

PARENT HANDBOOK

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

2010-2011

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MISSION STATEMENT

GROWING TOGETHER THROUGH GOD'S GRACE, I WILL...

PRAY: Daily

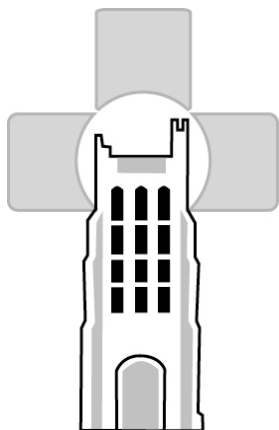
WORSHIP: Weekly

READ & LEARN: The Bible through study

INVITE & WELCOME: All to encourage
spiritual growth

GIVE: Tithe, time, talents

SERVE: Help those in need



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR KRAIS

It is not easy to be a parent in today's world. Life keeps us very busy with many choices to be made. Congratulations on making a wonderful (actually, the best) choice to bring your child to Sunday School. When your child was baptized, God promised to always and unconditionally love him or her. And God keeps His promises! You promised to raise your child faithfully, including teaching your child about God and bringing him or her to church and Sunday School. Thank you for taking your promises seriously and choosing to be here!

Our hope is to help teach your child about God- the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and to help your child understand how God works in the world and in his or her own life. In Sunday School, the children are given a safe environment where they know that there are adults who really care about them. Isn't it nice to know there are other adults with similar values active in your child's life? Children are taught the basics of faith and the Lutheran church. These teachings help them to make healthy decisions and to grow into responsible, caring people. Each week, the Bible lesson is connected to the things that are important in the lives of these children, so that they go home (and to school and everyplace else) knowing the answer to, "So what?" Together, Sunday School and worship provide a foundation for your child's life that everything else rests upon.

Please continue to make this good choice in the life of your child. Be faithful attenders in Sunday School and worship. Volunteer to help in a classroom or come to one of our adult classes, and show your child what is important to you! Thank you for giving us the honor of being partners with you in teaching the faith!

May God bless you and your family with faithful and joyful hearts that are open to God's rich blessings.

Pastor Janelle Kraus

"Train children in the right way and when old, they will not stray."
Proverbs 22:6

PARENTS AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Parents are responsible for children's attendance of Sunday school

Children today are either forced to go to Sunday school or go there reluctantly. However, the onus is on parents to ensure that their little ones attend because here they acquire godly values that act as a foundation for their growth

How can you make your child enjoy Sunday school if they don't?

- Get interested in what children learn in Sunday school by asking them questions about what they studied after every session.
- Walk children to the class and if possible, pick them up afterwards.
- Remind them always of what they have been taught, especially during practical sessions.
- When they have homework like that of memory verses, as a parent/guardian, help them understand the verses and explain to them what they mean.
- Sunday school is a special place where children meet and make friends, interact and share. Get interested in your child's friend at church.
- In sessions that children find boring, help them address those areas which are difficult to understand by 'coaching' them at home.
- Parents should be part of the child's learning.
- Parents should help children who have learning disabilities to cope.
- Be an example in living out the word of God in your lives daily.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Teacher: assist in teaching one of the Sunday School classes. Teaching is shared with another adult

Substitute teacher: occasional teaching with a week's notice.

Special Events help: *Muffins for Moms*: Set up, man tables, bring muffins
Doughnuts for Dads: Set up, man tables, bring doughnuts
Christmas Pageant (assist with rehearsals on Sundays in December)
Community Day

Small Group Leader: choose a topic for study (Book of the Bible, video, book review, special interest topic), assemble 8-10 people to participate once a month for 6-8 weeks

Adult Sunday School Leader: Begin your own adult class, assistance is available

Childcare: volunteer nursery helper during the 10:45 service

Children's Church: children are dismissed during the 10:45 sermon to L07 where a lesson is presented on their level. They return to the sanctuary for communion. 20 minutes for a lesson and short craft.

Vacation Bible School: teacher, assistant, music leader, craft leader, snack helpers, games leader.

Library assistant: check out books, shelve returned books 9:30-10:30 on Sundays

Computer lab assistant: in computer lab 9:30-10:30 on Sundays to assist children with computer programs

Children's Sermons: 10:45 worship service. 3 minute lesson, topics and guides are provided.

