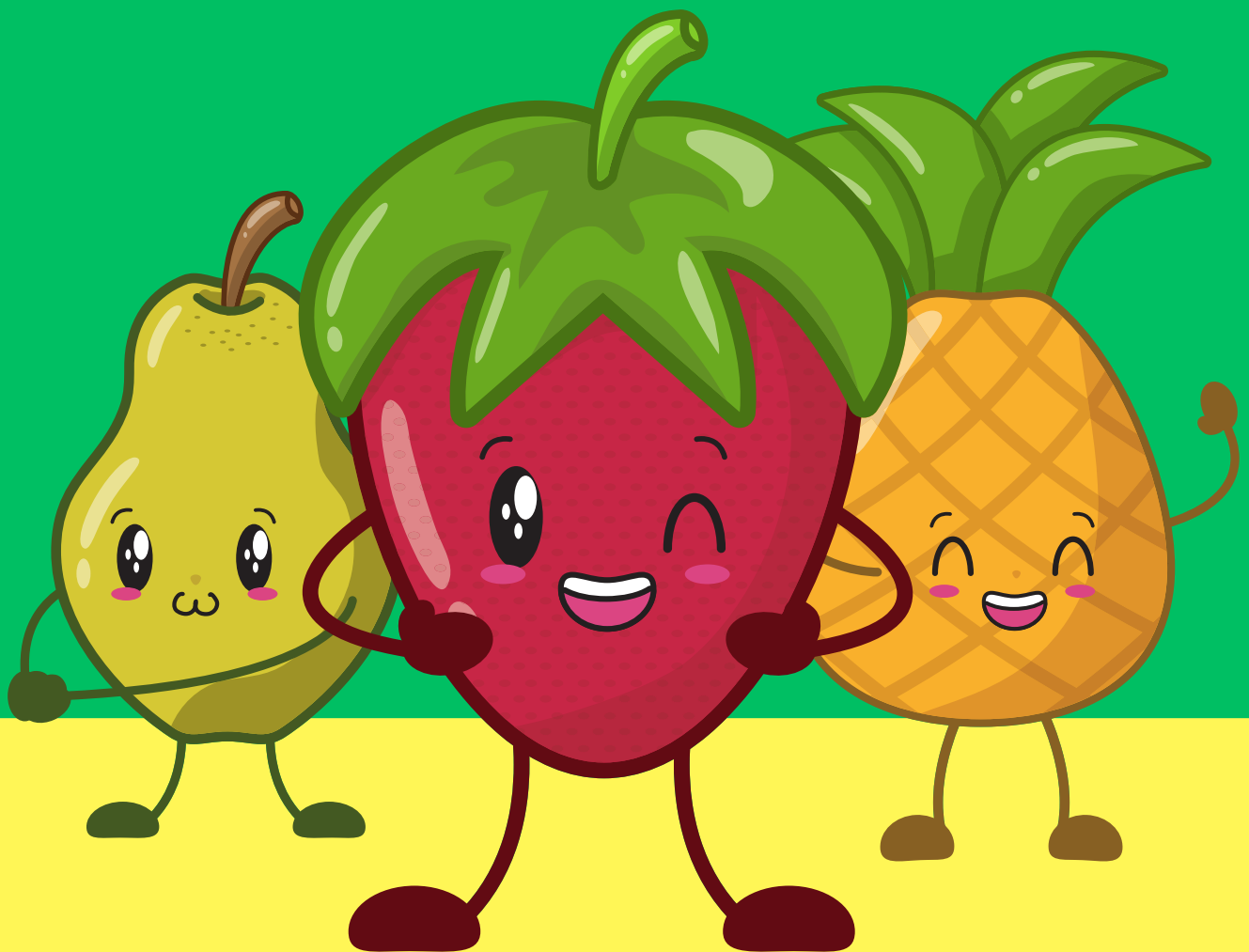


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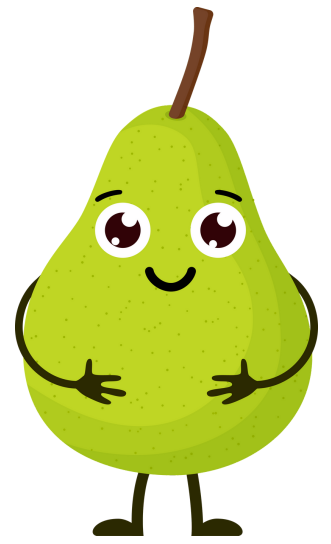
FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church School & Confirmation Handbook



This year's theme:
The Fruit of the Spirit!

Welcome!



As children are baptized, parents promise to live with them among God's faithful people, bring them to worship in God's house, provide for their instruction in the Christian faith, place the Bible in their hands, and nurture them in faith and prayer.

