



Welcome to Christ Lutheran's Sunday School Program 2011 – 2012

Christ Lutheran Christian Education Ministry is dedicated to assisting the family with the cultivation of a foundation for the growth of our children's faith. Attending Sunday School is one place where we can share our knowledge, love of Christ, and faith experience freely with our children as a way to demonstrate Christ's love for all of us.

The program that is used by Christ Lutheran Church for PreK – 4th gr. is published by Augsburg Fortress and is titled *Witness*. This program offers a two-year cycle of resources that build a solid biblical foundation for all learners. The goal of the program is to match the characteristics of a witness and the job of witnessing. A witness is someone who *knows* the Word, *grows* in faith, and *shows* service. To witness is to respond to God's gifts of Word, faith, and service. 5th and 6th grades use a different curriculum from Augsburg Fortress. It is called *SPARK: Activate Faith* and has many features that we think our children will enjoy, including vivid graphics, weekly leaflets that are age-appropriate, and more relevance to their life. 7th and 8th grade will have a variety of topics to discuss. As part of their confirmation program they need to attend a minimum of 8 weeks a year, but may attend all topics. The remaining weeks, 7th/8th grade students may choose to volunteer during this time in one of the church ministries.

It is important to remember that we should be working together to help our children find their place in our church community. Religious education provides information about our Lutheran traditions, but faith begins at home. As parents, you are the primary teachers of our faith. The Sunday School program and teachers are here to provide you and your children with resources and support, but without parental involvement these lessons are meaningless. We encourage you to take an active part in your children's faith formation. Some ways to do this include; attending Family Express service, taking part in your child's Milestone Ministry event, helping out in your child's Sunday School class, checking out resources from the library, or ask your children about their lesson each week.

Children learn by example. Both Sunday School teachers and parents must provide living examples for our children. By working together, we will help to prepare the foundation that is needed for our children to continue to grow in their faith and become active members of our church community.

Registration, Placement Policies, & Volunteering

Registration for Sunday School begins in August. Children PreK (3 years old) thru 8th grade are encouraged to register. Forms can be found in the Ambassador, online at the church website www.clcstoughton.org and at the church office.

Announcements are placed in the bulletin also.

1. Families are asked to fill out a registration form for each child they are registering. We use this information to update our church records so we ask that at least one of the forms per family be complete and specific.

2. Registration fees are used to cover part of the cost of Sunday School curriculum and supplies. Fees for 2011-2012 are \$20.00/child or \$40.00/family.

Fees may be waived.

3. Children are placed with the class that they would be with in the school system under most circumstances. Occasionally, classes may be combined due to teacher shortage or extremely small class size.

4. 7th/8th graders will also sign up for Sunday School. Confirmation students are required to attend 16 weeks of Sunday School within a two-year time period. We prefer that they attend a **minimum of 8 weeks each year**. They are welcome to attend all sessions that are available. When not attending Sunday School, they may want to volunteer to help out with other activities on Sunday morning.

5. Parents, please consider **volunteering** in your child's class one time to provide support for the teacher and your child, especially if your child is younger. We're always looking for help, consider helping out in the Nursery, Kitchen, Greeting, or Ushering. Other opportunities abound.

Behavioral Guidelines

- Family Express Service begins at **9:10 am** and lasts until roughly 9:40. We invite you to sit with your children and attend this service. Please be prompt to help us settle all the children down to begin worship on time.

- Children are dismissed from Family Express to go to their Sunday School classrooms. Sunday School lasts from 9:40 until **10:20 am**.

- Make sure children are prepared to be in class. Having a good breakfast first will help them to focus on the lesson. Please do not allow your children to bring distracting items to class such as electronics or toys.

- Students in 3rd grade and up should bring their *The Adventure Bible* with them.

- Please help your children to understand what type of behavior is expected of them while at Family Express and Sunday School.

- Please make a commitment to have your children at Sunday School on a regular basis. Make it a habit and part of your children's normal routine. Ask them about what they learned at Sunday School each week.

