



# Bethel Lutheran Church Family Handbook



For Sunday School  
2008-2009



## **Family Participation**

Bethel Lutheran Church believes that Christian Education Ministries are in **partnership with families**. It is with that in mind, that parents are encouraged to play an active role in the Sunday School program. The children rely on parents to teach (regularly and as substitutes), lead music, assist in classrooms, be available at special events, assist with the offering, serve on the Christian Education Board, pray for young people, and help in other ways. Opportunities are available for short-term commitments such as a single event or project committee and for longer-term commitments such as the Christian Board of Education.

We are asking all parents to assist in their child's classroom or another classroom at least once during the year. This will provide parents with an opportunity to experience this fun learning time with their child. Parents are welcomed to participate in the classroom at any time.



## **Student Behavior Expectations**

It is the goal of the Christian Education Ministry that the programs offered are a positive and affirming experience for all those involved. The time spent together is an important and exciting time of learning about the great God who made us and loves us, our faith, ourselves and each other. We must understand that we are all uniquely and creatively made by God and so must respect and accept one another as children of God.

## **What you can expect from Bethel Lutheran Church**

- We will provide committed and prepared teachers equipped with appropriate resources
- We will provide a safe, engaging classroom that is conducive to learning.
- We will provide age-appropriate resources.
- We will bring together all of the above by diligent and prayerful study and preparation and respect for the youth and adults participating the program.

## **What Bethel Lutheran Church expects of you**

We expect that all behavior and language reflect respect and acceptance of fellow students and staff. **What does that mean?** That means that we are to treat one another with kindness and use encouraging words and actions at all times.

### **We can do that by:**

- Raising your hand in class when you'd like to share.
- Always walking
- Always working together to clean up your room at the end of your time together.
- Always keeping voices low when dismissed from class so as not to disturb others who may still be working or those who may be in the sanctuary.
- Always encouraging and including all students!

## **Examples of inappropriate behavior:**

- Destruction of property-someone else's or the property of the church
- Disruption of the classroom- physically or verbally.  
This takes away from the enjoyment of your classmates as well as the teacher.
- Language that is hurtful, demeaning or vulgar



## **Bethel Lutheran Church Conduct Action Plan**

Attending Bethel Lutheran Church's education program is a privilege and it is not to be abused. Disorderly conduct or disruption in class will not be accepted. We will be enforcing a three warning policy. After a child has received two warnings from the adult in charge, the adult(s) shall contact Julie, Laura or Pastor Jule'. It will be made clear that the child will have one more chance before his/her parents are notified. If the disruptive behavior continues, the parents will be notified. In the event that the disruptive behavior continues, a conference will be scheduled and the situation will be evaluated. An action plan that best suits the situation will be developed. The conference will include the pastor, teacher, Julie or Laura, the student and the parents. Our goal will be to keep the student involved and participating in the program with mutual expectations for future behavior.  
(Adopted by Bethel Lutheran Church August 25, 2004)

## **Schedule**

Sunday School will be held on Sunday morning from 10 to 11 a.m. Children are to meet their teachers in their classrooms at the beginning of each session. Each Sunday we will include announcements, praise and worship and a bible lesson. At the end of the Sunday School hour parents are encouraged to wait for their child/children by their classroom or on the ground floor of the church building away from the bottom of the stairway as it tends to get quite congested.

We live in an area with some unpredictable weather, so if Sunday School needs to be canceled due to inclement weather we will have it broadcast on KBMW 1450 AM radio.

## Offering

Youth are encouraged to participate in stewardship. All youth offering received will be donated to the Dollars for Jesus program the first Sunday of the Month and the following Sundays the offering will go to the Richland-Wilkin Food Pantry. We will track their giving throughout the year. At the end of the year, the organizations will be presented with the gifts that were collected. Youth are asked to bring non perishable items anytime to be donated to the Food Pantry. A large box is located in the hall way outside the nursery. Sunday January 18 has been designated "Souper Sunday" all students are asked to bring cans of soup for the food pantry!!

## Music



The youth will be having music during the Sunday School hour. There will be times during the school year that each age group will sing. Please refer to the calendar for those dates. A reminder note or postcard will be sent home. When the classes sing, please meet in the choir room 15 minutes before the service is to begin.

The Christmas Program will be held in December, and students will be singing during the worship services throughout the year. See the attached calendar for those dates.



## Memory Work

The following Memory work is presented as "home work". Families are encouraged to work together with their youth to learn the prayers, scriptures, and other memory work listed. (The classroom teachers will be helping as well.)

We will be using the music portion of the Sunday School hour to help the youth become familiar with the memory work, the memory work with an asterisk\* will be done during the music portion, but please review these at home!

Youth will be given the opportunity to demonstrate what they have learned in Sunday School. Awards will be presented to youth as they master their Memory Work.

***It is important for our learning to expand past the walls of the church and into each home.*** Memory work is yet another way Bethel Lutheran Church hopes to be a partner with your family. We are given this instruction in Deuteronomy 6:5-8, "*So love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and strength. Memorize his laws and tell them to your children over and over again. Talk about them all the time, whether you're at home or walking along the road or going to bed at night, or getting up in the morning. Write down copies and tie them to your wrists and foreheads to help you obey them.*" We are told in this scripture to take ANY opportunity with our children to teach them. We are told to write the scripture down to help us remember them. *We are not asked as parents to know everything, we are asked to use the tools that God has given us to teach our children God's Word.*

Memory Work is listed for each grade level. **Youth are encouraged to build each new year's knowledge upon the previous year's knowledge.** All scripture listed comes from the New Revised Standard Version.

