



Sunday School
Parent Handbook
2009-2010

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
509 Milwaukee Avenue
Cascade, WI 53011
528-8094

Purpose of Sunday School

Moses and the children of Israel were instructed by God in Deuteronomy to teach his commandments to their children:

And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. (Deuteronomy 6: 6-7)

These words reflect the purpose of St. Paul's Lutheran Church Sunday School program. As parents we encourage you to help us instill this in your children. Discuss with them on the way home what they learned in Sunday School and answer any questions they may have. Also, please take time to sit with them each week and help them with their memory work. Feel free to join your child in their Sunday School class to see what they're learning and help out if need be with the class as well.

Bring a Friend to Sunday School

The goal of our Sunday School is not only to teach God's truth to our children, but also to encourage them to be witnesses to the world. Our Lord has commanded, "Go and Teach." Therefore, as part of this challenge and St. Paul's commitment to fulfilling this Great Commission we encourage our students to bring a friend to our Sunday School program. **And kids don't forget you can earn five Bible Bucks when you bring a friend with you to Sunday School.**

Sunday School Hour

Sunday School begins promptly at 8:30 am and concludes promptly at 9:45am.

The Preschool thru 2nd grade classes begin by praising our Lord thru song with our Music Coordinators **Heaven Protsman and Amber Schroeder**, while grades 3 thru 6th begin with an opening devotion lead by the Sunday School Superintendent and end by practicing the hand bells with our Hand Bell Directors **Heaven Protsman and Amber Schroeder**.

Organization

There are approximately 20 staff members who serve in the Sunday School ministry at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, which includes a Superintendent, an Attendance Secretary, Music Coordinators/Bell Choir Directors, Memory Work Assistants, Substitute Teachers, Activities Director and our many Classroom Teachers who generously give of their time and talents to keep our program going. The Sunday School is the direct responsibility of the Board of Christian Education through the Sunday School Superintendent and the Pastor.

Our Sunday School here at St. Paul's is divided into the following classes, with the Sunday School teachers listed as follows:

Superintendent	Mr. Fred Lederer	528-8422
Preschool (3 Year Olds to Kindergarten)	Mrs. Chriss Hefter	528-7033
Kindergarten	Mrs. Marion Hefter	528-8684
Grades 1 & 2	Mrs. Carrie Strassburg Mrs. Tammie Taylor	528-8669 449-5201
Grades 3 & 4	Mr. Fred Lederer	528-8422
Grades 5 & 6	Mrs. Denise Beck Mrs. Debbie Lederer	892-2027 528-8422
Grade 7 & 8	Mrs. Martha Rosche	893-9623
Grade HS	Mr. Ron Meyer Mrs. Diane Meyer	892-2172 892-2172
Attendance Secretary	Mrs. Lorri Krahn	528-8446
Memory Work Assistants	Mr. Dan Schultz Mr. Scott Spradau	528-7550 528-7359
Music Coordinators/Handbell Directors	Miss Heaven Protsman Miss Amber Schroeder	528-8552 526-3631
Activities Director	Mrs. Martha Rosche	893-9623

Curriculum

The Board of Education and I continue to work hard to improve our Sunday School program here at St. Paul's. Our curriculum again this year will be "Growing in Christ" from Concordia Publishing House exclusively. Along with this curriculum, we have been getting some very nice posters and pictures that we have been laminating and are displaying these items for the entire congregation to enjoy.

Sunday School Attendance

Regular attendance at Sunday School is vital if the program is to be as successful and as God-pleasing as possible. Children need the on-going relationship building which occurs when the teacher and the other students gather regularly to study the Word of God.

Cell Phones, Ipods and other Electronic Devices

It was brought to my attention that some students are bringing cell phones, Ipods and other electronic devices to Sunday School and using them during class. These items should be left at home. If your student is caught using one of these items during class the superintendent will confiscate it and give it back to them at the end of class. If they are caught a second time they will be confiscated until the end of class and the parents will have to come and get them.

Church Attendance

Sunday School is not church! Therefore, children are encouraged to worship the Lord regularly and faithfully by attending worship services or by participating in the Children's Church program currently being run by adult volunteers. In addition, St. Paul's has made an effort to make the worship service more meaningful to children by including in the regular Sunday worship a children's message on the Sunday's that they sing in church.

Singing and Bell Ringing in Church

The Sunday School will have the opportunity during the year to sing and play the hand bells as part of the regular Sunday morning worship. This is a very meaningful experience not only for the children, but for the entire congregation as well. Preschool children thru 2nd grade students sing in church on the first Sunday of every month. While our Bell Choir (3rd thru 6th grades) ring the hand bells the third Sunday of every month. The dates to remember are included in this handbook, watch the church calendar for any changes .

