

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

2025-
2026

Church School & Confirmation Handbook

This year's theme:
What A Mess!



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 5)

Sundays 9:45 am

Wednesdays 6:00 pm

Confirmation

6th & 7th - Wednesdays at 6:00 pm

8th & 9th - Wednesdays at 6:00 pm

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



September 7 - Rally Day

Families welcome!

September 14 - Giving of Bibles for
3 y-olds and 3rd graders in worship

September 21

September 28

October 5

October 12

October 19 - NO Church School

October 26

November 2

Daylight Saving Time ends!

November 9

November 16

November 23

November 30 - NO Church School

December 7

Christmas Program Rehearsal

December 14

Christmas Program Rehearsal

December 21

Christmas Program Rehearsal

Christmas Program - 11am

December 28 - NO Church School

January 4

NO Church School

January 11

January 18

January 25

February 1

February 8

February 15 - NO Church School

February 22

March 1

March 8

Daylight Saving Time begins!

March 15 - NO Church School

March 22

March 29 - Palm Sunday Party!

April 5 - Easter

NO Church School

April 12

April 19

April 26

May 3 - Confirmation Sunday

May 10

May 17 - Last Day of Church
School & Teacher Appreciation



Wednesday Church School Schedule

6:00 pm



September 3 - Rally Day

Families welcome!

September 10 - Giving of Bibles for
3y-olds and 3rd graders in worship

September 17

September 24

October 1

October 8

October 15 - NO Church School

October 22

October 29

November 5

November 12

November 19

November 26 - NO Church School

December 3

Christmas Program Rehearsal

December 10

Christmas Program Rehearsal

December 17

Christmas Program Rehearsal

Christmas Program at 7pm

December 24 - Christmas Eve

NO Church School

December 31 - NO Church School

January 7

January 14

January 21

January 28

February 4

February 11 - NO Church School

February 18 - Ash Wednesday

February 25

March 4

March 11 - NO Church School

March 18

March 25

April 1 - Holy Week

NO Church School

April 8

April 15

April 22

April 29 - Confirmation Wednesday

May 6

May 13 - 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 21 and 28

Wednesdays at 6:00pm
September 17 and 24

4th Grade P/S

Sundays at 9:45am
October 12 and 26

Wednesdays at 6:00pm
October 22 and 29



5th Grade P/S

Sundays at 9:45am
January 11, 18, 25

Wednesdays at 6:00pm
January 14, 21, 28

6th Grade P/S

Wednesdays at 6pm
ONLY

December 3, 10, 17

7th Grade P/S

Wednesdays at 6pm
ONLY

December 3, 10, 17

Confirmation Information



Confirmation at Faith Lutheran Church is a four-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 four 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

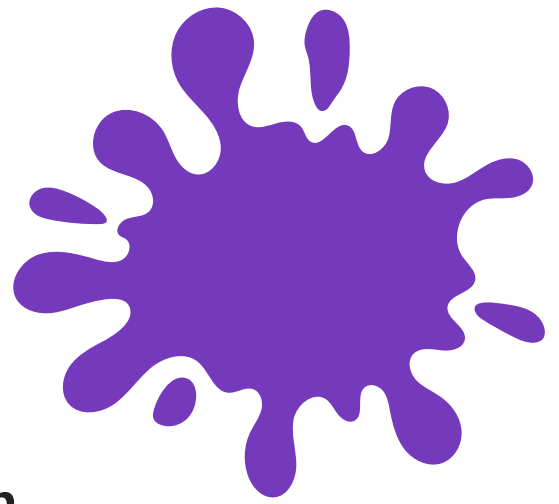
Serving as an acolyte or worship assistant for worship services

Completing 12 worship notes per year

Attending required retreats and special events



Confirmation Schedule



6th and 7th Grade Confirmation

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

8th and 9th Grade Confirmation

Wednesdays at 6:00 pm (see Church School Schedule; any changes will be communicated by Pastor Derek and Pastor Sylvia)

Other Important Dates/REQUIRED events

Confirmation Opening: Wednesday, Sept. 3 at 6pm

Synod LYO Event: October 16-18 in Dickinson

9th Grade Retreat: Friday, April 17 (5pm-9pm)

Confirmation Luncheon: Sunday, April 26 at 12:15pm

Confirmation: Wednesday, April 29 & Sunday, May 3

8th Grade Retreat in Medora* (*incoming* 8th graders):
May 26-28

*This retreat is now open 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!

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 **Western ND Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) Gathering October 16-18 in Dickinson.**

This trip will be open to Grades 6-12. If you are interested, contact Kenny ASAP!



"³⁰ The Pharisees and their scribes were complaining to his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" ³¹ Jesus answered them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician but those who are sick; ³² I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance." Luke 5:30-32