The whole Christian community promises to help parents live out these commitments. We here at Faith Lutheran Church are blessed to help you fulfill your baptismal promises!

Schedule

Church School (age 3 - grade 6)

Sundays 9:45 am

Wednesdays 6:00 pm

Confirmation

7th - Wednesdays at 6:00 pm

8th and 9th - 1st Wed. at 4:30pm

Worship

Sundays at 8:30 and 11:00 am

Wednesdays at 7:00pm

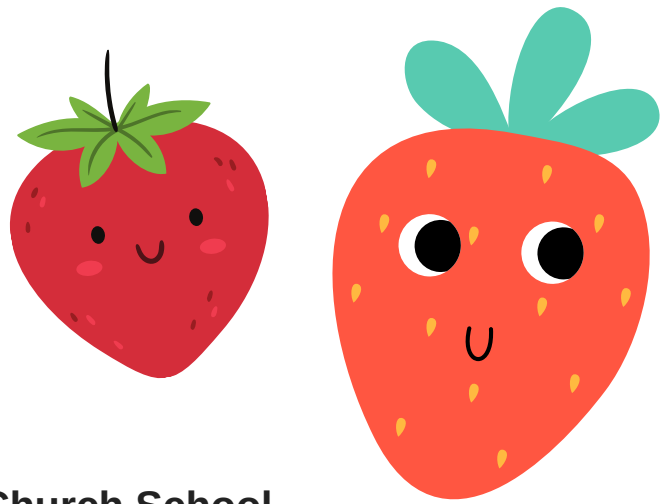
Contact Info

Kenny Opsal, Director of Education

kenny.bisfaith@midconetwork.com

Office phone number: 701-223-2236

Important Information



Worship as Part of Church School

Attending worship together is a central part of the life of faith. It is where we hear the word of God, receive the sacraments of baptism and communion, and are nourished for daily living. We encourage families to make regular worship attendance a priority as you grow together in faith.

Offerings and Stewardship at Church School

Generosity and stewardship are important parts of the life of faith, and we encourage students to practice generosity by bringing offering to church school each week.

One third of church school offerings are given to a global mission project,
one third to a local mission project,
and one third to a project within our congregation.

We also promote bringing items for the monthly mission focus, which you can find on the back counter in Noah's Ark. Please join us weekly in these efforts.

Discipline and Safety at Church School

We are committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all our church school students. Teachers, staff, and volunteers go through background checks and receive training at the beginning of each year.

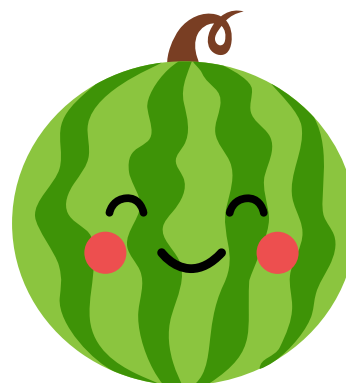
Any form of corporal punishment or inappropriate physical contact is never tolerated. Our full church school discipline policy is available for review.

Contact Education Director Kenny Opsal.

Filling out the yearly online registration for church school and confirmation helps ensure that we have the most-up-to-date information on your child's dietary, allergy, and medical needs.

Sunday Church School Schedule

9:45 am



Wednesday, August 30 - End of Summer Picnic/Outdoor Worship

September 10 - Rally Day

Families welcome!

September 17 - Giving of Bibles for 3 year olds and 3rd graders in worship

September 24

October 1

October 8

October 15

October 22 - NO Church School

October 29

November 5

Daylight Saving Time ends!

November 12 - NO Church School

November 19

November 26 - NO Church School

December 3

Christmas Program Rehearsal

December 10

Christmas Program Rehearsal

December 17

Christmas Program Rehearsal

Christmas Program - 11am

December 24 - Christmas Eve

NO Church School

December 31 - New Year's Eve
NO Church School

January 7

January 14

January 21

January 28

February 4

February 11

February 18 - NO Church School

February 25

March 3

March 10

Daylight Saving Time begins!

March 17

March 24 - Palm Sunday Party!