Offerings

Offerings are collected each Sunday from the children. They are encouraged to faithfully give to the Sunday School as a method of developing a sense of giving regular gifts back to the Lord who is, after all, the giver of all good things. The Sunday School offerings collected each Sunday are placed in St. Paul's General Fund and are used to support three mission projects each year (one each quarter of the Sunday School year). Preschool thru 2nd grade classes on their birthdays put pennies in the lighthouse bank for each year of their age, these pennies are also placed in the General Fund and used to support our mission projects. The mission project for each quarter is explained in the church newsletter under the Sunday School notes.

Memory Work

Committing to memory selected Scripture passages and portions of Luther's Small Catechism are a useful and meaningful learning experience for the students. Parents play a vital role in St. Paul's memory work program and therefore we hope and pray that you will encourage and help your children in this vital learning experience.

Please take the time to read over the memory work assignment with your child/ren each week, so that they understand what the assignment means and if need be break it up into smaller parts and have them add another part each night until they've got it down. The following are our goals for the memory work program:

1. To equip our children with a working knowledge of the Lutheran faith and doctrine in order that they might be able to explain and/or defend the Christian faith whenever the opportunity arises.
2. To better prepare the students for their confirmation instruction.

A separate Memory Work Program booklet is published for Grades 1 thru 6 outlining the various items each grade level will be memorizing. In the back of the booklet is a chart where you can keep track of their progress. For each grade level you only need to complete up to the review. The review is an optional part of the booklet for the children. These booklets are handed out at the beginning of the year and extra copies are available from the superintendent. **This year we will be sending the parents a progress report at the end of each trimester to give them an idea how their child/ren are doing with their memory work.**

Children's Christmas Program

This year our Sunday School Christmas program has not yet been determined, as I have two picked out and will decide once we know how many students we will have. Regardless which program we choose we will be having two Saturday morning practices.

Saturday, December 5th - Kindergarten thru 6th grade - 9:00 am to 10:30 am

Saturday, December 12th - Preschool thru 6th grade 9:00 am to 10:30 am
(with Hot Dog and Potato Chip Lunch)

Sunday, December 13th - Program to be determined - 4:00 pm
(With Birthday Party for Jesus to follow)

Palm Sunday/Easter Play

This year our Sunday School Palm Sunday/Easter program will be announced at a later date, as I am still looking for one. Instead of involving the entire Sunday School this year it will be strictly voluntary and open to anyone that wants to participate. We will be doing the program as part of the 10:00 am worship service on Palm Sunday, March 28, 2010. We will have two Saturday morning practices, as well as at least one Sunday School class period.

Saturday, March 14th - Kindergarten thru 6th grade - 9:00 am to 10:30 am -
Palm Sunday Program practice

Saturday, March 21st—Preschool thru 6th grade 9:00 am to 10:30 am - Palm
Sunday Program practice

Sunday, March 28th - Palm Sunday program performed during the 10:00am

Have you ever considered becoming involved in St. Paul's Sunday School ministry?

The Sunday School is a major arm of St. Paul's educational ministry. Developing a quality program doesn't just happen, but takes the dedicated effort of many people who are committed to sharing the love of Jesus Christ with children and young people. Maybe you've thought about serving our Lord through the Sunday School ministry, but weren't sure what was involved. If you'd like more information on St. Paul's Sunday School and how you can become involved in it contact either Fred Lederer, Sunday School Superintendent or Pastor Bidinger. Currently we are looking for people to fill the following positions:

3rd & 4th Grade Teacher
Substitute Teachers

Memory Work Helpers
Classroom Helpers

Sunday School Calendar - 2009-2010

Sunday, September 13th - 8:30am Sunday School Classes begin

Sunday, September 20st - Bell Choir (3rd thru 6th) **will not** be ringing the bells during the 10:00 am worship service

Sunday, October 4th - Preschool thru 2nd grade classes **will** be singing during the 10:00 am worship service

Sunday, October 18th - Bell Choir (3rd thru 6th) **will be** ringing the bells during the 10:00 am worship service

Sunday, November 1st - All Saints Day Activity during Sunday School time, Pre-school thru 2nd grade **will be** singing, **and** Bell Choir **will be** ringing the handbells during the 10:00 am worship service

Sunday, November 15th - Bell Choir (3rd thru 6th) **will not** be ringing the bells during the 10:00 am worship service

Saturday, December 5th - Christmas Program Practice - Kindergarten thru 6th grade - 9:00 am to 10:30 am

Sunday, December 6th - Preschool thru 2nd grade **will not** be singing during the 10:00 am worship service

Saturday, December 12th - Christmas Program Practice - Preschool thru 6th grade 9:00 am to 10:30 am (with Hot Dog and Potato Chip Lunch)

Sunday, December 13th - Christmas Program -- 4:00 pm

(With Birthday Party for Jesus to follow)

Sunday, December 20th - Bell Choir (3rd thru 6th) **will not** be ringing the bells during the 10:00 am worship service

Sunday, December 27th - **No** Sunday School Classes

Sunday, January 3rd - Preschool thru 2nd grade classes **will** be singing during the 10:00 am worship service

Sunday, January 17th - Bell Choir (3rd thru 6th) **will** be ringing the bells during the 10:00 am worship service

Sunday, February 7th- Preschool thru 2nd grade classes **will** be singing during the 10:00 am worship service

Sunday, February 14th—Transfiguration Sunday activity. **All** students are encouraged to attend the 10:00 am worship service to participate in the burial of the alleluia's for Lent.

