

Junior Gathering Times

UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO, IN TOLEDO, OHIO

Location of All Junior Gathering Groups



[Presidents Hall, University of Toledo](#)

[Directions & Campus Map](#)

WELCOME

FROM THE JG FRIEND-IN-RESIDENCE

Welcome Families: children, parents & sponsors! I am excited to join with you in community at Junior Gathering, the children's program of the 2018 FGC Gathering, at the University of Toledo. ([More on page 2](#))

STAFF

WHO TO KNOW

Junior Gathering Co-Clerks:
Galen Fick galen@fick.ca

Laura Pickering Ford
lpicksford@gmail.com

JG Friend in Residence:
Becky Marty beckymarty@outlook.com

FGC Junior Gathering Coordinator:
Patsy Arnold Martin jg@fgcquaker.org

INFORMATION

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[More Afternoon Activities, including Family Place and Multi-Gen Schedules Page 5](#)

AFTERNOON FAMILY TIME

Family Place, in Presidents Hall, is open every afternoon from 1:30-4:30. We have playthings for all ages, from infants and toddlers on up, as well as arts and crafts supplies. We also have books for all ages in the **Junior Gathering Library**. You can read them here or check them out! This is also the place to "check out" a soccer ball, or other sports equipment. ([More on page 5](#)).

FROM THE JUNIOR GATHERING FRIEND-IN-RESIDENCE

WELCOME

As Junior Gathering Friend-in-Residence, I provide spiritual grounding for our time together - which means going with the flow of the youthful energy all around us and supporting the activities the children are doing. It means being available to you if you need me. Throughout the week I will be visiting each Junior Gathering group as well as Family Place and the Multi-Generational Activities. I will be out and about campus when not directly with Junior Gathering and I would be happy to share a bit of quiet time with you, answer questions, address concerns, or just be joyous together. You can always leave me a message at the Junior Gathering Office or on the Message Board.

During our time in Toledo, we will be exploring our theme, The Power of Truth. We will be looking at the different shades of truth as befit our ages and experiences. As such I encourage you to look for opportunities to share how Truth can be different for different people in differing circumstances.

1) Explore a simple common situation, like playing a game, and what happened. Why do we each have different memories of what happened and thus what the Truth is? 2) Share how there are some situations when Truth is fairly clear, such as the fact of gravity where if you drop something it goes down, and if you are nice to someone they are usually nice back to you.

Because Truth and exploring it can be pretty confusing, I especially encourage you to keep an eye on how you and your family are feeling. Make sure to bring things to Gathering that help you and your family slow down, laugh, and relax. This might mean bringing a favorite book, a special stuffed animal or a pillow. It might mean planning some quiet time in the afternoons or keeping a few snacks in your room for "comfort food".

I hope you and your family will take time between now and when we meet at the 2018 FGC Gathering, to talk and think about what this year's theme means to you. There are some fun simple suggestions further in this newsletter to help you with this. And as you prepare, I encourage you go where the Spirit leads.

May your travel preparations not overshadow the joy, laughter, silliness and fun of the Gathering-to-be. And may you be carried on the Power of the Spirit and Truth from now, to and through Gathering, and beyond.

Travel safely Friends!! I look forward to seeing you soon,

Becky Marty, 2018 Junior Gathering Friend-in-Residence

OPEN HOUSE

5:45 PM SUNDAY, JULY 1, 2018

Open house is for parents, sponsors, and all children from little newborns to those entering 6th grade in the fall. Learn about our groups: Acorns, Pinecones, Sprouts, Saplings and Pinetrees!



Come see the **space** for your Group. Meet your **leaders**. Get a preview of the week's **activities**. Look on the back of your nametags for specific group locations. We look forward to meeting you!

A [mandatory Oaks Orientation](#) will be at 8:45 in the Student Union immediately following the All Gathering Welcome.



Simple Snacks

One of the challenges this year was to find ways to be more frugal without compromising the excellent quality of programming we have in Junior Gathering. After much discernment and celebration of what works well, the committee felt clear that serving a simpler snack, such as crackers or chips made sense.

A simple snack costs less and requires fewer staff.

[More Snack Information](#)



Please send a **water bottle** clearly marked with your child's name so we can avoid using disposable cups.

SKATEBOARD & BICYCLE POLICIES

UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO POLICY: "All persons using rollerblades, skateboards, bicycles or other non-motorized equipment on the premises of the University of Toledo may not engage in activity that represents a risk to their safety or the safety of others or which causes a disruption of operations of the university or which causes or may cause damage to the university property or to property of any of its members or visitors."

