



## *Welcome to Christ Lutheran's Sunday school Program 2019 – 2020*

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 other children as a way to demonstrate Christ's love for all of us.

We are planning to use a three tiered approach to our Sunday School Program again this year. First, we are going to continue to use the following curriculum for PreK3 – 6th grade. The program 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 relevant 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."* Secondly, we are planning to include Music that will help reinforce some of the big picture messages that we would like our students to learn. Thirdly, we will reinforce each week's lesson by including a craft, activity, game, or practical application that will support each week's message.

7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade will work on leadership skills and lessons learned through the use of stories from 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 events, 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. We are looking for parent's involvement this year to help out with school wide activities, through preparing crafts and other materials and through sharing any talents that they might have with our students. Sign-up sheets for volunteer opportunities will be available on Sign-up Genius.

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 2018-2019 are \$25.00/child or \$50.00/family. Fees may be waived.
- 3.** Children are placed with the class that they would be within 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, helping to prepare the weekly crafts and activities, being a substitute teacher, 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 and for Pre-K through 8th grade will report directly to their classroom. 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>Marti Conant / Helena Kohlhoff</b>
1st	<i>Noah</i>	<b>Alani Estervig / Brady Estervig</b>
2nd	<i>Daniel</i>	<b>Gloria Eddy/ Emma Stokes</b>
3rd	<i>Solomon</i>	<b>Gen Wilberg</b>
4th	<i>Jonah</i>	<b>Eileen Klinzing</b>
5th	<i>Esther</i>	<b>Scott Geister-Jones / Daniel Knoploh</b>
6th	<i>Ruth</i>	<b>David Erdman/ Andy McCoy</b>
7th/8th	<i>Isaac</i>	<b>Todd Hipke / 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. *We will cancel Sunday school in case of a blizzard warning.*