

Sunday School Family Handbook

2011 - 2012



"Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name,
welcomes me."

-Mark 9:36

Zion Lutheran Church

Children & Family Ministries

2022 E. 2nd St.

Superior, WI 54880

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www.zionsuperior.org



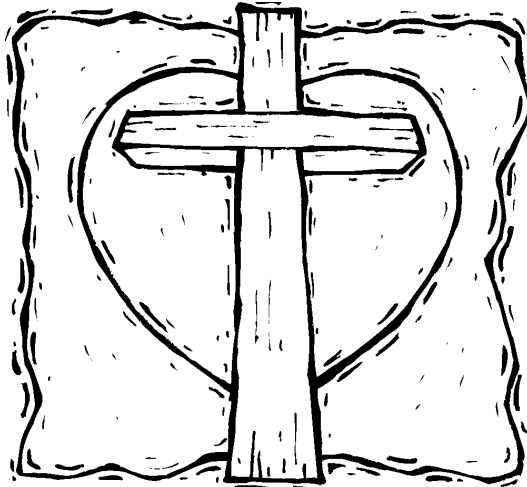
Welcome!

At Zion Lutheran Church, we know that families need a place that will help them build a solid foundation in their relationships and faith. Children need a place that is safe and loving. They need a place that will help them learn what it means to be a child of God, and how God loves and cares for them. Parents need help in knowing how to nurture their children's faith and communicate about faith with them. As a church, we seek to meet these needs of families.

Our ministry is very much a partnership between home and church. You play the primary role in the spiritual growth of your child(ren); the church has a secondary leadership role. With this in mind, Zion Lutheran Church strives to be a church which empowers children and their families to live and grow in their faith - through worship, classroom learning, community building, and serving others.

FAMILY FUN NIGHTS

*Beginning in
October*



SUNDAY SCHOOL

*Pre-K - 5th Grade
Sunday mornings
from 10:00-10:50*

6th GRADERS

*Serve as Shepherds
for S.S. Teachers*

Please, remember that in the service of Holy Baptism, you, as parents, have promised to...

"faithfully bring your child(ren) to the services of God's house, and teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments; place in your child(ren)'s hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for their instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of their baptism and in communion with the Church, they may lead Godly lives until the day of Jesus Christ." (from the Evangelical Lutheran Book of Worship)

We are really looking forward to a positive and enriching year ahead as we minister to and with you. In this booklet, you will find detailed information for Sunday School. Let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

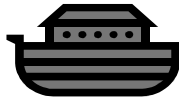
May God's peace and joy be with you!

Curriculum



Pre-K - 5th Grade will be participating in the SPARK rotational Sunday School program. SPARK is a rotational model of Sunday School from Augsburg Fortress, our Lutheran Publisher, which empowers kids' creativity and imagination as they explore Scripture through exciting activities that reinforce the lessons. It's designed to encourage kids to interact and engage with God's Word. This year's stations will include:

Noah's Arkade

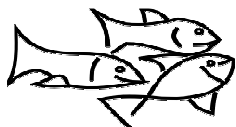


At "Noah's Arkade," you will use your whole body to move around as you play Bible games and learn Bible skills.

How Great Thou Art



At "How Great Thou Art," you will learn more about the Bible as you make art & craft projects.



Streams of Knowledge

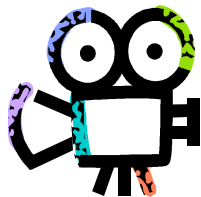
At "Streams of Knowledge," you will experience the weekly Bible story through videos and dvd's.

Zion's Cafe



At the "Shepherd's Cafe," you will make a variety of foods/snacks as you learn from the Bible.

Lights, Camera, Action



At "Lights, Camera, Action," you will get to hear and act out Bible stories through skits and dramas.

Under the Microscope



At the "Under the Microscope," you will create fun science projects while you learn more about God's Word.

