



From Infancy to Eternity

AT LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE LAKES, we strive to partner with parents to disciple their children. We believe it is the parents' job to raise their children "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4). It is the church's responsibility "to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ" (Ephesians 4:12). With God's Word firmly in mind, we invite our parents to attend Christ Connections (Christian education classes) any time they so desire.

ALL CLASSES BEGIN SEPT. 10 for children newborn through 4th grade, middle school, high schoolers and adults.

Newborns-4th grade

meet each Sunday at 9:40AM to learn about Jesus through songs, stories & crafts. Newborns to toddlers must bring a parent with them, but all parents are invited to attend any class any time.

Grades 5-8

Meet weekly at 9:40 to study Luther's Small Catechism (1st year students) or Discipleship 101 (2nd year students). At whatever age your child begins, it is a two-year program. Luther's Small Catechism prepares students to take the Sacrament of Holy Communion, and Discipleship prepares them for the Rite of Confirmation.

High School Students

also meet Sundays at 9:40 to discuss current events in their homes, schools and nation in light of God's Word.

That just leaves Adults.

Sundays at 9:40 adults are invited to Bible study in the library. Sometimes this is a DVD and discussion. Sometimes it is simply studying Bible passages and gleaning the meaning for our lives. Each Sunday is a new lesson, so attend once a month or every week. You are always welcome. Bible studies and small groups meet throughout the week. See page 3 for details.

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+ Christ Connections from birth through high school will begin on September 10th +

Biblical Family Life

A long time ago, someone said: *Time flies when you are having fun!*

It hardly seems possible, but the month of August marks the seventh month that I have been blessed to serve as your Interim Pastor at Lutheran Church of the Lakes. So it is quite natural for me to recall this ancient phrase about the *flying of time* – especially when I contemplate the many joys and abundant FUN of serving you as your pastor during this *interim time* of waiting for our new full time pastor to arrive.



And listed among the many joys of serving you and your family as your Interim Pastor is the exciting opportunity to meet personally with the families (parents, children and sponsors) of an infant child who is about to be baptized into God's Forever Family at Lutheran Church of the Lakes. I simply love to ask both the parents and sponsors of the child about to be baptized: *Why are we doing this? What is the purpose of having this child baptized in the church and in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit?* Their answer and confession in response to that question never fails to create waves of excitement and gratitude: *We are doing this so that our infant child can be washed clean of original [inherited] sin and receive the merits of Jesus' death and resurrection and be brought into the Family of God.* What great joy ensues when a pastor hears that joyous confession from Christian parents and baptismal sponsors!

This little *baptismal family huddle* reminds us also that *baptism is not magic*. While it is true that *baptism now saves you* [1 Peter 3:21], it is important to remember that infant baptism *initiates* a saving relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ – yet that relationship with God is a relationship which can be ended or lost due to spiritual neglect or apathy to the hearing of the Word of God. In other words, baptism is NOT a 'rubber stamp' into heaven simply because the ritual was performed in a church many years ago. And that is precisely why Christian parents and faithful baptismal sponsors are so determined to see to it that the baptized child continue to grow in the Christian faith through faithful attendance at such things as Worship, Children's Church, Sunday School and Youth Confirmation and First Communion Preparation.

So we express our thanks and gratitude to all of you Christian parents and baptismal sponsors for your diligence and support in helping your children to continue to engage in Worship, Bible Study and Christian Family Life and Education ministries at Lutheran Church of the Lakes. Such is life in God's Forever Family! - Pastor Mike

Backpack Blessing

Going to school is for students what having a job is for adults. At this point in their lives they are expected to show up at school every day, stay engaged in each class, complete assignments, respect authority and play nice with one another. The rewards of doing this are self-esteem, accolades from teachers and parents, possibly special privileges and eventually a diploma.

To help your child get off on the right foot, Lutheran Church of the Lakes celebrates Backpack Blessing Sunday. Whether your child goes to day care, pre-school, elementary school, high school or college, we invite them to bring their backpacks on Sunday, September 3, at either the 8:15 or 10:30 service. Pastor Mike will bless each one and give them some words of encouragement. They will also be

given a small gift to remind them that no matter what, Jesus is always with them.



Sunday, Sept. 3

**+ Christ Connections from birth through high school
will begin on September 10th +**

Middle School Religious Education

Confirmation classes meet on Sunday mornings from 9:40-10:20am for children in grades 5-8. The curriculum is supported by teacher and student books as well as additional materials.

My Christian Faith is a study of Luther's Small Catechism and teaches the six chief parts of the Lutheran Faith. This is for first year students and will be taught by Nancy Teets.

My Faith Journey teaches students how to live the Christian life in light of God's Word. It is taught by Pastor Mike. This is for students who are in their second year of study.

Following **My Christian Faith**, students will be eligible to take Holy Communion.

At the end of the second year of study, students will be ready for the Rite of Confirmation.

To enroll students in either of these classes, contact the church office(517.547.4261), Nancy Teets (nancy49253@gmail.com) or Pastor Mike (mrrmultply24@gmail.com).

High School Classes

Lutheran Church of the Lakes also offers a Sunday morning discussion group for students in grades 9-12, along with occasional special events.

The Education Board member who nurtures this group is **Angela Price**. Contact her at 734.891.3106 or at Angela.Price@amcor.com if you are a high school student and would like to

join this group or if you are an adult who finds your passion in working with teens.

College Ministry

You've filled out all the forms, been accepted at the college you wanted, you've purchased all the neat dorm stuff, bought your meal ticket received the blessing of family and friends. What's left?

What's left is keeping connected with your church. Our college ministry leader, **Sherri Snyder**, is looking for names, addresses and emails of all our college students. Please get this info to her ASAP at jstsnyder@comcast.net.

She will send you cards of encouragement and special 'care packages' several times throughout the year.

Christ Connections for Adults

Many adult Bible studies continue throughout the summer with study and special events.

Sunday morning Bible study at 9:40AM continues to meet throughout the summer. You are cordially invited to join the class anytime.

Tuesday morning Bible study meets every Tuesday at 10AM in the church library.

Men's Bible Breakfast meets on the 1st & 3rd Mondays of the month at 8AM in the Brooklyn Big Boy.

The Wyman Small Group, 517.547.5257 and the **Schmidt Small Group**, 517.592.5225, meet in the summer also. Please contact either group for days and times.

**Let the
Word of God
Transform
You.**

Need help finding the right group? Contact the small group representative, **Richard Moran**, 517.812.5277 or moranllc@comcast.net.

**Lutheran Church
of the Lakes
Family Ministry**

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**Connecting People to Christ
and Christ to Communities**



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Welcome to the Lutheran Church

STANDING SQUARELY at the intersection of Faith and Love, Lutheran Church of the Lakes is committed to your spiritual and educational journey.

The soul of a varied and thoroughly rural/resort area in the Irish Hills, Lutheran Church of the Lakes welcomes everyone. Joined by a faith

that celebrates Lutheran values of Word and Sacrament, we treasure each individual's unique God-given gifts. In church we build values for living, friendships for life and faith that leads us to our Savior, Jesus.

Welcome to our vibrant, nourishing, and faith-filled community that is the heart of a life well-lived from infancy to eternity.

**Peace be to the brothers, and
love with faith, from God the
Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ.**

Ephesians 6:23

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