March 31 - Easter

NO Church School

April 7

April 14

April 21

April 28

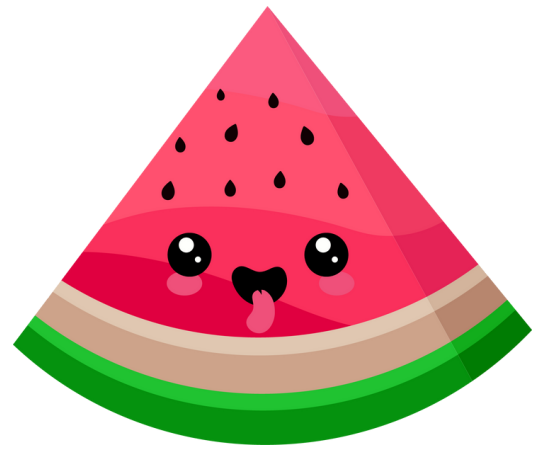
May 5 - Confirmation Sunday

May 12

May 19 - Last Day of Church School & Teacher Appreciation

Wednesday Church School Schedule

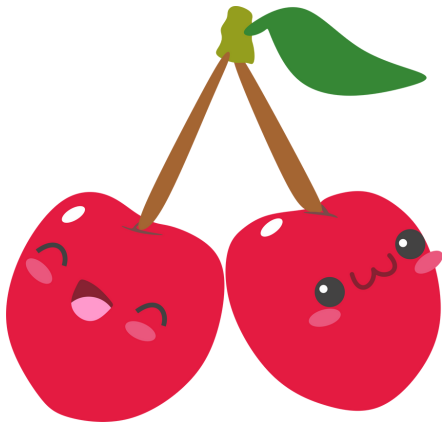
6:00 pm



Wednesday, August 30 - End of
Summer Picnic/Outdoor Worship
September 6 - Rally Day
Families welcome!
September 13 - Giving of Bibles for 3
year olds and 3rd graders in worship
September 20
September 27
October 4
October 11
October 18 - NO Church School
October 25
November 1
November 8 - NO Church School
November 15
November 22 - NO Church School
November 29
Christmas Program Rehearsal
December 6
Christmas Program Rehearsal
December 13
Christmas Program Rehearsal
Christmas Program at 7pm

December 20 - NO Church School
December 27 - NO Church School
January 3
January 10
January 17
January 24
January 31
February 7
February 14 - Ash Wednesday
NO Church School
February 21
February 28
March 6
March 13
March 20
March 27 - Holy Week
NO Church School
April 3
April 10
April 17
April 24
May 1 - Confirmation Wednesday
May 8
May 15 - Last Day of Church
School & Teacher Appreciation



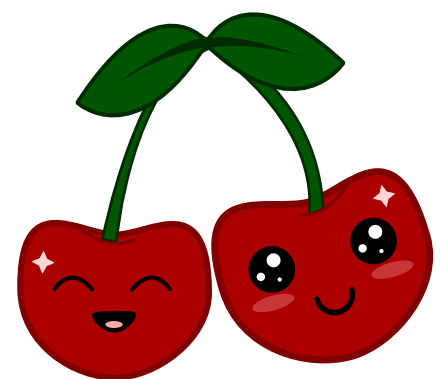
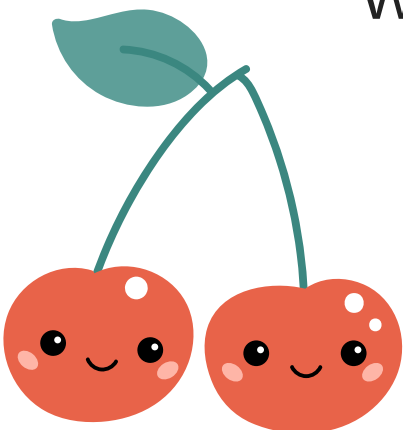


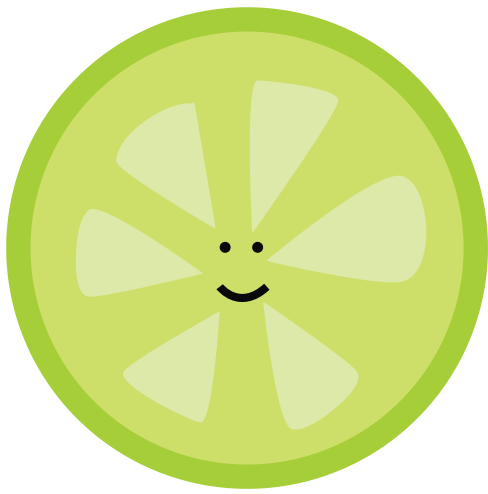
Parent- Student Classes

As part of our confirmation program, students in grades 3-7 take classes a few times each year with their parents on different topics such as the Bible, Stewardship, Communion, and Prayer.

This is an important component of the confirmation program, and families are expected to make every effort to attend. Absences must be made up with one of the pastors or with Kenny.

Each class is offered on Sunday and Wednesday during church school, except where otherwise noted. Parents and students may attend either Sunday or Wednesday sessions.