Curriculum

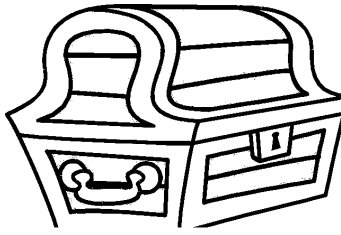
Pre-K - 5th Grade students will spend one Sunday at each rotation. This year's rotations are 6 weeks long. We will have a Christmas Party on Dec. 18th and a Year End Party on May 20th. Our units this year are as follows:

Unit	Dates	Topic
1	Sept. 18, 25, Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23	Creation
2	Oct. 30, Nov. 6, 13, 20, Dec. 4, 11	The Sower
3	Dec. 18	S.S. Christmas Party
4	Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12	The Disciples
5	Feb. 19, 26, Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25	The Last Supper
6	Apr. 1, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13	The Fruit of the Spirit
7	May 20	Year End S.S. Party

They will rotate as follows:

<u>Opener:</u> 10:00-10:25 (Zion Studios)	Pre-K & K	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd Grade	4 th & 5 th Grade
<u>Week One</u> 10:25-10:55	Video	Café	Art
<u>Week Two</u> 10:25-10:55	Art	Video	Café
<u>Week Three</u> 10:25-10:55	Café	Art	Video
<u>Week Four</u> 10:25-10:55	Games	Science	Story
<u>Week Five</u> 10:25-10:55	Story	Games	Science
<u>Week Six</u> 10:25-10:55	Science	Story	Games

Treasure Verses



Each six-week unit at Sunday School will have a special Treasure Verse that we'll work on memorizing during opener! Here are all of the verses for the year, so you can work on them together as a family!

Creation

Sept. 18, 25, Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

~ Genesis 1:1

The Sower

Oct. 30, Nov. 6, 13, 20, Dec. 4, 11

Those who bear fruit is like the seed sown in good soil. ~ Matthew 19:23

The Disciples

Jan. 8. 15. 22. 29. Feb. 5. 12

Jesus said, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people."

~ Matthew 4:19

The Last Supper

Feb. 19, 26, Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25

Jesus said, "I have set an example for you to do as I have done."

~ John 13:15

Fruit of the Spirit

Apr. 1, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness & self-control. Galatians 5:22

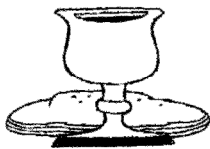
Milestones For Our Kids

Kindergarten & 3rd Grade Bibles



We will present Bibles to our Kindergarteners and our 3rd graders at the **both services** on Sunday, Oct. 9th, 2011.

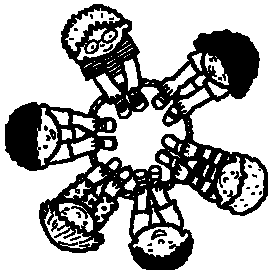
First Communion



3rd Graders will receive their First Communion on Thursday, April 5th at our **Maundy Thursday service**. Watch your mail after the first of the year for the scheduled First Communion classes.

Policies and Procedures

Inclusivity



Zion Lutheran Church will not discriminate against any person based on their age, ability, race, color, or sex. We will welcome everyone to our Sunday School program.

Policies and Procedures Continued

Registration



All students **MUST** have a current registration form on file with the Sunday School Superintendent in order to attend Sunday School at Zion Lutheran Church. This is **VITALLY** important in case an emergency should arise and we need to get in touch with a parent/guardian. Exceptions are made for friends/visitors who will only be attending one or two classes during the year.

Rules



Zion Lutheran Church tries to keep children fully interested and involved in all activities which helps to alleviate behavioral problems. However, it is important that we **ALL** follow some very important rules. They are:

- 1. I will be ready to participate when an activity begins.*
- 2. I will listen and follow directions in a cooperative manner.*
- 3. I will respect my teachers, adult leaders, shepherds, and classmates.*
- 4. I will respect and be responsible for all property.*
- 5. I will promote the health and safety of others.*

Consequences will be given in the form of verbal reminders and age-appropriate time-outs from the activity. Physical punishment of any kind is never appropriate or permissible. If the behavior problem continues, parents will be contacted and a behavior plan will be made.

Policies and Procedures cont.

Nametags



So our teachers and shepherds have an opportunity to learn everyone's names, all children need to wear their nametag. On the front of the nametag is the child's first and last name, and on the back of the nametag is the grade, food allergy/special needs information, and parent/guardian phone number.