Wednesday Evening Lenten Services: K-5 class. Guide children in making a craft.
 6th-8th grade class- service projects or video discussion

To volunteer, contact the church office-610-948-3684 or contact Roz Capor,

Chairperson of Christian Education

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Schedule of Lessons Teachers Follow Ages 2 &3 through 6th Grade

Sept. 12	Creation	Genesis 1:1-2:4a
Sept. 19	Noah's Ark	Genesis 6-9
Sept. 26	Abraham's Call	Genesis 12:1-9
Oct.3	Abraham and Sarah's Visitors	Genesis 17:1-7,15-16; 18:1-15,21:1-7
Oct. 10	Isaac's Blessing	Genesis 25:19-34;27:1-40
Oct. 17	Free from Slavery	Exodus 5:1-6:13
Oct. 24	CONSECRATION SUNDAY	
Nov. 7	The Red Sea	Exodus 14:1-30
Nov. 14	The Ten Commandments	Exodus 20:1-17
Nov. 21	The Battle of Jericho	Joshua 6:1-20

Winter Curriculum

Nov. 29	A Child Called Immanuel	Isaiah 7:10-17
Dec. 5	Angels Visit	Matthew 1:18-25
Dec. 12	Jesus is Born	Luke 2:1-20
Dec. 19	Wise Men	Matthew 2:1-12
Dec. 26	Happy Birthday Jesus Party	
Jan. 2	Jesus Baptism	Matthew 3:13-17
Jan. 9	The Disciples	Matthew 4:12-23;9:9-13;10:1-4
Jan. 16	The Lord's Prayer	Matthew 6:5-15
Jan. 23	Congregational Meeting	
Jan. 30	Woman at the Well	John 4:5-42
Feb. 6	A Storm	Matthew 8:23-27
Feb. 13	The Centurion's Servant	Matthew 8:5-13
Feb. 20	Jesus Blesses the Children	Mark 10:13-16
Feb. 27	Jesus Heals Two Blind Men	Matthew 20:29-34

Mar. 6 The Sower Matthew 13:1-9.18-23

Spring Curriculum

Mar. 13 The Wedding Banquet Matthew 22:1-14

Mar. 20 Jesus Feeds 5,000 John 6:1-14

Mar. 27 The Transfiguration Matthew 17:1-13

Apr. 3 The Greatest Commandment Matthew 22:34-46

Apr. 10 Holy Week Matthew 21:1-11; 26:17-30

Apr. 17 The Empty Tomb Matthew 28:1-10

Apr. 24 EASTER

May 1 The Great Commission Matthew 28:16-20

May 8 Doubting Thomas John 20:19-31

May 15 The Ascension Acts 1: 6-14

May 22 The Holy Spirit Acts 2:1-21,36-42

May 29 Philip and the Ethiopian Acts 8:26-40

June 5 Saul to Paul Acts 9:1-20

June 12 An Angel Frees Peter Acts 12:1-19

June 19 Sunday School Program

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

The 7th and 8th grade classes are taught separately. The curriculum from Augsburg, “Here We Stand” will continue to be used in addition to The Lutheran Handbook. 7th graders will receive the Student Bible and the handbook at the first session.

Topics discussed this year will include:

7th Grade: Lord’s Prayer, 10 Commandments, Communion, Bible OT/NT mix

8th Grade: Baptism, Creed, Luther, Worship, Bible

The computer lab will be used at regular intervals to enhance the topics being studied.

HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES

Faith Lens is a weekly Bible study/discussion for youth, linking a current news story and scripture. The study follows the lectionary, using the scripture lessons for the upcoming Sunday. This curriculum is a resource of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Kurt Meyers and David Fritz are the leaders.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

SUPPER CLUB: (**S**erving, **U**niting, **P**raying, **P**laying, **E**ating, and **R**eaching Out) Leaders: Sue Vukovich, Connie Tracewell, Cindy Levan.

For youth grades 6-8. Meetings are 2nd & 4th Thursday nights in the church parsonage from 6:30-8:00pm.

Fun activities, service projects, food, and trips!

High School Youth Group: Leaders: Amy Lacey, Beth Way, Wendy Daily, and Jean Floyd. Monthly events, generally the 1st Sunday. Activities, service projects, and lots of fun.

ADULT EDUCATION

Be a role model for your child and attend Sunday School

Sundays- 9:30 AM-10:30 AM

Rainbow Class: an in-depth study of passages in Genesis, discussing the thought for the day, addressing biblical scholars' passages and how it applies to the class today.

Meets in parsonage, first floor.

Prism Class: topical series on matters of faith based upon the interests of class members. Meets in parsonage, first floor.

Faith Journeys: Guest preacher, Dr. Jon Pahl, whose topic is " Shopping Malls and other "Sacred' places". He'll teach Sept 19, 26, & Oct 3.

"People of Faith" beginning on Oct 10. Meets in the Choir Room.

