



Sunday School Parent's Guide

2016-2017

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)*

As parents we encourage you to help the teachers 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 and encourage their spiritual growth.

Curriculum

The Board of Education has again chosen "Growing in Christ" from Concordia Publishing House as the Sunday School curriculum for Preschool-Grade 8. Older grade curriculum is developed by the teachers with help from the Pastor.

Sunday School Sessions

Sunday School is scheduled from 8:30-9:45 a.m., between church services, September. 11, 2016 through May 21, 2017. Please do your best to have your child in their classroom on time.

Parents are welcome to take part in Fellowship or Adult Bible Study during this time or to join their child's class to see what they are learning and help out.

Classrooms

Preschool & Kindergarten – classroom in church basement
Grades 1 through 8 – classrooms in upper level parish hall
Grades 9 through 12 – in the media room

Opening and Closing Devotions

Class time will begin and end with a short prayer. This practice is intended to foster successful class time and to encourage children to pray regularly.

Sunday School Attendance

Regular and faithful attendance at Sunday School is vital to teaching success. The ongoing relationship building with the teacher and other students fosters more fruitful lesson time, discussion, learning and living God's word. Please do your best to have your child in attendance and ready to learn each week.

Church Attendance

Sunday School is not church! Therefore, families are encouraged to attend weekly worship regularly and faithfully. Attendance on Sundays when the children sing or play the hand bells during the service is especially important. A children's message is included in the service on these Sundays. Younger children may also participate in Children's church, available the second and fourth Sunday of each month.

Use of Bibles

To encourage children to regularly use their Bibles, St. Paul's Lutheran Church Sunday School presents a Bible to all 5th grade students at the beginning of the Sunday School year. Older children are presented a Bible up on enrollment.

Children in 5th grade and up are expected to bring their Bibles to Sunday School each week. The lessons all have a Biblical foundation so the Bible is an important reference.

Singing and Hand Bells

Sunday School students 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.

Pre-school through 2nd Grade students will begin class each session with song. Grades 3 thru 6 will take the last portion of each class session practicing hand bells. Beginning in October, the Preschool thru Grade 6 will typically present a song on the third Sunday of every month during the 10:00 a.m. service. See calendar on last page. Parents are asked to plan for attendance on this Sunday.

Organization / Staff

The Sunday School ministry at St. Paul's is under the responsibility of the Board of Education. Volunteers assist the Board of Education to teach, assist the teachers, and direct the music. The following is a list of volunteers and their positions:

Preschool & Kindergarten

Mrs. Jennifer Schneider (Teacher)	920-980-2057
Mrs. Kathy Breit (Helper)	920-946-5785
Mrs. Kimberly Czerwinski, (Helper)	920-980-0328
Mrs. Tammy Kowalczyk (Helper)	262-339-6780

Grades 1 & 2

Mrs. Jodi Schultz (Teacher)	920-960-5512
Mrs. Lori LaPorte (Helper)	262-422-3456

Grades 3 - 6

Mrs. Margie Arbuckle (Teacher)	920-838-0027
Mrs. Sara Block (Helper)	920-946-8871

Grades 7 & 8

Mrs. Jessica Haak (Teacher)	920-917-3867
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Grades 9 - 12

Mrs. Jenny Bidinger (Teacher)	920-528-8881
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Memory Work Assistant

Mr. Justin LaPorte	262-422-3456
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Music Coordinator/Special Programs

Mrs. Martha Rosche	920-893-9623
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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, students are welcome and encouraged to bring a friend along to Sunday School.

Memory Work

Committing to memory selected Scripture passages and portions of Luther's Small Catechism and/or the passages' meaning is a useful and meaningful learning experience for the students. The purpose of the memory work is to equip students 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 when-ever the opportunity arises, and to better prepare students for confirmation instruction.

In order to finish the memory work by the end of the Sunday School year, students should learn one section each week. As a parent, please make memory work part of "homework time" so your child can meet memory work goals.

Memory Work Program booklets are published for Grades 1-6 outlining the various items each grade level will be memorizing and are divided into sections. Milestone deadlines are listed to help keep students on-track. These are handed out at the beginning of the year and are also available online.

