



## *Welcome to Christ Lutheran's Sunday School Program 2016 – 2017*

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 PreK3 – 6th grade is published by Augsburg Fortress / Sparkhouse and is titled **SPARK**. Spark Lectionary is a three-year curriculum for kids ages 2-12. This curriculum has many features that we think our children and families will enjoy, including vivid graphics, weekly leaflets that are age-appropriate, and more relevance to their life. Best of all, this curriculum is designed for classroom use and works best for congregations who are looking for a curriculum that connects readings from worship with Sunday school, so Family Express will connect each week to the lesson that the students are learning in its message and some of the musical choices as well. From Augsburg Fortress: *"Connect the stories kids hear in worship with the lessons they learn in Sunday school. Spark Lectionary follows stories in the Revised Common Lectionary. Throughout the three-year cycle, each lesson comes from a Bible story in the Old Testament, the Gospels, or Acts."*

7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade will follow a different program from Augsburg Fortress / Sparkhouse called **Colaborate**. This is a two-year curriculum, the first year students will study lessons from the Old Testament, the following year they will study the New Testament. Students will engage in compelling conversation about God and what it means to follow Jesus as they dig into the Bible. The remaining weeks, 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade students will have the opportunity to participate in mini service projects. As part of their confirmation program they need to attend a minimum of 12 weeks over the two years in EACH of Sunday School class time AND service projects (total of 24), but youth are encouraged to attend all sessions.

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 child(ren) 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 simply asking your child(ren) 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. Thank you for making that commitment to your child(ren) and church.



### **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](http://www.clcstoughton.org) and at the church office. Announcements are placed in the bulletin also.

1. Families are asked to fill out a family registration form with specific information for each child they are registering. We use this information to update our church records.

2. Registration fees are used to cover part of the cost of Sunday School curriculum and supplies. Fees for 2016-2017 are \$25.00/child or \$50.00/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 12 weeks of Sunday School within a two-year time period. We prefer that they attend a **minimum of 6 weeks each year**. They are welcome to attend all sessions that are available. They will also have to help out in a total of **12 mini service projects over the two years (most offered during Sunday School time)**. Total of 24 over two years.

5. **Volunteers:** The church runs through the support of volunteers. 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 are always looking for help; consider helping out in the Sunday School classroom, Confirmation program, Nursery, Kitchen, Greeting, or Ushering. Other opportunities abound, just ask!

### **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 **10:25 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.

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

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

· 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**

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Room Name</b>	<b>Staff Name</b>
PreK-3/4	<i>David</i>	<b>Kristine Annen / Ariel Annen</b>
Kindergarten	<i>Abraham</i>	<b>Brianna Adams / Lexie Fitzsimmons</b>
1st	<i>Noah</i>	<b>David Graffin / Kirsten Sanford / Zach Scheel</b>
2nd	<i>Daniel</i>	<b>Josie Asleson / Sydney Johnson</b>
3rd	<i>Solomon</i>	<b>Gen Wilberg</b>
4th	<i>Jonah</i>	<b>Eileen Klinzing</b>
5th	<i>Esther</i>	<b>Taylor Vingum / Alexa Wuennemann</b>
6th	<i>Ruth</i>	<b>Dave Erdman / Taylor Dyreson</b>
7th/8th	<i>Isaac</i>	<b>Jen Brikowski / Pastor Paula</b>

## **Holy Communion**

The Family Express Service will celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion the *first Sunday of each month* beginning in September. 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 (608) 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 / Christian Education 2016-17 Event Calendar



## September 2016

### **7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade** - *The Journey Begins*

Parent & Confirmation Student Orientation at 7:00 pm on Wednesday 9/07/16 or Sunday 9/11/16

Confirmation begins at 6:30 pm on 9/14/16

**All Grades - Rally Sunday 9/11/16** Return of Family Express and Sunday School

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade** – *Presentation of Bible*

Parents & Student meet w/ pastor to learn about Bible at 10:30 am on 9/18/16

Parents present bible students with Bibles during Family Express on 9/25/16

## October 2016

### **9<sup>th</sup> Grade** – *Faith Affirmation Confirmation*

Confirmation Service at 1:00 pm on 10/30/16 (Reformation Sunday)

## November 2016

### **1<sup>st</sup> Grade** – *Advent Devotions Jule Log*

Parent & Student make an Advent Jule Log with devotion guides at 10:30 am on 11/20/16

## December 2016

**ALL Grades**- Christmas Program (*My Dear Lord Gives to Me*) at 10:30 am on 12/18/16

NO Sunday School 12/25/16

## March 2017

### **4<sup>th</sup> Grade** – *First Communion*

Parents & Student meet for four Sundays (3/5, 3/12, 3/19 & 4/2) at 10:30 am OR Wednesdays at 7:30 pm (after Lent Service) (3/8, 3/15, 3/22, & 4/5) to prepare for Holy Communion

## April 2017

### **Preschool 3 year olds** – *Picture Bibles*

Parents meet w/ pastor in Sanctuary after Family Express on 4/2/17

Parents present Bible to 3 year old students at Family Express on 4/9/17 (Palm Sunday)

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade** – *Lenten Crosses*

Parents & Student meet w/ pastor to make Lenten Crosses and learn about Holy Week after Family Express during Sunday School class on 4/9/17 (Palm Sunday)

### **4<sup>th</sup> Grade** – *First Communion*

Parents & Student meet for four Sundays (3/5, 3/12, 3/19 & 4/2) at 10:30 am OR Wednesdays at 7:30 pm (after Lent Service) (3/8, 3/15, 3/22, & 4/5) to prepare for Holy Communion

Students bake bread on Wednesday 4/12/17 at 3:30 pm in kitchen

Students receive First Communion on 4/13/17 at 6:30 pm (Maundy Thursday)

**ALL Grades** - No Sunday School 4/16/17 (Easter Sunday)

## May 2017

**ALL Grades** - Last Day of Sunday School 5/7/16

### **Graduating Seniors** – *Honoring the Graduates*

Students receive graduation gift of a fleece blanket and scholarships at 9:00 am service on 5/28/17 (Memorial Sunday)