Parent- Student Class Schedule

3rd Grade P/S

Sundays at 9:45am
September 17 and 24

Wednesdays at 6:00pm
September 13 and 20

4th Grade P/S

Sundays at 9:45am
October 8 and 15

Wednesdays at 6:00pm
October 11 and 25

5th Grade P/S

Sundays at 9:45am
April 7, 14, and 21

Wednesdays at 6:00pm
April 10, 17, and 24

6th Grade P/S

Sundays at 9:45am
March 10 and 17

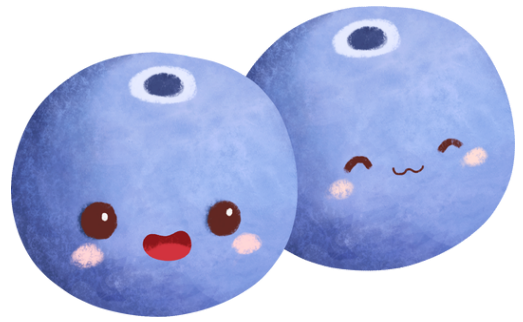
Wednesdays at 6:00pm
March 13 and 20

7th Grade P/S

Wednesdays at 6 ONLY
January 10, 17, 24, and 31



Confirmation Information



Confirmation at Faith Lutheran Church is a three-year process of faith formation, with the aim of deepening faith such that those who go through it are willing and able to make an affirmation of their baptism in front of the congregation at the end of their three years.

All confirmation students are expected to:

Attend class and other required activities

Attend worship regularly

Actively participate in class discussions and activities

Respect the class leader, other students, and the classroom space

Complete all requirements in a timely manner

Requirements include:

Attending class sessions

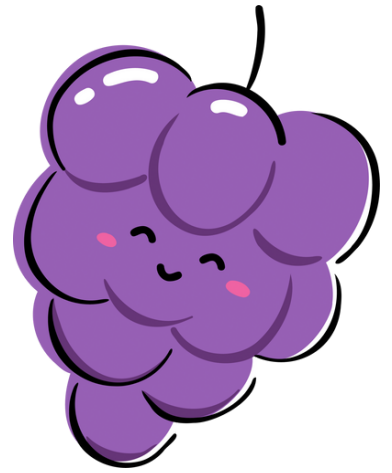
Serving as an acolyte or communion assistant for worship services

Completing 12 worship notes per year

Attending required retreats and special events



Confirmation Schedule



7th Grade Confirmation

Wednesdays at 6:00 pm (see Church School Schedule and/or schedule provided by teacher Brooke Sundvor)

8th and 9th Grade Confirmation

1st Wednesday of the month from 4:30-6:00pm, or as otherwise indicated, on:

September 13; October 4

November 1; December 6

January 3; February 7

March 6; April 3

Other Important Dates/REQUIRED events

Confirmation Opening: Wednesday, Sept. 6 at 6pm

Synod LYO Event: October 19-20

9th Grade Retreat: Friday, April 19 (5pm-9pm)

Optional Overnight Lock-in to follow.

Confirmation Luncheon: Sunday, April 28 at 12:15pm

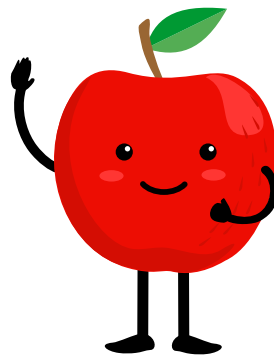
Confirmation: Wednesday, May 1 & Sunday, May 5

8th Grade Retreat in Medora* (*incoming* 8th graders):

May 28 - 30

*Please note, this retreat will now be opened up as an *optional* event for incoming 9th graders as well.

How do I stay informed?



There are several ways to stay up-to-date on all the news related to church school and confirmation here at Faith Lutheran:

1. Fill out the online registration for church school and/or confirmation each year. This keeps our records up-to-date so we can contact you with important information.
2. Make sure you are getting the text alerts. If you are not, contact Kenny Opsal.
2. Follow us on social media! Find us on Facebook: @faithlutheranbismarck and @faithlutheranyouthbismarck. You can also follow us on Instagram: @faithlutheranbismarck.
3. Check out our website: faithbismarck.com for registration links, forms, and schedules.

Questions?

Contact Kenny Opsal or Pastor Sylvia at the church office, or Education Committee Chair Shanna Brady.

Youth Groups

Youth in grades 6-12 are invited to participate in our youth groups for additional fellowship.

Middle School Youth Group (grades 6-8):

Stay tuned for special events coming up throughout the year!

4:12 High School Youth Group (grades 9-12)

The name of our group is based on 1 Timothy 4:12:

"Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity."

We are building this group and getting it going, so tune in for more updates soon!

Make sure to text to the youth phone to get updates for the location of youth group each week!

To be included on the group text reminders for youth group, text the youth phone (701-390-9072) with your name and grade level.

Also: **SAVE THE DATE** for our **National Youth Gathering** trip to New Orleans July 12-22, 2024. This trip will be open to current 8th-12th graders. If you are interested, contact Kenny ASAP!





"But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!." Galatians 5:22-23