FGC POLICY: "Bicycle riders of all ages are required to wear helmets. Pedestrians have the right of way and are not to be threatened with collision. Bicycles must be chained to bike racks when not in use."

Reminder to all participants:
Please leave electronic devices in your rooms. We want you to be fully present for the exciting program we developed for you!

ATTENDANCE POLICY

During program time, children must either be in their groups, with an adult, or in their room. No Junior Gathering participant may walk around campus on their own during Morning Workshop or Evening Plenary times.

To ensure the safety, well-being, and comfort level of everyone, these procedures must be followed:

For newborns to those entering 6th grade this fall:

Parents/Sponsors must sign these children in and out of morning and evening groups daily. Children in these groups who do not arrive for their group will be missed but we will not search for them.

For youth entering 7th, 8th and 9th grade this fall (Oaks):

Starting **Monday** evening with a parent or sponsor's written permission these young Friends may sign themselves in and out of group time.

We will search for Oak Participants who have been given permission to sign themselves in and do not show up!! This may mean interrupting a parent or sponsor's workshop.

Parents or sponsors must inform staff if a child in this group is not going to Junior Gathering that day.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

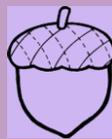
JUNIOR GATHERING HOURS:

Sunday evening we begin with **Open House** at 5:45 pm, after dinner but before the Opening Plenary (Except [Oaks - see below](#))

Junior Gathering Morning Program: 8:45 am-12:00 noon
Monday - Friday

Junior Gathering Evening Program: 6:45 - 9:00 pm
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
No Junior Gathering Evening Program on Wednesday

THE GROUPS:

Group Name	Description	Age or Grades	Symbol
Acorns	Infants & Toddlers	0 - 36 months	
Pinecones	Preschoolers	3-5 years	
Sprouts	Primary I	Rising Kindergarten 1 st and 2 nd Grades	
Saplings	Elementary I	Rising 3 rd and 4 th Grades	
Pinetrees	Elementary II	Rising 5 th & 6 th Grades	
Oaks	Middle School	Rising 7 th , 8 th , & 9 th Grades	

TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL GATHERING FOR YOUR FAMILY

With so many choices of activities for youth and parents, stopping to think about what we *actually* need can sometimes take a backseat.

- Plan your day to meet the needs of your family for play, food, rest, worship and water!
- Pause between activities to allow space for the wonderful Gathering ‘coincidences’ to occur.
- Ponder our theme “The Power of Truth” and what it means for your week at Gathering.
- At the end of each day, check in with one another and see how things went. Does tomorrow’s plan need to be adjusted based on today?

Important links

[JG Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Tips for First Time Attenders](#)

[Gathering Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[What is Junior Gathering?](#)

[Junior Gathering Webpages](#)

[High School Webpage](#)

[Family Time at the Gathering](#)

[UT Campus Info](#)

[UT Campus Map](#)

[Late Night Arrival Form](#)

(if you are arriving after 7pm on Friday or Saturday or after 9pm on Sunday)



AFTERNOON FAMILY TIME

The Water Slide, at the indoor pool in the [Rec Center](#) may be open for our use. Check the Daily Bulletin for the schedule. Bring your swimsuits!

The UT Rec Center has an Olympic-sized lap pool, a diving pool, hot tub and whirlpool areas, a sauna and a water slide.

FAMILY PLACE

Family Place in Presidents 1503 is open every afternoon from 1:30 - 4:30 pm. We have [books](#) and playthings for all ages, from infants and toddlers on up, as well as arts and crafts supplies. Adults can converse while children engage with each other and with activities. You can't drop your children off at Family Place but you can exchange supervision with other parents if you need a bit of a break. We will have various workshop leaders join us to lead activities, too.

Here is our schedule:

Monday:

- 1:45 pm Worship-sharing for parents on plans and hopes for the week
- 3:15 pm Stories, Songs and Dances with John Calvi

Tuesday:

- 1:30 pm Make a kite with [Chuck Jones](#)
- 3:15 pm Simple yoga or other movement activity with Cindy and Jim Herr

Wednesday:

Bring a pillow and "a lovey" and join us for quiet time. We'll sew small pillows with lavender inside.

Thursday:

- 1:30 pm [3-D Watershed Map event with QEW, QFA & LA](#)
- 3:15 pm Drama games with Beth Popelka

Friday:

3:15 pm Jackie Stillwell will read "Stone Soup" and lead a conversation with parents and children about abundance and "enough-ness."



