🌶️ Chili Cookoff Contestant Instructions

Event Date: Sunday, November 1, 2026
Event Time: 3:00–6:00 pm
Chili Tasting & Voting: 4:00–5:00 pm
Winners Announced: 5:30 pm

Arrival & Setup

- Please arrive between **3:00 – 4:00 pm** to drop off and set up your chili.
- All chili entries must be on the serving table by **4:00 pm sharp** to qualify for voting.
- Each entry will receive a **numbered label** (1, 2, 3, etc.). We are not using names to keep voting fair.

Chili Requirements

- Bring your chili in a **crockpot or slow cooker** with a lid. We will have power strips available.
- Please bring a **serving spoon or ladle** for your chili.
- When you check in, you'll add **spice level stickers** to your chili label (1 pepper = mild, 4 peppers = super spicy)

Serving & Tasting

- There will be small bowls for tasting each chili
- Guests will also have the option to enjoy full bowls after tasting.
- The church will provide toppings (cheese, sour cream, onions, crackers) as well as drinks

Voting

- Each attendee will receive **10 beans** at check-in.
- They will taste chili entries and "vote" by placing beans into the numbered cup of their favorite chili.
- The mild chili and spicy chili with the most beans at the end of the tasting wins.

Prizes

- **Grand Prize:** A custom "Best Chili in McGaheysville" shirt
- Bragging rights until next year's festival!

Cleanup

- Please plan to take your crockpot, spoon, and any leftovers home with you.