball, etc.) so bumps and bruises might occur! Kids will get a snack but are welcome to bring their own water bottles. It's best if they are labeled!

Parent's Café - This is FREE for you, whether you are able to hang around or stop by on the go and grab a drink or pastry! Parent's Café is located towards the very front of the Kids Fest area and will have lots of red folding chairs. This year following the opening segments, one of the Kids Fest leaders will come to that area to talk to those that may be interested in what kids are learning about that day. We direct kids to their parents with questions, so in order to help you engage these conversations and feel in the know, this segment may be beneficial for you while you enjoy your coffee.

Questions – At any point you can contact Noah, our Kids Fest Coordinator, to ask questions. He is available to help in any way and can be reached by phone at 717-634-6284. If you want to talk to staff members in person please feel free to do so.

Registration – is open all week onsite, so if you know someone that didn't sign up online, they can do so the morning when they come for Kids Fest. **Please inform us (registration@hanovervalley.org) if your child has a disability or if they will be accompanied by an adult.** We are an entirely volunteer organization and do not have the capacity to care appropriately for students who require a higher level of care.

Slide – One of the most popular parts of the week is the 175-foot-long water slide on Wednesday and Thursday. Kids should bring a labeled towel and wear their bathing suits under their clothes on their slide day. Slide day is Wednesday for 1st and 2nd grade, and Thursday for 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th.

Tie Dye – and lots of it. You will notice that there are a ton of tie dye shirts which is necessary to take good care of your kids. Kid Movers wear colors that represent the team or grade they oversee. Head Kid Movers wear a shirt that has their team color plus a little teal. Many adult leaders will have just teal like those that teach, run Parents Café, snack, registration, etc.

Ugh – We make mistakes. We will attempt to minimize those but it's inevitable that we will drop the ball at some point. We apologize and ask for your forgiveness. If there is something that offended you or we forgot to do, please let us know directly so we can discuss the matter.

Volunteers – All of the staff that you see are volunteers. We could not do it without them. They have done some training in order to be in these leadership positions and we thank them for sacrificing their time and resources.

Weather – Very rarely has weather not cooperated with us. If it is raining, we do simply continue as best we can. If it is thundering and lightening, then we cancel completely. Only the Friday Fair is attempted to move to an indoor location. Should we have to cancel any Kids Fest events, we will immediately post that on social media and our website. It will be on Twitter, Facebook (@hanovervalley & Hanover Valley Presbyterian Church), and the church website (hanovervalley.org).

X-tra - Should your child lose something, we will collect the extra items and put them in a lost and found box, kept at the Parents Café during the week and at Hanover Valley after Kids Fest.

YouTube – Each day we post a video of the daily events. These are fun little montages set to music. See if you can find your child. If you have never attended Kids Fest checkout previous years' [playlists here](#). to find some older videos.

Zzz – It is our hope that your kids have an amazing time and you may notice that they have a little bit less energy as the week moves along.