You can play with a giant rainbow!



Monday 1:30

MultiGen Activity Schedule:

DAILY AT 1:30 PM

Monday: **Capture the Flag**

Tuesday: **Story-time** hosted by the Center for People of Color

Wednesday: **Take a Nap!**

Thursday: **Chalk Art for Peace**

Friday: **Story-time** hosted by the Center for People of Color



Books for all ages to check out



Lots of Board Games

CHECK THE DAILY BULLETIN EACH MORNING FOR ADDITIONS AND CHANGES IN THIS

Junior Gathering Library: We have a library of children's books for you to check out all week in Family Place. We also invite you to [donate](#) your favorite new or used books to our collection. Please bring donations to Family Place between 1:30 and 4:30 Monday – Friday.

Find More Information about **Family Friendly Afternoon Options** in the Daily Bulletin or at the Local Arrangements Table in the Student Union.

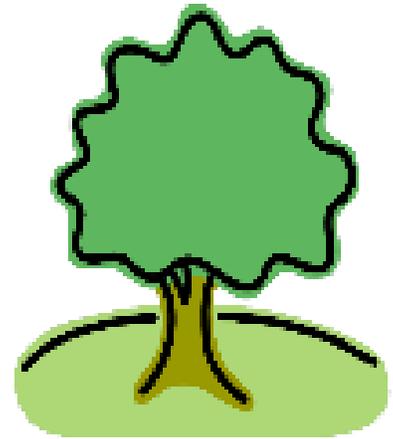
MANDATORY OAKS ORIENTATION

Every Oak participant and at least one of their parents or sponsors are required to attend an orientation on Sunday evening at 8:45 p.m. following the All Gathering welcome.

This is a time for parents or sponsors and youngsters to work together to set expectations for the week that are consistent among families.

At this orientation, Oaks workshop leaders will introduce the morning workshops. Each participant will indicate their favorites. (Workshop assignments will be revealed Monday morning.)

The Oaks staff will also go over the ground rules, review health forms, and answer questions.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Monday

Family Place Planning Meeting 1:30 pm

Tuesday

Parent Feedback Meeting 3:15 *Presidents 3503*

Wednesday

Take a Nap afternoon!

Multigenerational Plenary: 7:00 pm

Storyteller [La'Ron Williams](#)

NO Junior Gathering Evening Program

Thursday

[3-D Watershed Map Presentation](#): 1:30 pm

Saturday All Gathering Worship 9:00 AM

Have a safe trip home & plan to come to the
2019 FGC Gathering at Grinnell College,
in Iowa, June 30 - July 6, 2019.



DORMITORY LIFE

Keys: Each adult will receive two keys - one to the suite and one to the room.

Replacement fee: \$125 per key. We suggest families use the suite key and leave bedrooms unlocked for the week. Be sure to put keys not being used in a safe place or turn them back in to the university.

Children under 11 - will not be issued keys.
Children 12 and over will have key options which will be explained at check-in.

Laundry: Each of the dorms has laundry facilities available. The Gathering will provide fragrance-free laundry detergent.

Warnings: There are **train tracks** on this campus which are in use, but the trains are not frequent.

The dormitories, Ottawa East Dining, and the pool are all uphill of the tracks.



There is also a small **river** that crosses the campus between the dorms and the Student Union. See [Campus Map](#) for locations of dorms, dining hall, and recreation center.





THE 3-D WATERSHED MAP

Experience the Power of *visual* Truth with this interactive 3D map of the Big Lower Maumee River watershed. This watershed is a key input to western Lake Erie's health.

Participants will go on a watershed scavenger hunt in which they will learn how a watershed works, what threatens its health, and how it can be protected. Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW), together with Quakers for the Arts (QFA) and Local Arrangements (LA), are sponsoring this event on Thursday at 1:30 in **Presidents Main Lobby**.

FUN ACTIVITIES BEFORE YOU COME (or while on the road)

[Click here](#) to find three sets of free, downloadable coloring pages, word search puzzles, criss-cross puzzles and mazes on the following themes:

[Quaker Testimonies](#)

[Quakers and Prayer](#)

[You Are Welcome Here!](#)



WEDNESDAY NIGHT PLENARY FOR ALL AGES



Storyteller [La'Ron Williams](#) Culture of Struggle;
Culture of Faith: Using Storytelling to Help the Truth
Survive in a Nation Riddled with Lies

Sample Story: [Learning Long Division and White Superiority from My "Sweet" Third Grade Teacher](#)

Junior Gathering is brought to you by generous donations from Friends like you.