Sunday, March 1st - Preschool thru 2nd grade classes **will not** be singing during the 10:00 am worship service

Sunday, February 21st—Bell Choir (grades 3 thru 6) **will** be ringing the bells during the 10:00 am worship service

Sunday, March 7th—Preschool thru 2nd grade **will** be singing during the 10:00 am worship service

Saturday, March 20th - Palm Sunday Program practice 9:00 am to 10:30 am

Sunday, March 21st—Bell Choir (3rd thru 6th) **will** be ringing the bells during the 10:00 am worship service

Saturday, March 27th - Palm Sunday Program practice 9:00 am to 10:30 am

Sunday, March 28th—Palm Sunday program during the 10:00 am worship service

Sunday, April 4th—Easter Sunday **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday, April 18th—Bell Choir (3rd thru 6th) **will** be ringing the bells during the 10:00 am worship service

Sunday, May 2nd—Preschool thru 2nd **will not** be singing during the 10:00 am worship service

Sunday, May 23rd—“Celebration Sunday” 10:00 am service will be led by **ALL** the Sunday school students Potluck Lunch to follow service

Other Programs offered for St Paul's Lutheran Youth

St. Paul's Lutheran Church has three different groups that the children can get involved in outside of Sunday School depending on their age. These programs are outlined below. August of every year St. Paul's Lutheran Church offers a week long Vacation Bible School for the students, that runs Monday thru Friday from 6:00 pm thru 8:00 pm and ends with the children participating in the 9:00 am worship service on Sunday morning. The worship service in the park is then followed by a free picnic for everyone attending.

Children's Church

Children's church is offered during the 10:00 am Worship Service, the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, for Preschool through 2nd grade children. In "Children's Church" the children learn the Scripture Lessons of the day through storytelling, crafts, songs, and other activities.

K4J Club (Preschool thru 4th Grade)–Jenny Bidinger, coordinator 528-8881

The Kids for Jesus Club is the youngest youth group at St. Paul's. Preschoolers through 4th graders, with a parent/helper, attend a meeting one Saturday morning a month and make a HUGE difference for the Lord! The club atmosphere includes a password to get in and a secret passageway! Once there, members learn a Bible verse, hear a story and are involved in a service project! Projects vary but have included making cards for soldiers, decorations for wounded vets, Christmas decorations for Project Angel Hug parties at Children's Hospital, decorations for Assisted Living Facilities and then taking them there! Other projects which serve our own Church members have also been done. Our youngest learn that they can make a difference to the people around them and have FUN, too!! Meetings are usually the 2nd Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Check the calendar for any changes.

Character Club (Kindergarten thru 4th Grade)–Jenny Bidinger, coordinator 528-8881

Character Camp is an extension of K4J Club. The emphasis, however, is not on serving others but in learning about how to be the person God wants us to be. The group meets one Saturday a month and focuses on different aspects of Godly Character. Participants learn a Bible verse, do an activity and have a discussion about the Character Trait being focused on that month. Because of the discussion involved, members should be in Kindergarten on up. A play area for siblings is available and again a parent/helper should attend as well. Both groups offer a great way to connect with other Christian parents as well as **spend precious time** with your child! Meetings are usually the 4th Saturday of each month at 10:00 am. Check the calendar for any changes.

Jr. Youth Group (5th thru 8th Grade)–Brian & Erica Neilitz, directors 528-8552

The Junior Youth Group involves youth in fun activities in a spiritual context. This group meets the first Sunday of the month at 6:30 pm. At these meetings there is an activity or game that teaches a spiritual lesson. A discussion follows, that reinforces the spiritual meaning of the activity and shows the children how it relates to their personal lives. Future activities are discussed, as well as the planning of fund raisers for the group. One of the favorite outings of the group, is the weekend trip to Camp LuWiSoMo in Wild Rose.

Sr. Youth Group (9th thru 12th Grade)–Fred & Debbie Lederer, directors 528-8422

The Senior Youth Group is also involved in fun activities with a spiritual context. This group meets the first Sunday of the month at 6:30 pm in the fellowship hall. At the meetings future club activities are discussed. Some of the events being planned for this year are: Camp LuWiSoMo, National Youth Gathering in Louisiana and fundraisers to help get us there.

Fred Lederer
Sunday School Superintendent