

Welcome to Christ Lutheran's Sunday School Program 2024-2025

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.

The program that is used by Christ Lutheran Church for K3/K4 – 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 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. In our fall schedule we will have two worship services, a traditional service at 8:00 a.m. and Worship Lite at 9:15 a.m. This second service will be followed by Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

7th and 8th grade will work with a couple of curriculums, the 13 Most Important Bible Lessons for Teenagers, Scary Gross and Wierd stories from the Bible where kids explore the Bible's most bizarre stories to learn some fundamental truths, and TalkSheets to Confirm the Faith of Your Teenagers: 52 Ready-to-Use Discussions. These resources in conjunction with stories directly from the bible help kids to build the foundations of their faith. The remaining weeks, 7th/8th 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: 12 Sunday School classes AND 12 hours of service projects (for a 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 worship services, 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.

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 ahead of time. Forms can be found in the Ambassador, online at the church website <https://clcstoughton.org/sunday-school-registration-online/> and at the church office.

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 2024-2025 are \$30.00/child or \$60.00/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 be required to help out in a total of **12 mini service projects over the two years (most offered during Sunday school time)**. All combined they need a total of 24 over two years.
5. **Volunteers:** The church runs through the support of volunteers. We are always looking for help; consider helping prepare the weekly crafts and activities, being a substitute teacher, or ushering. Other opportunities abound, just ask!

Behavioral Guidelines

- Sunday school will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. and will end at 10:45 a.m.
- Kids will all meet in the sanctuary for the first 10 minutes of class to have a large group opener with music then will be dismissed to their classrooms.
- Masks are available at the door and in classrooms.
- 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 in worship and Sunday School.
- Students in 3rd grade and up should bring their *The Adventure Bible* with them to class so that they can use it during lessons.
- 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 Year Olds) and Kindergarten	Noah	Libby Conant/ Kristine Annen
1st - 2nd Grade	David	Nora Knoploh / Ella Knoploh
3rd - 4th Grade	Jonah	Kylee Soderling/ Asia Hoverson / Eileen Klinzing
5th - 6th Grade	Ruth	David Erdman/ Crystal Brabender/ Henry Brabender
7th -8th Grade	Isaac	Jenny Hoffman/ Alani Estervig

A registration form, emergency plan, map, brochure, and schedule will be provided for each family that registers for Sunday school. These can also be found on our Website on the Youth Tab.

Holy Communion

Both services will celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion the *first and third 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.*