An incentive for individual and class completion of memory work sections by the milestone deadlines will be incorporated with the Mission Offering.

Mission Offering

As the Lord is the giver of all good things, students are encouraged to support mission offerings. As most children in Sunday School do not have the means to give monetarily, they will be given an opportunity to earn money to be given to a designated mission goal. This is intended to help the student feel ownership of their offering gift.

Different missions will be selected as appropriate throughout the Sunday School year. The entire Sunday School will be involved in setting mission goals. Students will receive regular updates as to the progress the Sunday School is making toward these goals.

Thanks to private sponsors, for each Memory Work Milestone met, a child will earn \$5 to be put toward the Sunday School's Mission. If the entire class meets the Milestone, the class will earn an additional \$20 to be put toward that Mission. Parents are encouraged to remind students of the mission often and their role in supporting it.

Additional donations from the children to the mission offering are always welcome, but not expected.

Discipline

Unfortunately, from time to time, behavioral problems occur in the classroom. The following procedures exist to help deal with these situations:

1. Verbal warning from the teacher.
2. Child is taken out of class to discuss the problem with a Board of Education member.
3. Pastor will call parent to discuss the child's behavior.
4. Parent is required to sit with the child during next class time.

Christmas Program

A Sunday School Christmas Program will be chosen in the Fall and distributed to teachers. To minimize interference with teaching time, practices should consume no more than 20 minutes of class time each week leading up to the presentation.

The program will be presented Sunday, December 18th during the 10:00 a.m. worship service. with Fellowship to follow. Families are encouraged to attend.

All-student practices will be held the two Saturdays prior, December 10th & 17th from 9:00-10:30 a.m. A hot dog lunch will follow practice on December 17th.

Volunteering

A successful Sunday School takes a great deal of time and effort. Volunteers to fill teaching positions, help with music, with memory work or in the classroom are always welcome. If interested in volunteering, please let Pastor, any member of the Board of Education know.

2016 Board of Education

Sara Block	920-946-8871	girlcop25@yahoo.com
Lori LaPorte	262-422-3456	cosasraggstoriches@gmail.com
Daniel Schultz	920-287-5187	dan.schultz@bemismfg.com

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Ideas for Improvement?

If you have any ideas on improving the Sunday School program, please let Pastor or any member of the Board of Education know. We want parents and children to be active participants in making the educational experience at St. Paul's great!

Sunday School Calendar for 2016 - 2017

Sunday, September 11	Sunday School Classes Begin 8:30–9:45 a.m. Parent’s Meeting during class time
Sunday, October 16	Preschool–Grade 2 sings & Bell Choir (Grades 3-6) plays @ 10 a.m. worship service
Sunday, October 30	Preschool–Grade 2 sings & Bell Choir (Grades 3-6) plays @ 10 a.m. worship service
Sunday, November 13	Preschool–Grade 2 sings & Bell Choir (Grades 3-6) plays @ 10 a.m. worship service
Sunday, November 20	No Sunday School Classes
Saturday, December 10	Christmas program practice 9-10:30 a.m.
Saturday, December 17	Christmas program practice 9-10:30 a.m. Lunch afterwards
Sunday, December 18	Christmas Program during 10:00 a.m. worship service, Fellowship to follow
Sunday, December 25	No Sunday School Classes (Christmas)
Sunday, January 1	No Sunday School Classes (New Year’s)
Sunday, January 15	Preschool–Grade 2 sings & Bell Choir (Grades 3-6) plays @ 10 a.m. worship service
Sunday, February 19	Preschool–Grade 2 sings & Bell Choir (Grades 3-6) plays @ 10 a.m. worship service
Sunday, March 19	Preschool–Grade 2 sings & Bell Choir (Grades 3-6) plays @ 10 a.m. worship service
Sunday, April 9	Preschool–Grade 2 sings & Bell Choir (Grades 3-6) plays @ 10 a.m. worship service
Sunday, April 16	No Sunday School (Easter Sunday)
Sunday, May 21	Celebration Sunday – 10 a.m. worship service will be led by the Sunday School Students