Sunday School Classrooms

Grade	Room Name	Staff Name
PreK-3/4 (A – J)	<i>Noah</i>	Marissa Ludlum / Abby Joannes
PreK-3/4 (K – Z)	<i>David</i>	Kristine Annen / Ariel Annen
Kindergarten	<i>Abraham</i>	Alix Klinzing / Sierra Swangstu
1 st	<i>Solomon</i>	Sophie Geister-Jones / Emily Peterson
2 nd	<i>Daniel</i>	Jenifer Model / Kirsten Sletten
3 rd	<i>Esther</i>	Cassie Adams / Carlie Erdman / Cassie Engel
4 th	<i>Jonah</i>	Eileen Klinzing
5 th (A – Sh)	<i>Isaac</i>	Rena Sletten / Ike Landers
5 th (Sl – Z) & 6 th	<i>Ruth</i>	Dave Erdman / Danita Ewald
7 th /8 th	<i>Lower Youth Room</i>	Pastor Paula

Holy Communion

The Family Express Service will celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion the *first Sunday of each month* beginning in October. Parents are encouraged to commune with their children. Children who have not gone through the First Communion classes will be encouraged to take a small piece of bread to become familiar with the ritual.



Bad Weather

During the winter month's weather can sometimes be a problem. Use your best judgment as to whether you should risk coming out into the elements. If it is questionable as to whether Sunday School is being held, please escort your children inside the church, or call the church office at 873-9353 and listen to the message on the answering machine for cancellations. *We will cancel Sunday School in case of a blizzard warning.*

Sunday School / Education Events Schedule 2011-12



September 11, 18, (Wed. 21), & 25

- September 11 Kick-off Sunday
- September 21 Confirmation orientation *Journey Begins* - 7th & 8th grade

October 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30

- October 2 Parents and child meet with pastor to learn how to use your Bible at 10:30. *Milestone Ministry – 3rd grade*
- October 9 Receive Bibles during Family Express Service. *Milestone Ministry – 3rd grade*
- October 30 (Reformation Sunday) Confirmation at 1:00 pm – 9th grade

November 6, 13, 20, & 27

- November 27 Practice for Christmas program for portion of Sunday School class hour
- November 27 Make Advent logs with devotion guides to use during Advent season at 10:30. *Milestone Ministry – 1st grade*

December 4, 11, & 18

- December – all month NO Sunday School for 7th/8th, they will help w/ SS Program
- December 4, 11, 18 Practice for Christmas program for portion of Sunday School class hour
- December 18 Dress Rehearsal for Christmas program
- December 18 Sunday School Christmas program at 10:30 am with cookie fellowship to follow
- *December 25 (Christmas) No Sunday School*

January 8, 15, 22, & 29

- *January 1 (New Years Day) No Sunday School*

February 5, 12, 19, & 26

March 4, 11, 18, & 25

- March 4, 11, 18, & 25 Parent and child attend First Communion classes with pastor at 11:30. *Milestone Ministry – 4th grade*
- March 25 Parent and child meet with pastor following Family Express. *Milestone Ministry – 3 year old Preschool Children*

April 1, (Wed. 4), (Thur. 5), 15, 18, 22, & 29

- April 1 (Palm Sunday) Make Lenten crosses *Milestone Ministry – 2nd grade*
- April 1 (Palm Sunday) Receive *A Child's First Bible* at Family Express Service. *Milestone Ministry – 3 year old Preschool Children*
- April 4 Make Communion bread after school *Milestone Ministry – 4th grade*
- April 5 Maundy Thursday receive First Communion. *Milestone Ministry – 4th grade*
- *April 8 (Easter Sunday) No Sunday School*

May 6 & 27

- May 6 Last Day of Sunday School – *Teacher Appreciation Sunday*
- May 27 – Baccalaureate Service *Milestone Ministry – HS & College Graduation & College Scholarship Recognition 9:00 am*