

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

2026-  
2027

# Church School & Confirmation Handbook

This Year's Theme:  
“Shine Like the Son”



# 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](mailto: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 13 - Rally Day

Families welcome!

September 20 - Giving of Bibles for  
3 y-olds and 3rd graders in worship

September 27

October 4

October 11

October 18 -

October 25- NO Church School

November 1

November 8

November 15

November 22

November 29 - NO Church School

December 6

Christmas Program Rehearsal

December 13

Christmas Program Rehearsal

December 20

Christmas Program Rehearsal

Christmas Program - 11am

December 27 - NO Church School

January 3

NO Church School

January 10

January 17

January 24

January 31

February 7

February 14 - NO Church School

February 21

February 28

March 7- NO Church School

March 14 -

March 21

March 28 - No Church School

April 4 -

April 11

April 18

April 25

May 2 Confirmation Sunday

May 9

May 16 Last Day of Church  
School & Teacher Appreciation



# Wednesday Church School Schedule

## 6:00 pm



September 9 - Rally Day

Families welcome!

September 16 - Giving of Bibles for  
3y-olds and 3rd graders in worship

September 16

September 23

September 30

October 7

October 14

October 21 - NO Church School

October 28

November 4

November 11

November 18

November 25 - NO Church School

December 2

Christmas Program Rehearsal

December 9

Christmas Program Rehearsal

December 16

Christmas Program Rehearsal

Christmas Program at 7pm

December 23 - NO Church School

December 30 - NO Church School

January 6

January 13

January 20

January 27

February 3

February 10 - NO Church School

February 17

February 24

March 3- NO Church School

March 10 -

March 17

March 24- Holy Week

NO Church School

March 31

April 7

April 14

April 21

April 28

Confirmation Wednesday

May 5

May 12 - 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 20 and 27

Wednesdays at 6:00pm  
September 23 and 30

## **4th Grade P/S**

Sundays at 9:45am  
October 11 and 18

Wednesdays at 6:00pm  
October 14 and 28



## **5th Grade P/S**

Sundays at 9:45am  
January 17, 24, 31

Wednesdays at 6:00pm  
January 13, 20, 27

## **6th Grade P/S**

TBD  
Wednesdays at 6pm  
ONLY

## **7th Grade P/S**

TBD  
Wednesdays at 6pm  
ONLY

# 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)

## **Other Important Dates/REQUIRED events**

Confirmation Opening: Wednesday, Sept. 9 at 6pm

Synod LYO Event: October 16-18 in Mandan

9th Grade Retreat: Friday, April 16 (5pm-9pm)

Confirmation Luncheon: Sunday, April 25 at 12:15pm

Confirmation: Wednesday, April 28 & Sunday, May 2

8th Grade Retreat in Medora\* (*incoming* 8th graders):  
June 1-3

\*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](http://faithbismarck.com) for registration links, forms, and schedules.

Questions?

Contact Kenny Opsal at the church office, Amy Steiner, or Olivia Erbele.

# 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):**

We will be connecting with area churches for Mock-Ins. This is hanging out at night BUT you pick your child up at an agreed upon time (rather than doing lock ins).

Stay tuned for other 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 Mandan**. This trip will be open to Grades 6-12. If you are interested, contact Kenny ASAP!



**"<sup>4</sup> in [God] was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it." John 1:4-5**