The requirements can be altered to fit each individuals learning ability. Please visit with your child's teacher, or with Julie, Laura, or Pastor Jule'.

## Preschool & Kindergarten

### **Table Prayer:**

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest, Let these things to us be blest. By thy hand we all are fed, bless us all our daily bread. Amen

## First Grade

### **The Lord's Prayer:**

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

## Second Grade

### **The Ten Commandments:**

1. You shall have no other Gods.
2. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God.
3. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
4. Honor you father and mother.
5. You shall not murder.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife or his manservant or his maidservant or his cattle or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

### **Third Grade**

#### **Apostle's Creed:**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried, He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again, he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

### **Fourth Grade**

#### **Scripture: Psalm 23**

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

### **Fifth Grade**

**Service Project:** This can be anything done within the church. Examples are ushering, greeting, helping with coffee hour, helping with younger grades etc. Other projects may be done if they are given the Okay with Laura, Julie, or Pastor Jule'.

**Memory work:** Pick a bible verse from the following list (or if you have a favorite, let us know) and memorize it. You will also want to keep working on all previous grades memory work, as you will use them in confirmation!

### **Sixth Grade**

**Service Project:** This can be anything done within the church. Examples are ushering, greeting, helping with coffee hour, helping with younger grades etc. Other projects may be done if they are given the Okay with Laura, Julie, or Pastor Jule'.

**Memory work:** Select a Bible verse that has meaning to your life; one that encourages, strengthens, or relaxes you and memorize it. Write down the Book, chapter, and number of verse as well as the type of Bible it came from.

You will also want to keep working on all previous grades memory work, as you will use them in confirmation!

### **Bible verse selection:**

#### **The Beatitudes:**

Matthew 5:3-12 – “God blesses those people who are humble. The earth will belong to them! God blesses those people who want to obey home more than to eat or drink. They will be given what they want! God blesses those people who are merciful. They will be treated with mercy! God blesses those people whose hearts are pure. They will see him! God blesses those people who make peace. They will be called his children! God blesses those people who are treated badly for doing right. They belong to the kingdom of heaven. God will bless you when people insult you, mistreat you, and tell all kinds of evil lies about you because of me. Be happy and excited! You will have a great reward in heaven. People did these same things to the prophets who lived long ago.”

#### **Matthew 19:14**

“But Jesus said, “Let the children come to me, and don't try to stop them. People who are like these children belong to God's kingdom.”

#### **Deuteronomy 6:5**

“So love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and strength.”



#### **Romans 8:28**

“We know that God is always at work for the good of everyone who loves him. They are the ones God has chosen for his purpose.”

#### **Luke 11:9-10**

“So I tell you to ask and you will receive, search and you will find, knock and the door will be opened for you. Everyone who asks will receive, everyone who searches will find, and the door will be opened for everyone who knocks.”

#### **Psalm 67:1**

“Our God, be kind and bless us! Be pleased and smile.”

#### **1 Corinthians 13:4-8 and 13**

“Love is kind and patient, never jealous, boastful, proud, or rude. Love isn't selfish or quick tempered. It doesn't keep a record of wrongs that others do. Love rejoices in the truth, but not in evil. Love is always supportive, loyal, hopeful, and trusting. Love never fails! For now there are faith, hope and love. But of these three, the greatest is love.”

### 1 John 4:7-8

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

### Matthew 22: 37-39 NIV

Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ “

### John 8: 12 NIV

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

### Jeremiah 29:11 NIV

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

### Philippians 4:9 NIV

“Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me-put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.”

## Memory Work Practiced during Music:

### Preschool-First Grades

#### \*Song:

Jesus loves me, this I know. For the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong, they are weak but He is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

#### \*Mealtime Prayer:

Be present at our table Lord. Be here and everywhere adored. These mercies bless and grant that we, may feast in paradise with thee. Amen

\*Scripture: John 3:16- “God loved the people of the world so much that He gave His only son so that everyone who has faith in Him will have eternal life and never really die.”

### Second-Sixth Grades

#### \*Books of the New Testament:

Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Acts	Romans	1 Corinthians	2 Corinthians
Galatians	Ephesians	Philippians	Colossians
1Thessalonians	2 Thessalonians	1 Timothy	2 Timothy
Titus	Philemon	Hebrew	James
1 Peter	2 Peter	1 John	2 John
3 John	Jude	Revelation	

#### \*Books of the Old Testament:

Genesis	Exodus	Leviticus	Numbers
Deuteronomy	Joshua	Judges	Ruth
1 Samuel	2 Samuel	1 Kings	2 Kings
1 Chronicles	2 Chronicles	Ezra	Nehemiah
Ester	Job	Psalms	Proverbs
Ecclesiastes	Song of Solomon	Isaiah	Jeremiah
Lamentations	Ezekiel	Daniel	Hosea
Joel	Amos	Obadiah	Jonah
Micah	Nahum	Habakkuk	Zephaniah
Haggai	Zechariah	Malachi	

#### \*The Twelve Apostles of Jesus

Simon Peter	Andrew	James (Zebedee’s son)
John	Philip	Thomas
Matthew	James (Alphaeus’s son)	Thaddaeus
Simon the Patriot	Bartholomew	Judas Iscariot