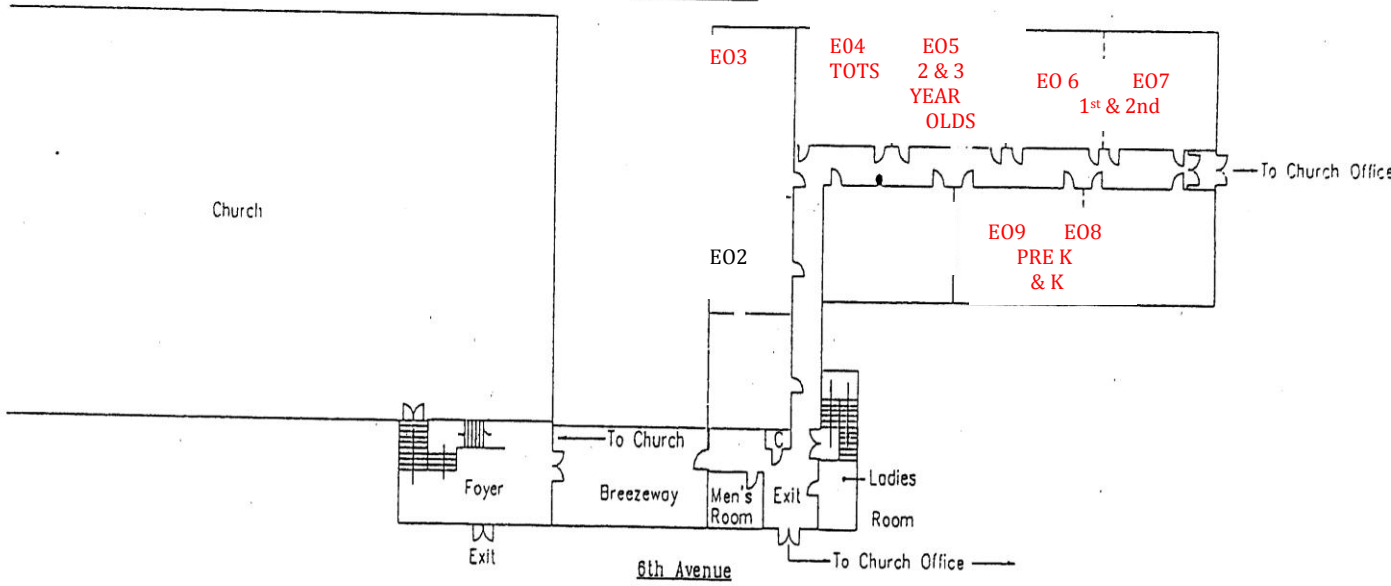
Holy Grounds: Bible study. Reading books of the Bible in order and discussing. Meets **Thursday mornings, 9:30 AM-11:00 AM** in the parsonage. It's not too late to join this group!

Small Groups: Adult groups who meet once a month on various days and times for 6-8 week sessions. A variety of Bible study topics. 8-10 people per group.

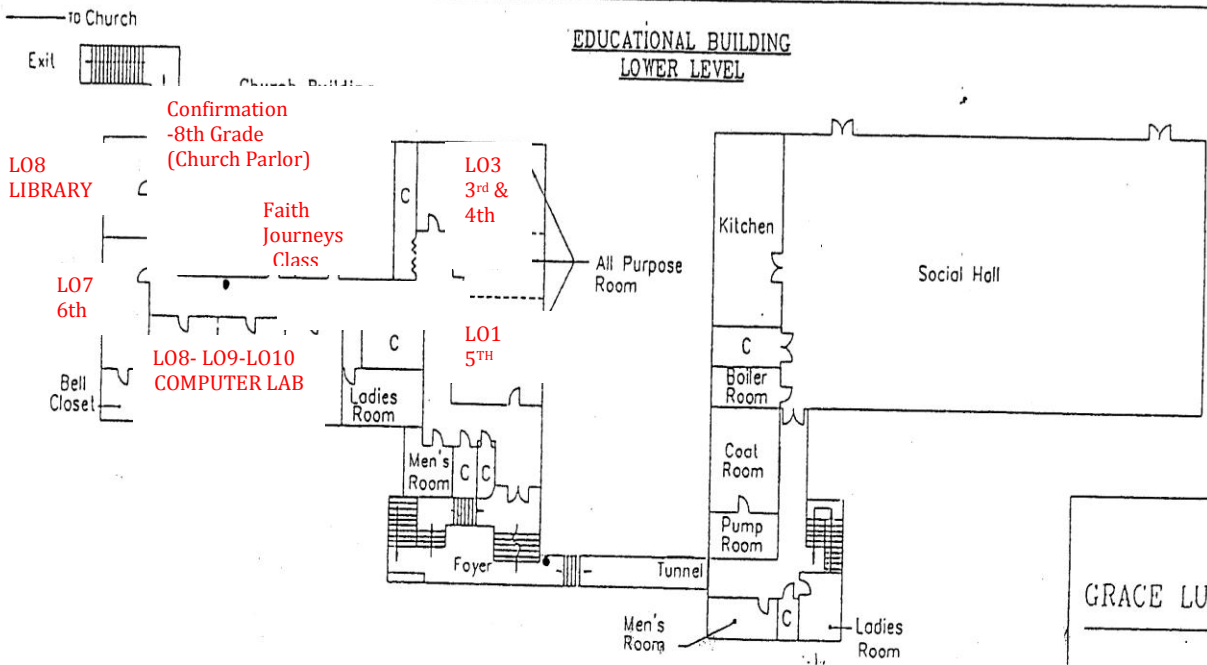
Current groups include:

- **Spiritual Scrapbooking** led by Sue Perry and Judy Stryker. First Monday of each month-themes include Justice, kindness, miracles, hospitality, etc.
- **Men's group**
- **Caring Crafters** led by Sue Perry. Meets 2nd-4th Wednesday of each month from 9 am -11 am to pray and craft for the community
- **Parents of Confirmation Students**- meets throughout year for faith encouragement and nourishment of parents and families
- **Fun Day** meets on the first Wednesday of each month from 9 am-2 pm.. Themed activities, learning, lunch, bingo, and lots of fun.
- **Soul Café** Led by Pastor Kraiss ,meets the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm. We will meet (local place TBD) for dinner and conversation around embracing a Spirit-led life that recognizes the presence of God and lives the grace of Jesus. Interested participants **MUST** preregister with Pastor Kraiss

**EDUCATIONAL BUILDING
UPPER LEVEL**

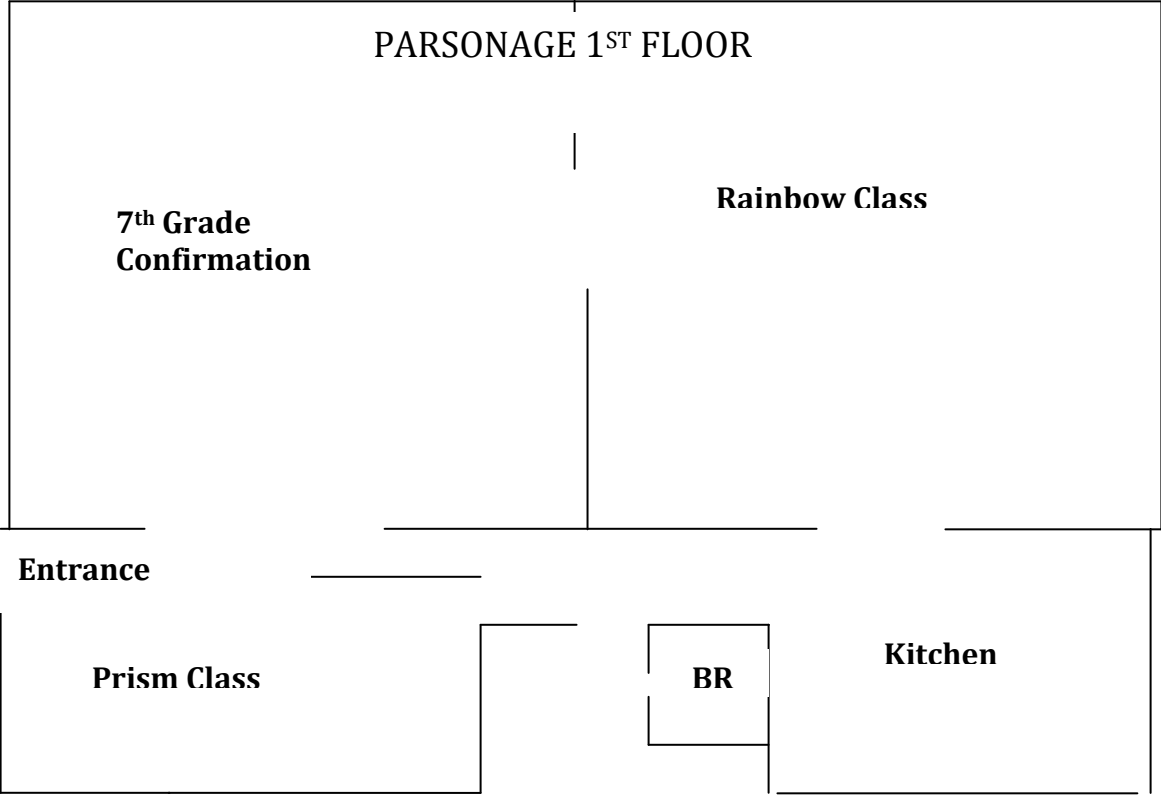


**EDUCATIONAL BUILDING
LOWER LEVEL**



MAP
of
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

PARSONAGE 1ST FLOOR



PARSONAGE 2ND FLOOR

