Ventastic app instructions for Apple devices for Families Anonymous Meeting Without Walls (MWW), September, 2019

Contact information: Agnes, cell, 856-266-7238 (text or call), agnes.m.roper@gmail.com

First, download Ventastic from the Apple app store. When you open the Ventastic app, you should be in a blank screen with lines, like on writing paper. You will see the hamburger icon (three lines) in the top left corner, and a plus sign (+) in the top right corner.

Tap the +, and you will get the fields you have to complete to get set up. On my iPhone, here is what I see and what I entered:

Server Name . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . TYPEFRAG
Username . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Enter whatever you choose as your username.
Server hostname or IP . . . . . . . . . . . . . morganite.typefrag.com
Server port (defaults to 3784) . . . . . . 8135
Server or user password (optional) . . detach

I accepted all the default settings. You can look at menus and see if you have any different preferences. (If you want to change your username, you can do that any time. When you're not logged in, tap TYPEFRAG, and a menu will pop up. From there you can connect to a meeting or can edit your settings.)

Tap save. Now you will see TYPFRAG on the first line of the home screen. There is a power plug encircled by the cord on the right. Tap it to enter our TYPEFRAG server.

You will see a screen with TypeFrag.com at the top, then your name, then TheMeetingRoom. Tap 'TheMeetingRoom' to enter it. Your name will move below that header. Anyone else in the meeting will be there also.

The microphone to the left of your name is red. To speak, press and hold the large microphone at the bottom of the screen. Your microphone will be green.

To enter chat, you will see the upload icon in the top right corner of your screen. It is a box with an up arrow. Then you will see a field at the bottom of the screen. Whatever you type there will be visible to the other attendees. Your messages and theirs will be at the top of your screen. To leave chat, click the x at the top left corner of the screen. That takes you out of chat, and when you go back, you will not see what others typed while you were gone. The only way you can talk and chat at the same time is to set your microphone to 'voice activated'. But for me it was so sensitive that the microphone was always on. I stayed with the default setting of 'push to talk'. The computer version, Ventrilo, lets you do both at once - talk and exchange chat messages - the phone app does not.

The computer version of Ventrilo has a comment option. When you use it, you can type something, and it will appear next to your name. We use "!" to raise a hand to talk. There is no comment option in Ventastic. You can see other attendees' comments, but you can't type any. To raise a hand to speak, you can click your microphone on and off a couple of times. The leader will see your microphone changing color.

Another important thing to know is when you tap the hamburger icon from any screen, you get a menu (on the left on my iPhone). The microphone icon in the menu takes you back to the screen that shows TheMeetingRoom, the attendees, and the microphone colors.

To disconnect, click the upload icon in the top right corner of your screen, same as you did to chat. It gives you both 'disconnect' and 'enter chat' options.

Most MWW attendees use the computer version of Ventrilo, which has the additional features mentioned above that are lacking in the Ventastic app. When you join a meeting using the app, let the leader know you are using Ventastic, not Ventrilo.