If your child has a food allergy, a red star will be placed on the front of the nametag, to alert teachers to check the back before distributing any snacks. If your child has a special need that would effect instruction (such as hearing loss etc.), they will have a blue star on the front of the nametag to alert the teacher to check the back before starting any projects/instruction.

Children visiting S.S. will need to wear a sticker nametag, which will be available on the sign-in table.

Opener



After your child has picked up their name tag on the S.S. table, please bring them directly into Zion's Studio for our S.S. Opener. During this time we'll sing songs, talk about the weekly theme and work on memorizing our Treasure Verse. After the opener, students will be dismissed to their classes by rotation and will be lead by their shepherd. If you arrive late, feel free to have your child join their group upon their arrival.

Offering



We support our children in becoming good stewards by taking a weekly offering during the S.S. Opener.

The Sunday School offering helps to support the important ministry needs of our Sunday School curriculum and supplies.

At no time should you feel as if you have to contribute in order to participate in Sunday School. God calls us to be good stewards of the gifts He gives us, and this is a way to support the Sunday School program that Zion Lutheran offers. It is NOT a requirement to give!

Special Events

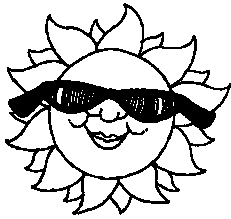
Christmas Party



Please join us on Sunday, December 18th as we have an ALL Sunday School Christmas Party.

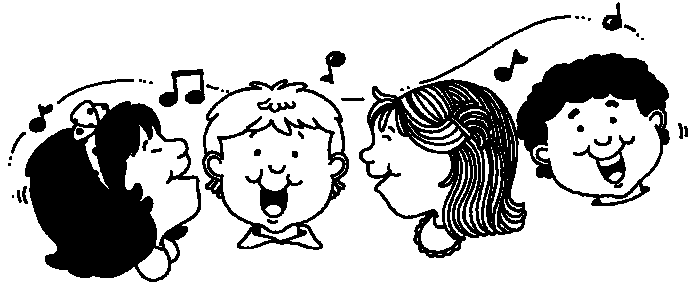
There will be music, food and crafts. Parents/Guardians are invited and encouraged to attend the party with their son/daughter.

Year End S.S. Party



On Sunday, May 20th, 2012, we will celebrate our last day of Sunday School. During this time, we will recognize our Sunday School teachers, shepherds, and helpers. Ice cream sundaes will be served, so be sure to invite your parents/guardians to join in on the fun.

Joyful Noise Sundays!



This year we hope to have our Sunday School kids (Pre-K - 5th Grade) bring their gift of music to worship on a regular basis.

Each month we will alternate at which service (9:00am or 11:00am) they will sing. This way, you won't have to stick around for both services.

2011/2012 TENTATIVE Dates:

- October 9th - 9:00am service
- November 13th - 11:00am service
- December 18th - 9:00am service
- January 29th - 11:00am service
- March 3rd - 9:00am service
- April 22nd - 11:00am service

We will sing the songs that we are learning during Sunday School, so they will be easy, fun and familiar tunes!

Family Fun Nights

Be sure to mark these evenings on your calendar!



What's a family?

Families come in all types and sizes!

Married, single, with or without children...

Whatever your family looks like, we are all part of the family of God!

Our church family would not be complete without you, so please join us!

All ages welcome!

Sun. Oct 23rd - Fall Festival

- 5:00-7:00 PM
- Come in costume!
- We'll have spaghetti, play games, do crafts and much more! (NO scary costumes or weapons)
- \$3/person, \$12 max/family suggested donation

Sun. Jan. 15th - Movie Night

- 5:00-7:00 PM
- We'll have pizza, veggies, and popcorn as we watch a movie on the big screen.
- \$3/person, \$12 max/family suggested donation

Sun., April 22nd - Game Night

- 5pm - 7pm
- We'll have hotdogs, veggies, and dessert.
- Bring your favorite board game to play: "Just Dance" on Wii will be available, too.
- \$3/person, \$12 max/family suggested donation

As your S.S. Superintendent, I am looking forward to a fun and exciting year of learning and growing together as we SPARK our faith for Christ. If you should ever have any questions and/or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me. My e-mail is paulaziems@hotmail.com and my cell phone is 218/349-8397.

Thank you and God bless ~ Paula Ziems; 2011/2012 S.S. Superintendent