

First Lutheran Church Sunday School

Parent Guide

www.firstlutheranvolga.org

<https://www.facebook.com/flcvolga>

Mission

The primary purpose and goal of the Sunday School program is to nurture the faith development of the children of our congregation, teach God's Word, and to focus on the Great Commission of Jesus Christ. (Matthew 28: 19-20)

Sunday School is not meant to be the primary Christian teaching a child receives, but should be in partnership with the teaching of parents and also the hearing of God's Word in worship attendance and other programs provided by First Lutheran Church. We also wish to equip the children of the congregation to be witnesses to the world of Christ's love. This is a challenge and commitment that the Sunday School staff holds of utmost importance.

The Importance of Sunday School for Children

First Lutheran Church would like to partner with you to assure that your child lives their Christian faith. As a parent you are in a unique position of influence. By bringing your children to Sunday School and attending the Sunday morning worship services, you will be modeling to your children the importance of studying and hearing the teachings of our Triune God. Following Christ requires more than just knowledge of the Scripture. It means serving Christ with our entire lives. That is why First Lutheran Church is committed to partner with your family to teach and enable you to live out your faith in everyday life. In working together, we hope to not only bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to our children's hearts, but we also hope that they become disciples of Jesus Christ their whole lives.

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

Sunday School Staff

The staff for Sunday School consists of:

- Board of Education members
- Classroom teachers
- Classroom assistants
- Substitute classroom teachers
- Music director
- Praise Band

The Leadership Team of Sunday School is under the direction of the Church Council, Pastors, and Board of Ed.

Hours/Classrooms

Sunday School is held from 9:30 to 10:30am. Students should be on time. Parents are to pick their children up on time.

The classrooms are usually opened about 5-10 minutes before class begins. Teachers are requested to be there at that time. **Students must not be dropped off unless the teacher or assistant is there.** Parents are to wait outside the classroom until the students are finished with class to be picked up. Children will not be allowed to leave the classroom until their parents arrive to pick them up. Please make sure the little ones have used the bathroom before they enter the classroom. Parents are encouraged to speak to the teacher with any questions or comments after class.

Curriculum

We will be using a new curriculum called Whirl, which is published by Augsburg. Every Whirl lesson follows a four-part sequence: Welcome, Hear, Respond, and Launch (WHRL!). Each week, kids and teachers start their time together by identifying where they are in the church year and watching an animated video to set up the lesson. Next, they dive into the Whirl Story Bible or Whirl NRSV Bible together, respond to the scripture lesson with creative leaflet activities, and circle up to review the lesson and pray before being sent out. Appropriate-age material is chosen for each class.

Family Sunday School & Milestones

Please follow the Sunday School Calendar for Family Sunday School Class which is held in the Preschool Room and for any milestones throughout the year.

Use of Bibles

Children in 3rd grade and up are encouraged to bring their Bibles to Sunday School each week. The lessons all have a Biblical foundation, so the Bible may be used as the most important reference. To encourage children to have Bibles, First Lutheran Church provides each member in 3rd grade with a Bible of their own. If your child needs a Bible, please contact the church office at 605-627-9418.

Food and Drink

Children are not to bring food and/or beverages into the classrooms. A teacher may bring the students a treat. Teachers need to be made aware of food allergies your child may have. (This information is gathered on the registration form.)

Offering

Money collected during Sunday School is given to missions the Sunday School is currently supporting. These mission programs will be made available to all on the Sunday School bulletin board and in print in the church bulletin. We encourage any and all ideas for special mission programs to be shared with the Board of Education for implementation.

Music Time

Each Sunday the students participate in music time. They learn age-appropriate music consisting of fun, action and praise songs. The students will sing their praises at several church services. These dates are published in calendars which are sent home, in the newsletter and bulletins. One of the joys for children and our church family is the Sunday School Christmas Program. Christmas Program practices are listed on the calendar.

Notices and Information

Upcoming events and reminders for students will be made available on the Sunday School bulletin boards, printed in the church bulletin, on facebook and on occasion, sent home with the child and / or emailed to parents directly.

2014-2015 Sunday School Staff

Board of Education: Amanda Larson (chair), Kristin Coon, Jaclyn Guthmiller, Karen Barsness,
Amber Hemmestad & Ashley Collins

Preschool 1 (3 year olds): Karen Barsness, Amy Schlimmer

Preschool 2 (4 and 5 year olds): Margie Schade, Molly Hageman & Carley Peterson

Kindergarten classroom: Kristen Kern & Traci Renkly

First grade classroom: Amber Hanson & Nikki Leite

Second grade classroom: Jaclyn Guthmiller & Courtney Granum

Third grade classroom: Diane Steege & Rebekah Matson

Fourth grade classroom: Amber Hemmestad & Shana Stevens

Fifth & Sixth grade classroom: Christianne Beringer & Kay Ziegler

Seventh & Eighth grade classroom: Jan Matson

Music Director: Rod Hageman Praise Band: Rod King, Molly Hageman, Teresa Seefeldt

Technology: Amanda Larson and Kristin Coon

